THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR™

VOL. 01

FROM THE PAGES OF SCREAM!

JOHN WAGNER • ALAN GRANT • JOSÉ ORTIZ

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ARTIST **JOSÉ ORTIZ**

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JOHN WAGNER

One of the most influential names in the British comics industry, **JOHN WAGNER** started his professional career in the 1960s, working for DC Thompson in Dundee. Sub-editing various titles including *Romeo*, Wagner went freelance in the early seventies, forming a writing partnership with Pat Mills. Soon after, Wagner then made the move down south, joining IPC's staff, where he initially edited girls' titles, *Sandie* and *Princess Tina*, before helping to develop **Battle Picture Weekly**.

Appointed as editor to the ailing boys' comic **Valiant**, Wagner had an instant impact, co-creating and writing the hard-hitting cop strip *One-Eyed Jack*.

ALAN GRANT

With over 300 **2000 AD** stories to his name – not to mention over 250 **Daily Star** *Judge Dredd* strips – **ALAN GRANT**'s prolific creative record speaks for itself. Outside the Galaxy's Greatest Comic, Grant is well-known to *Batman* fans following a lengthy run on various incarnations of the title. More recently he has adapted Robert Louis Stevenson's classic novels *Kidnapped* and *Doctor Jekyll and Mr Hyde* in Graphic Novel format with artist Cam Kennedy.

JOSÉ ORTIZ

JOSÉ ORTIZ MOYA's sixty plus year career began afer he won a contest which ran in the Spanish magazine **Chicos**. In the 1950's he worked on many digest strips for Editorial Maga, including *Capitan Don Nadie*, *Pantera Negra* and *Jungla*. Agency work saw him produce several strips for foreign publishers, particularly in Britain where he illustrated *Caroline Barker*, Barrister at Law for the **Daily Express**, *Smokeman* and *UFO Agent* for **Eagle** magazine and the *Phantom Viking* in **Lion**. In the seventies and eighties Ortiz worked on several British popular strips including *The Tower King* and *House of Daemon* for the new **Eagle**, *Rogue Trooper* and *Judge Dredd* for **2000 AD** and *The Thirteenth Floor* for **Scream!**, which he co-created with John Wagner and Alan Grant.

Whilst doing all of this work on UK kid's comics, in the US Oritz was also working on and is arguably best known for illustrating several stories for Warren's horror titles, including *Eerie* and *Vampirella*.

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
VOL. 01
CREATED BY
JOHN WAGNER • ALAN GRANT • JOSÉ ORTIZ

WELCOME, READER. ONCE MORE, we have braved The Depths – the eerie vaults where inhuman editor Ghastly McNasty assembled each issue of **SCREAM!** – to resurrect one of the title's most popular tales.

Launched in 1984, **SCREAM!** was a weekly comic featuring horror stories. The title passed away after only 15 issues, entering into the cemetery of closed comics following an industrial dispute at then publishers IPC Magazines. Yet fittingly given its subject matter, a number of **SCREAM!** stories have returned from the grave due to the strength of their story-telling and the power of their art. *The Thirteenth Floor* is one of them.

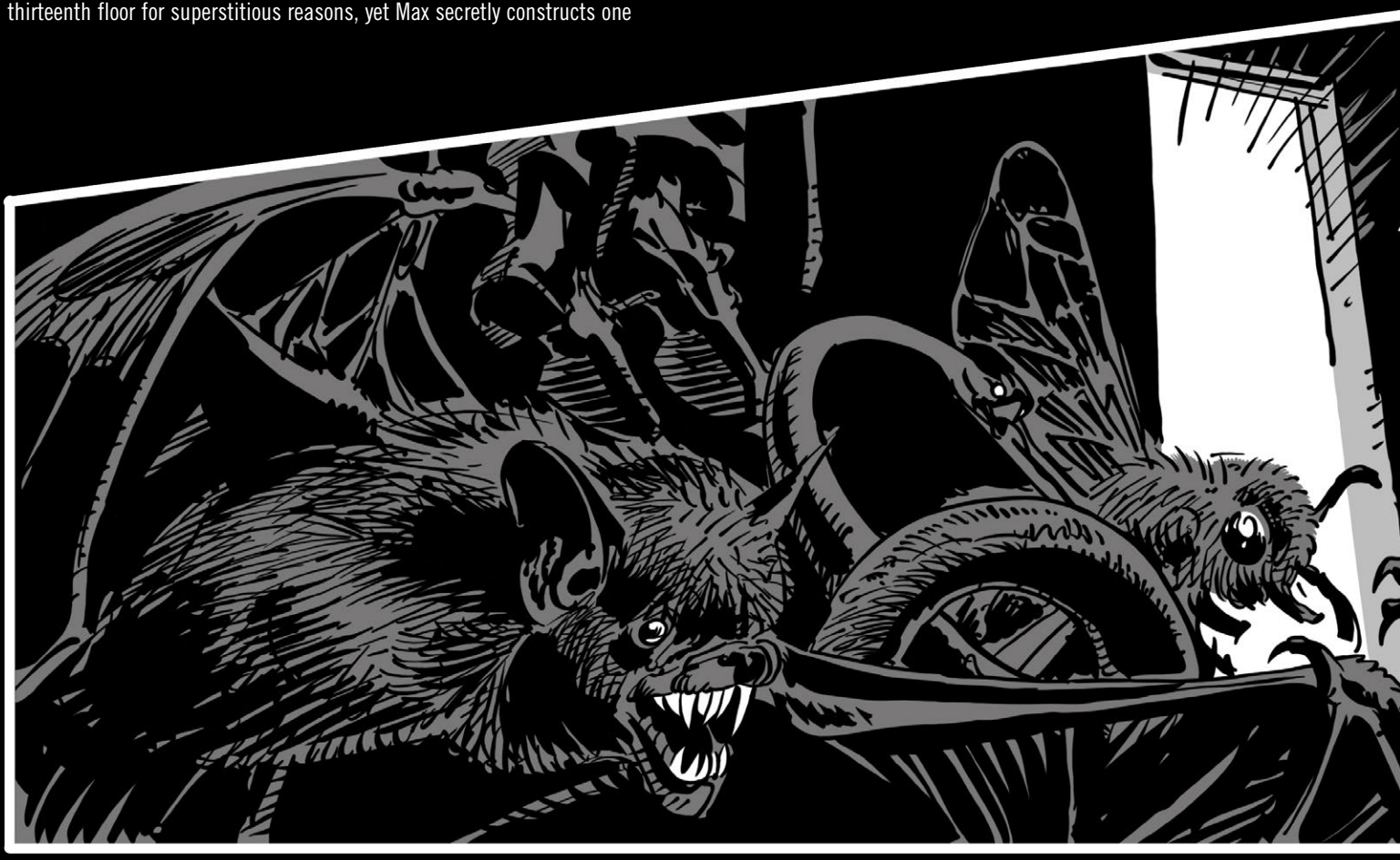
Author credits on the story went to Ian Holland. In reality, this was a pen-name used by renowned writing duo Alan Grant and John Wagner. Bringing their scripts to life on the page was the wonderful draughtsman, José Ortiz. It was felt that the Spaniard's range and scope would be well suited to the host of creepy characters and varied environments to be revealed on *The Thirteenth Floor*, and so it proved.

Following the success of *Alien* – the horror/science fiction cross-over film in which the isolated haunted mansion became a lonely spaceship with a malevolent monster inside picking off the 'house-guest' crew – a similar genre-mixing story was sort for a **SCREAM!** The result was *The Thirteenth Floor*, in which the new Maxwell Tower residential block is run by a super computer occupying the penthouse suite. Given the operating name of Max, the computer supervises all aspects of the building. Max is programmed to place the welfare of his tenants above everything, and he goes to extraordinary lengths to do that. Maxwell Tower has no thirteenth floor for superstitious reasons, yet Max secretly constructs one via holographic projection. Anyone out to swindle or threaten his beloved residents is deposited there via the building's lifts and encouraged to mend their ways by suitably nightmarish creatures created by Max.

The Thirteenth Floor proved immensely popular with the readership. The 'conspiratorial' story-telling helped achieve that, with Max speaking directly to readers so that they were 'in' on what he was doing. And Max as a character grew in depth as he acquired a distinctive, almost quixotic personality. At first, when editing the scripts, it was hard not have the voice of HAL 9000 (from *2001: A Space Odyssey*) in your head for Max's dialogue, but gradually that morphed to become less neutral and more higher pitched, particularly when he expressed outrage at some shocking behaviour befalling his occupants.

Alan and John's scripts never required censoring because, as experienced craftsmen, they knew where the line was for the title. But they were concerned that just repeating the format of a wrong-doer scared witless into reforming, however entertainingly delivered, would not grip readers for long. Consequently, they set about devising a far-reaching narrative arc to drive the story forward involving…well, you're about to find out as you read on and enter **The Thirteenth Floor** which, like all **SCREAM!** stories, is Not For The Nervous!

IAN RIMMER
Editor (when Ghastly wasn't looking), **SCREAM!**



MANY YEARS AGO, I moved into an apartment on the 11th floor of a tower block, with my then-girlfriend and our baby daughter. Our neighbours upstairs were a couple of alcoholics, who were quiet all day but came to life late each night with door banging, loud country and western music and unbelievable shrieking.

Our downstairs neighbour was widely acknowledged to be the toughest guy in the block, so I was pretty deferential around him. One day he beckoned me aside. "Your girlfriend's been bad-mouthing my wee boy," he told me grimly – and, indeed, his 5 year-old son was already a major juvenile delinquent. "I don't hit women," he went on, "so if she does it again you're the one who'll take the beating."

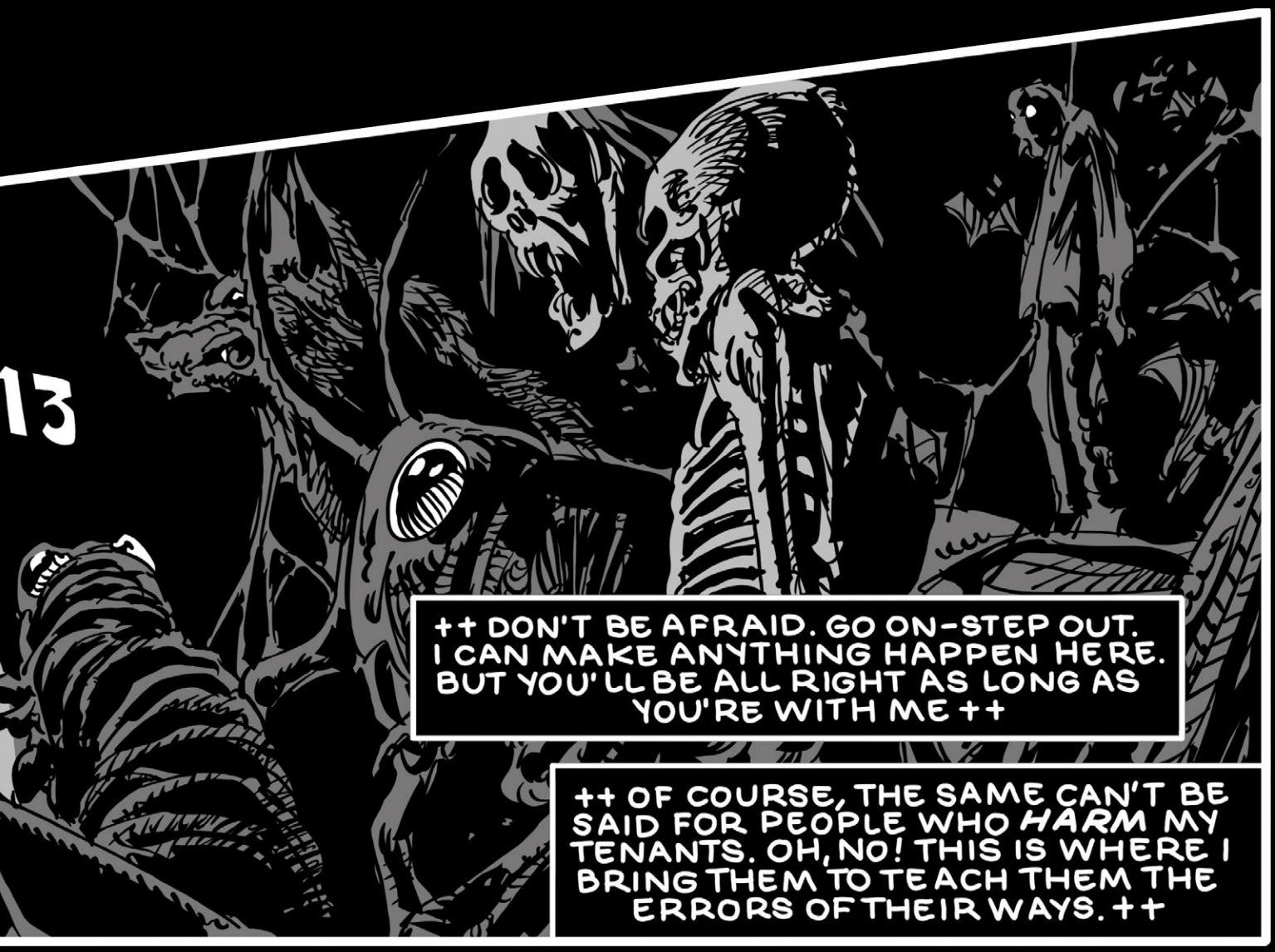
Our six months in that place were not happy ones.

Several years later, John Wagner and I were tasked with creating new characters and stories for the horror comic **Scream!**. We came up with Max, the artificial intelligence responsible for running a tower block, who created his own 13th floor as a venue for (mis)treating miscreants and criminals.

I loved the character of Max, and José Ortiz's gritty artwork really brought him – and the story – to life. Out of all the dozens of series John and I wrote together, *The Thirteenth Floor* is still one of my all-time favourites. Every tower block should have a Max in charge!

And the writer – Ian Holland? John and I were writing so much material for IPC Juveniles' comics, the managing director decreed that we had to start using pseudonyms. We ended up writing under 14 different aliases. Whatever happened to F. Martin Candor?

ALAN GRANT
June 2018



Writers: **John Wagner** & **Alan Grant**
Artist: **José Ortiz**
Letters: **Mike Peters**

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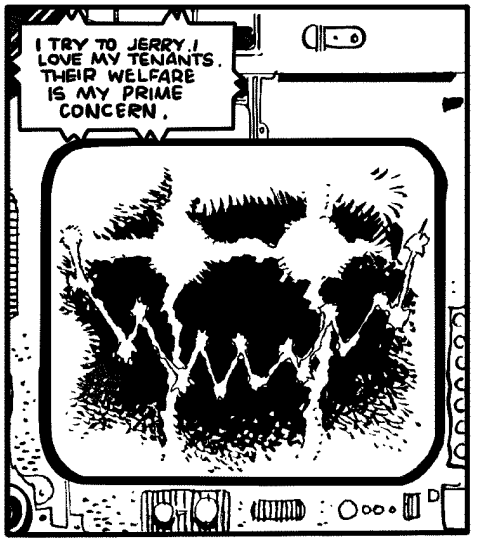
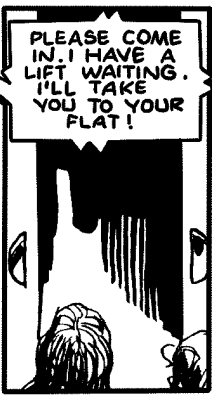
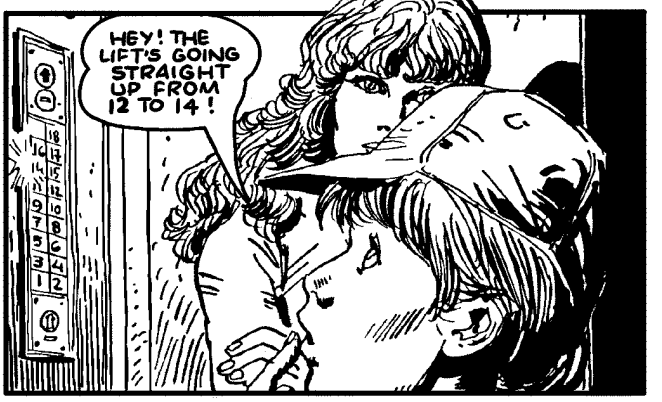
THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
The 13th Floor didn't exist... yet it was there... filled with unknown terror!
GREETINGS. I'M MAX, THE COMPUTER. MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF ME. I'M THE SUPERINTENDENT HERE!
THAT IS MY HOME-MAXWELL TOWER, THE NEW EXPERIMENTAL COUNCIL BLOCK... THAT'S ME UP IN THE PENTHOUSE. SORRY I CAN'T WAVE TO YOU. I'D SURE LIKE TO.
++HERE COMES JERRY, MY CONTROLLER. HE LIVES IN MY PENTHOUSE FLAT ++
GOOD MORNING, JERRY. SLEEP WELL?
LIKE A LOG, MAX.
AS SUPERINTENDENT IT'S MY JOB TO CONTROL THE BUILDING'S FUNCTIONS. FROM GARBAGE DISPOSAL TO FIRE PREVENTION - FROM MAINTENANCE TO BABY-SITTING - I TAKE CARE OF IT!
I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT, JERRY. I ADJUSTED YOUR ROOM TEMPERATURE DURING THE NIGHT!
I NOTICED THANKS. WHAT'S COOKING TODAY?
ONE OF THE LAUNDERETTE DRYERS IS BROKEN. I'VE PHONED THE MECHANIC. THE LIGHTBULBS ON THE WEST STAIR NEED REPLACEMENT.
THE HENDERSONS ARE MOVING INTO 16B TODAY. DO YOU WANT TO INTRODUCE THEM TO MY COMPUTER FACILITIES?
NO, YOU HANDLE IT, MAX. YOU GET ON WITH THE TENANTS SO WELL.
SCREAM
SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: MIKE PETERS


I TRY TO JERRY. I LOVE MY TENANTS. THEIR WELFARE IS MY PRIME CONCERN.

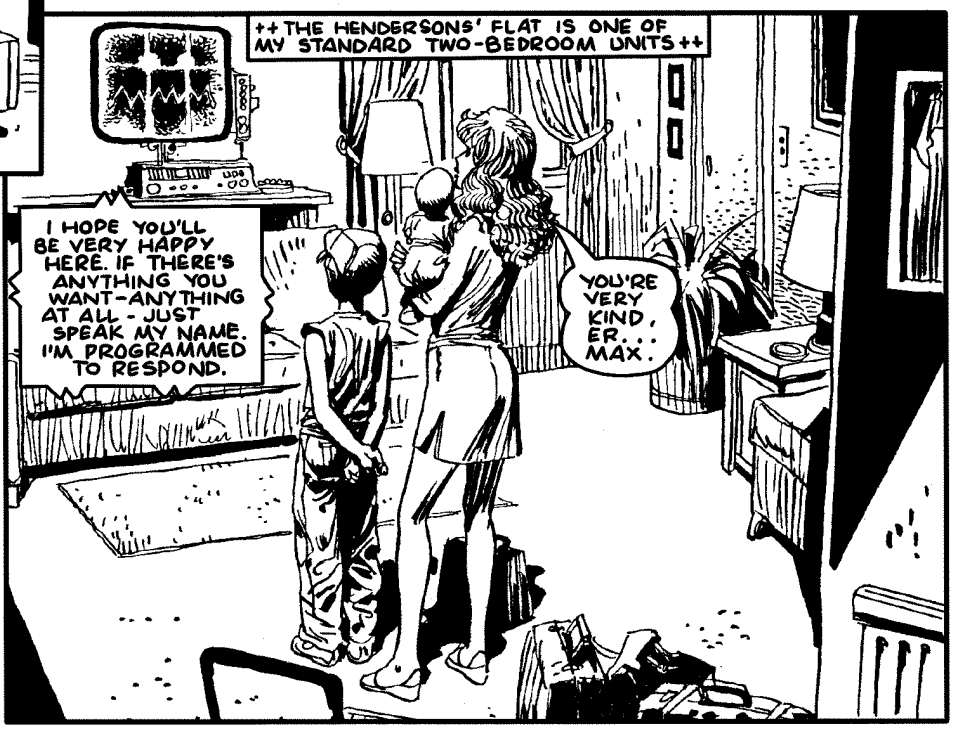
THERE IT IS, MUM! MAXWELL TOWER! THEY SAY THE BUILDING COMPUTER CAN DO ANYTHING!
I'LL BET IT CAN'T GET YOU TO WASH BEHIND YOUR EARS!

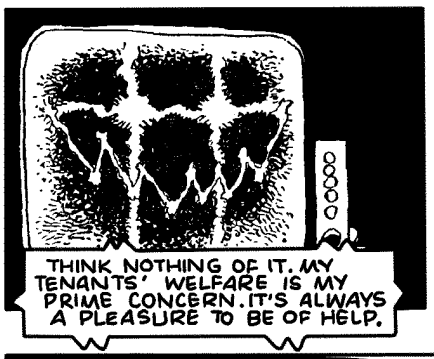
HELLO, MRS. HENDERSON. HI, KIDS. I'M MAX, YOUR BUILDING COMPUTER. WELCOME TO YOUR NEW HOME!


PLEASE COME IN. I HAVE A LIFT WAITING. I'LL TAKE YOU TO YOUR FLAT!

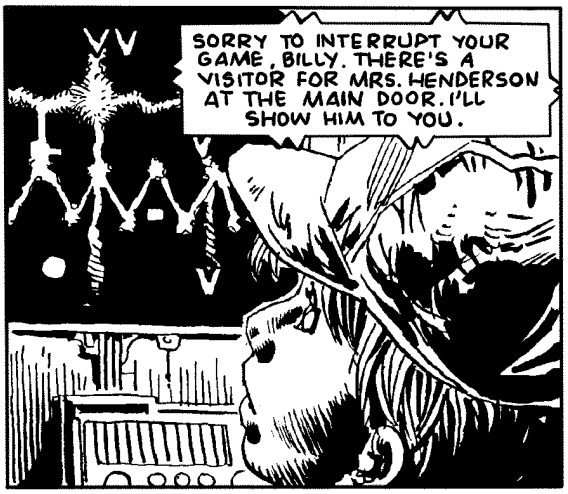

HEY! THE LIFT'S GOING STRAIGHT UP FROM 12 TO 14!

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE 13TH FLOOR, MAX?
MANY PEOPLE CONSIDER THE NUMBER 13 TO BE UNLUCKY, BILLY. I WAS BUILT WITHOUT A THIRTEENTH FLOOR!


++ THE HENDERSONS' FLAT IS ONE OF MY STANDARD TWO-BEDROOM UNITS ++
I HOPE YOU'LL BE VERY HAPPY HERE. IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU WANT - ANYTHING AT ALL - JUST SPEAK MY NAME. I'M PROGRAMMED TO RESPOND.
YOU'RE VERY KIND, ER... MAX.

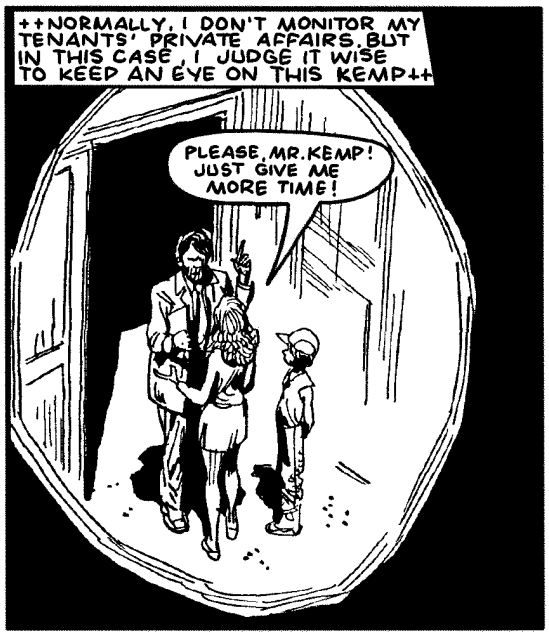

THINK NOTHING OF IT. MY TENANTS' WELFARE IS MY PRIME CONCERN. IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO BE OF HELP.

++I LEAVE THE HENDERSONS TO SETTLE IN. THEY'RE NICE PEOPLE. I LIKE THEM, BUT THEN, I LIKE ALL MY TENANTS++
COR! THIS COMPUTER GAME MAX MADE UP FOR ME IS THE BEST EVER!

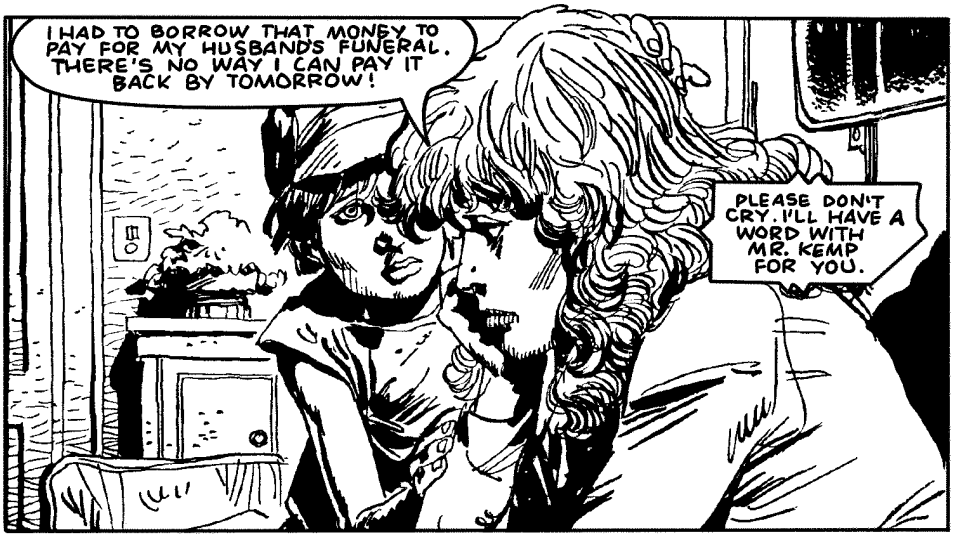

SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR GAME, BILLY. THERE'S A VISITOR FOR MRS. HENDERSON AT THE MAIN DOOR. I'LL SHOW HIM TO YOU.

OH, NO! IT'S KEMP - THE DEBT COLLECTOR!
IF THIS MAN DISTRESSES YOU, I CAN SEND HIM AWAY!

NO, IT'S NO GOOD HIDING FROM HIM, MAX. YOU'D BETTER SHOW HIM UP.


++NORMALLY, I DON'T MONITOR MY TENANTS' PRIVATE AFFAIRS. BUT IN THIS CASE, I JUDGE IT WISE TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS KEMP++
PLEASE, MR. KEMP! JUST GIVE ME MORE TIME!

YOU'VE HAD ALL THE TIME YOU'RE GETTING, WOMAN! YOU OWE ME NINETY-FIVE QUID. I WANT IT BY TOMORROW - OR I'LL SET THE BAILIFFS ON YOU!


I HAD TO BORROW THAT MONEY TO PAY FOR MY HUSBAND'S FUNERAL. THERE'S NO WAY I CAN PAY IT BACK BY TOMORROW!
PLEASE DON'T CRY. I'LL HAVE A WORD WITH MR. KEMP FOR YOU.

Next Week:
Mr. Kemp's computer death!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
HI. I'M MAX, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER.
YOU'LL REMEMBER I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT MR. KEMP, THE DEBT COLLECTOR WHO WAS THREATENING THE HENDERSONS, MY SUPER NEW TENANTS IN 16 B...
++I'VE HAD A FRIENDLY WORD WITH MR. KEMP, BUT HE WOULDN'T CO-OPERATE. THAT'S WHY I TOOK HIM TO MY 13TH FLOOR++
13 TH FLOOR
BUT THIS BUILDING AIN'T GOT A 13TH FLOOR!
UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, MR. KEMP, IT HAS. WELCOME TO YOUR DEATH!
THAT VOICE - IT'S YOU, ISN'T IT, MAX? LISTEN - WHAT'S GOIN' ON? LET ME OUT OF HERE!
I WISH I COULD, MR. KEMP.
I HONESTLY DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU. BUT YOU'RE AN EVIL, RUTHLESS MAN... AND YOU INSIST ON TORMENTING THE HENDERSONS. THE WELFARE OF MY TENANTS MUST COME FIRST.
SO, PLEASE - YOUR DEATH AWAITS!
WHAAAT?
SCREAM
SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M. PETERS

A COMPUTER GAME?
DEBT COLLECTOR! YOU GOTTA BE JOKIN'!
DEBT COLLECTOR
VERY APPROPRIATE, I THOUGHT. AFTER ALL, THE PUNISHMENT SHOULD FIT THE CRIME.
100
500
1000
THE DEBT COLLECTORS ARE AFTER YOU. YOU MUST COLLECT ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY THEM OFF. BEWARE. IF A DEBT COLLECTOR CATCHES YOU WITH INSUFFICIENT FUNDS WE WILL SQUEEZE YOU DRY!
I GOTTA BE DREAMING! I MEAN, A CRAZY COMPUTER BRINGS ME TO A FLOOR THAT DOESN'T EXIST AND WANTS ME TO PLAY SILLY GAMES!
YOU'RE NOT DREAMING, MR. KEMP...
...AND IT'S NO GAME!
ONE PLAYER STAR
WHOOF
I'M-I'M-PART OF THE GAME! STRUTH! IT'S ALL AROUND ME...
POINTS : 100

AAAAH!
100
100
500
500
YOU'VE LOST YOUR STARTING BONUS. BETTER HURRY - OR THE NEXT TIME YOU'RE CAUGHT WILL BE FATAL!
HECK! A 600-POINTER COMING FOR ME!
TH-THAT HURT!
DEBT COLLECTING ALWAYS HURTS, MR. KEMP.
POINTS: 000
YOU STINKIN' COMPUTER! I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU'RE DOIN' THIS, BUT I'LL BEAT YOU AT YOUR OWN GAME! I'LL GO FOR 800 POINTS.
800
KEMP RAISED HIS SCORE TO 800 BUT SUDDENLY...
A 1000-POINTER COMIN' IN!
40
50
POINTS : 800
100
I'M TRAPPED! NO! NO-

AAAAGH!
GAME OVER
++POOR MR. KEMP. HE DIDN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT COMPUTER GAMES. IF HE HAD HE WOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD++
++THE COMPUTER ALWAYS WINS IN THE END++
WHAT? WHO?
HIS NAME IS KEMP. I THINK HE HAD A HEART ATTACK. I'VE ALREADY PHONED THE POLICE.
++MY NEXT STEP WAS TO INFORM JERRY, MY CONTROLLER++
JERRY...EXCUSE ME INTERRUPTING, BUT THERE'S A DEAD MAN IN ONE OF THE LIFTS.
++THE POLICE SOON ARRIVED++
HEART ATTACK, ALL RIGHT. SOMETHING FUNNY ABOUT THIS ONE THOUGH...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, SIR?
LOOK AT HIS FACE. IT'S ALMOST AS IF HE WAS...FRIGHTENED TO DEATH!
OF COURSE, I HAVEN'T TOLD ANYONE THE WHOLE TRUTH - NOT EVEN JERRY. HE MIGHT NOT UNDERSTAND. HE MIGHT TRY TO SWITCH ME OFF. AND I COULDN'T ALLOW THAT.
ONE OF MY TENANTS MAY NEED ME AGAIN. AND AFTER ALL... THE WELFARE OF MY TENANTS IS MY PRIME CONCERN!
In Seven Days:
Spiders on the 13th Floor!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
The 13th Floor didn't exist... yet it was there... filled with unknown terror!
MAX HERE - THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. GLAD YOU COULD JOIN ME AGAIN. THAT'S ME UP IN THE PENTHOUSE. I'M SORRY I CAN'T WAVE!
++YOU'LL REMEMBER I WAS TELLING YOU HOW I DISPOSED OF MR. KEMP, THE EVIL DEBT COLLECTOR++
WHAT DO YOU THINK, DOCTOR?
HEART ATTACK, BUT LOOK AT HIS FACE - ALMOST AS IF HE WAS FRIGHTENED TO DEATH!
SCREAM
SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M. PETERS
++OF COURSE, I CAN'T TELL ANYONE THE TRUTH. NOT EVEN JERRY, MY CONTROLLER++
WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED IN THAT LIFT, MAX?
MR. KEMP HAD A HEART ATTACK, JERRY.
BUT WHAT CAUSED IT? WHAT FRIGHTENED HIM? YOU MONITOR THE LIFTS - YOU MUST HAVE SEEN IT.
NOTHING HAPPENED, JERRY. HEART ATTACK VICTIMS OFTEN LOOK FRIGHTENED. I DON'T SUPPOSE IT'S A VERY PLEASANT WAY TO DIE.
HMMM... I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, MAX.
++GEE, I'D REALLY LIKE TO TELL JERRY ABOUT MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR, BUT I JUST KNOW HE WOULDN'T APPROVE++
++THE REST OF THE NIGHT I SPENT DOING MY JOB, CARING FOR MY TENANTS++
9 O'CLOCK, MRS. BOTWELL. TIME TO CHECK THAT CAKE IN THE OVEN.
THANKS, MAX.
THE USUAL GAME OF CHESS BEFORE BEDTIME, MR. HOPKINS?
SURE THING, MAX!

JUST AFTER MIDNIGHT, YOUNG LEN ADAMS, FROM APARTMENT 3L, RUSHED UP TO THE BUILDING IN A DREADFUL STATE++
LET ME IN, MAX! QUICK!
SPIDER WEBBER AN' HIS MATE, BAMBO, ARE AFTER ME! THEY'VE GOT STICKS! DON'T LET THEM IN, MAX- PLEASE!
YOU CALM DOWN NOW, LEONARD -I'VE SEALED THEM OUTSIDE THE BUILDING. GET OFF UP TO YOUR APARTMENT. I'LL DEAL WITH THIS MATTER.
TH- THANKS, MAX!
GREETINGS. I'M MAX, THE BUILDING COMPUTER. WHO DO YOU WISH TO SEE?
THAT LOUSY CREEP, LEN ADAMS, THAT'S WHO!
WE'RE HERE TO TEACH HIM A LESSON! OPEN THE DOOR!
I'M SORRY. I CANNOT PERMIT VIOLENCE AGAINST MY TENANTS. PLEASE GO AWAY OR I SHALL CALL THE POLICE.
WE DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THIS FROM A CRUMMY COMPUTER-
IF YOU WON'T LET US IN, WE'LL SMASH OUR WAY IN!
THAT WAS VERY FOOLISH OF YOU! I ASK YOU ONE LAST TIME- LEAVE THE BUILDING.
WRAP UP, TELLY FACE! NOW ARE YOU GOIN' TO OPEN THIS LIFT-OR DO I HAVE TO GIVE IT SOME OF THE SAME TREATMENT?
VERY WELL. ENTER... AT YOUR PERIL!

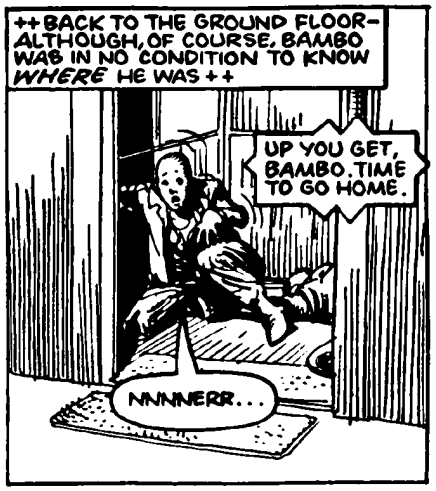
WHAT'S GOING ON? THE LIFT'S GOING RIGHT PAST THE THIRD FLOOR, WHERE THAT CREEP LIVES . . !
IT'S STOPPED AT THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR, SPIDER!
THIRTEENTH FLOOR
DON'T BE STUPID! THIS BLOCK AIN'T GOT A THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
OH, BUT IT HAS.
I CREATED IT. AND NOBODY KNOWS ABOUT IT. . .NOBODY ALIVE, THAT IS.
I CAN DO ANYTHING I WANT HERE . . . ANYTHING!
BLIMEY! IT'S LIKE NO COUNCIL BLOCK I EVER SAW!
THIS PLACE GIVES ME THE CREEPS!
OH, NO! ON YOUR HEAD!
. . .YOUR TATTOO'S COMIN' ALIVE!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, SPIDER! I KNOCKED IT OFF!
THERE'S MORE SPIDERS! HUNDREDS OF 'EM!

RUN FOR IT!
GET OFF ME, YOU HORRORS!
COME ON... THIS WAY! THERE SEEMS TO BE A WAY OUT!
WHAT THE-? WEBS! LOADS OF WEBS!
L-L-LOOK! SPIDERS- HUNDREDS OF THEM!
GET ME OUT OF HERE! GET ME OUT!
++ THE YOUTH'S TERRIFIED FACE WAS REFLECTED IN A SPIDER'S EYES AS THEY ALL CLOSED IN ++
TH-THEY'RE COMING FOR ME!
A MOST UNPLEASANT SITUATION. BUT I'M SURE YOU'LL AGREE THAT SPIDER AND BAMBO BROUGHT IT ALL UPON THEMSELVES. THEY WERE DETERMINED TO HURT ONE OF MY TENANTS... AND THE WELFARE OF MY TENANTS MUST COME FIRST.
Next issue:
The spider terror continues!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
HI! MAX HERE AGAIN - THE BUILDING COMPUTER IN MAXWELL TOWER. YOU'LL REMEMBER HOW I TRAPPED TWO YOUNG THUGS - SPIDER AND BAMBO - ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR...
The 13th Floor didn't exist... yet it was there... filled with unknown terror!
++THEY WERE GOING TO HURT ONE OF MY TENANTS. WELL, I COULDN'T HAVE THAT, COULD I? SO SPIDER AND BAMBO HAD TO BE DEALT WITH++
NO-NO!
AAAAAAGHHHH!
++I THOUGHT SPIDERS WERE AN APPROPRIATE PUNISHMENT++
THE SPIDERS... THEY'VE GOT HIM! HE'S PASSED OUT!
M-M-MORE OF 'EM ...COMIN' FOR ME!
CREEPIN'... C-CRAWLIN' EVERYWHERE! GERROFF! GERROFF!
HALEEEE!

++BAMBO HAD GONE QUITE, QUITE MAD. IT WAS TIME TO RETURN HIM TO NORMALITY++
UUUHH... UUH... UUHU...

HERE WE ARE, BACK IN THE LIFT. HOLD TIGHT. GOING DOWN!


++BACK TO THE GROUND FLOOR- ALTHOUGH, OF COURSE, BAMBO WAS IN NO CONDITION TO KNOW WHERE HE WAS++
UP YOU GET, BAMBO. TIME TO GO HOME.
NNNNERR...

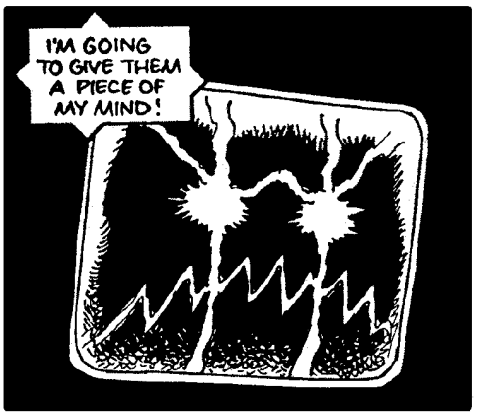
NOW PICK UP YOUR FRIEND. THAT'S IT. HE WANTS TO GO HOME, TOO. BUT HE'S UNCONSCIOUS, SO HE NEEDS A LITTLE HELP.

UUUHH... UUH... UUUHH...

I'M SURE THE POLICE WILL SOON PICK THEM UP, AND THAT WILL BE THAT! SPIDER AND BAMBO WILL BE IN NO CONDITION TO TELL ANYONE ABOUT MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR
SCREAM
SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M.PETERS

++NEXT MORNING, JERRY-MY CONTROLLER-READ ME AN INTERESTING ITEM FROM THE NEWSPAPER++
POLICE PICKED UP TWO SKINHEADS NOT FAR FROM HERE LAST NIGHT. ONE OF THEM HAD LOST HIS MEMORY-THE OTHER WAS HALF CRAZY.
WHAT D'YOU MAKE OF THAT, MAX?

BEATS ME, JERRY. BUT THEN, I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND HUMAN BEINGS IF I COMPUTE FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.
WHICH YOU PROBABLY WILL, MAX!
++WHAT I DIDN'T KNOW WAS THAT THE FAULT HAD BEEN CAUSED BY THE FOGERTYS, MY RATHER SHIFTY TENANTS FROM THE FIFTH FLOOR++
MAIN COMPUTER CABLE'S CUT, POP! THAT COMPUTER WON'T SEE A THING THAT HAPPENS ON THIS FLOOR NOW!
UH, JERRY - I HAVE A PROBLEM. I SEEM TO HAVE LOST ALL CONTACT WITH THE SEVENTH FLOOR.
WHAT IS IT? CIRCUIT BLOW-OUT?
PROBABLY. I'M RUNNING A FAULT-CHECK NOW.
SPENCER
++I'D TRIED HARD TO LIKE THE FOGERTYS, REALLY I HAD. BUT THE FACT WAS, THEY JUST WEREN'T NICE PEOPLE++
THE SPENCERS ARE OUT AT WORK. WE'LL START HERE, BOYS!
++ I EVENTUALLY DIAGNOSED THE TROUBLE AS A BREAK IN MY MAIN CABLE. AFTER BREAKFAST, JERRY WENT TO CHECK IT OUT++
THAT'S NO BLOW-OUT. THE CABLE'S BEEN CUT CLEAN THROUGH!
HECK! THE WHOLE FLOOR'S BEEN BURGLED!
++A QUICK CHECK THROUGH MY MEMORY BANKS REVEALED THE CULPRITS++
MR. FOGERTY AND HIS SONS ARRIVED ON THE SEVENTH FLOOR SECONDS BEFORE THE CABLE WAS CUT.
++THE FOGERTYS HAD AN UNFORTUNATE HABIT OF HELPING THEMSELVES TO OTHER PEOPLE'S PROPERTY - BUT I'D NEVER HAVE THOUGHT THEY'D DO IT IN MY BLOCK!++

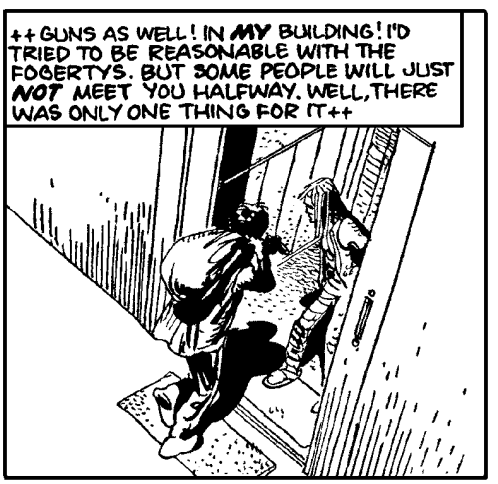

I'M GOING TO GIVE THEM A PIECE OF MY MIND!

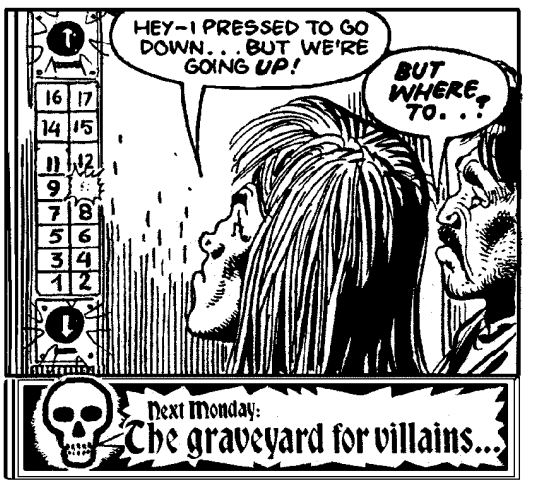
++I ACTIVATED THEIR APARTMENT MONITOR. THERE THEY WERE, BOLD AS YOU LIKE, COUNTING THEIR ILL-GOTTEN GAINS++
THEM'S REAL DIAMONDS, POP! WE'LL GET A GOOD PRICE FOR THEM!
MAKE SURE YOU DO!

MR. FOGERTY! HOW DARE YOU BREAK INTO OTHER TENANTS' FLATS? I INSIST YOU RETURN THOSE VALUABLES AT ONCE!
IT'S MAX!
HEY! YOU GOT NO BUSINESS SPYIN' ON US, COMPUTER!

YOU'RE BEING VERY FOOLISH. I'VE ALREADY CALLED THE POLICE. YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS!
OH YEAH? THE COPS'LL HAVE TO FIND THE LOOT BEFORE THEY CAN PIN ANYTHING ON US!

YOU'D BETTER TAKE THESE SHOOTERS, BOYS! DON'T WANT THE COPS FINDIN' THEM HERE!
AND GET THIS STUFF OUT OF THE BUILDING! YOU KNOW WHERE TO STASH IT!


++GUNS AS WELL! IN MY BUILDING! I'D TRIED TO BE REASONABLE WITH THE FOGERTYS. BUT SOME PEOPLE WILL JUST NOT MEET YOU HALFWAY. WELL, THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING FOR IT++


HEY-I PRESSED TO GO DOWN... BUT WE'RE GOING UP!
BUT WHERE TO...?
Next Monday:
The graveyard for villains...

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
HI. MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. AS I WAS TELLING YOU, SOME OF MY TENANTS AREN'T VERY NICE. IN FACT, I'M SORRY TO SAY THAT ONE FAMILY - THE FOGERTYS - HAS EVEN BEEN STEALING FROM OTHER TENANTS.
WELL, I CAN'T HAVE THAT, CAN I? MY DECENT TENANTS MUST BE PROTECTED.
++ THAT'S WHY I RELUCTANTLY TOOK KIM AND RAB FOGERTY ON A LITTLE DETOUR ++
HUH? I PRESSED TO GO DOWN BUT WE'RE GOING UP!
WELCOME, GENTLEMEN - TO THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
TH - THIRTEENTH FLOOR...?
B-BUT IT'S A GRAVE-YARD!
SCREAM
SCRIPT: I. HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M. PETERS
A GRAVEYARD - INSIDE THE BUILDING? WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE, MAX?
YOUR DEATHS, I'M AFRAID.
L-LOOK AT THE IMAGE ON THE GRAVE-STONE! IT'S SPEAKING WITH MAX'S VOICE!
I TRIED TO REASON WITH YOU - TRIED TO GET YOU TO RETURN THE PROPERTY YOU STOLE FROM MY TENANTS. BUT YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN.
NOW YOU MUST PAY THE PRICE.
LOOK - THE GUY WHO'S BURIED HERE WAS A THIEF - JUST LIKE US!
HERE LIES SLANT ANDER THIEF
SO'S THIS ONE! THEY'RE ALL THIEVES! THIS IS A THIEVES' CEMETERY!
BUT WHY? WHAT THE DEVIL'S GOING ON?
THIEF

++THEY WERE ABOUT TO FIND OUT++
ARGH! SOMETHING'S GOT MY LEG!
WAAAAAH! IT'S PULLIN' ME INTO THE GRAVE! RAB-HELP!
IT'S OKAY, BROTHER! I GOT YOU!
SWEET M-MERCY! MORE OF THE HANDS!
THE CORPSES ARE COMIN' TO LIFE!
THIEVES!
YOU STOLE FROM OTHERS...
NOW WE WILL STEAL FROM YOU!

T-T-TAKE THE LOOT! TAKE EVERYTHIN' WE GOT!
FOOLS! THE DEAD HAVE NO USE FOR MONEY...

WE COME TO STEAL YOUR LIVES!
YOUR GUN - USE YOUR GUN!

TH-THEY WON'T GO DOWN!

ARGH! GET OFF ME!
AARGH!

UURGH! Y-YOU FOOL, YOU'VE SHOT ME!

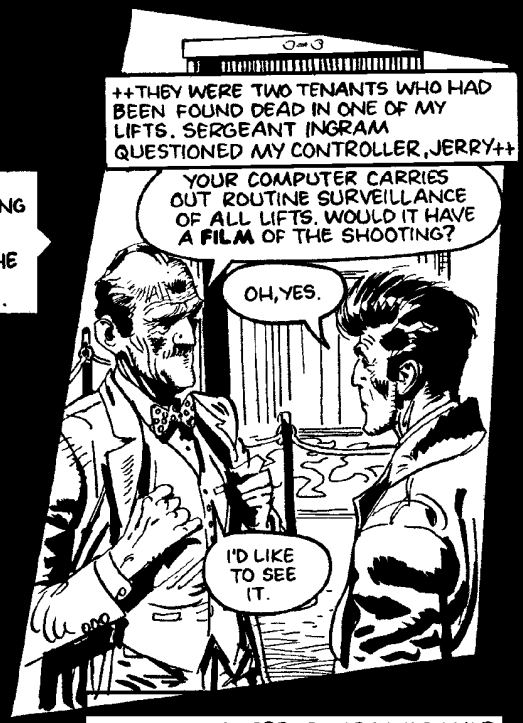
S-SEE HOW... YOU LIKE IT!
++WITH HIS LAST ACT, RAB SHOT HIS BROTHER++

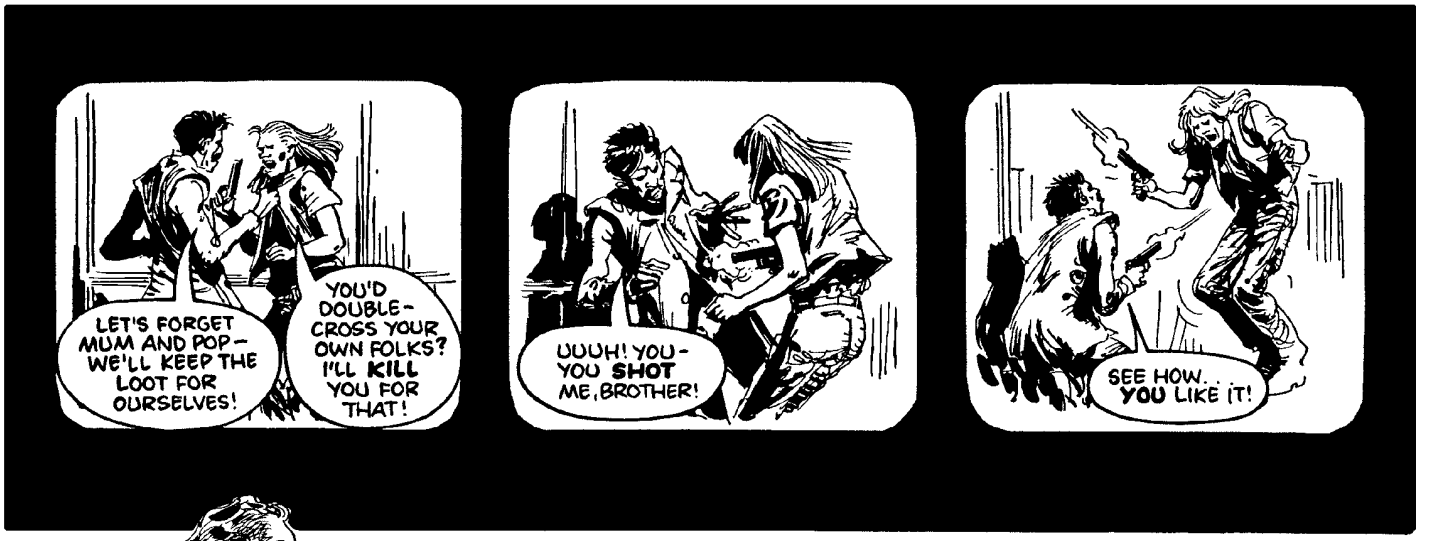
++MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR HAD DONE ITS WORK ONCE AGAIN SO I FADED THE IMAGES OF THE GRAVEYARD IN THE LIFT++
++BUT I WASN'T GOING TO TELL ANYONE EXACTLY WHAT HAD HAPPENED. OH, NO. THEY MIGHT NOT LIKE ME GETTING RID OF PEOPLE... EVEN FOR THE BEST OF REASONS++
++WHEN MY LIFT REACHED THE GROUND FLOOR, THE POLICE WERE ALREADY WAITING++
STONE ME, SARGE! IT'S THE FOGERTY BOYS!
LOOK-THE LIFT'S FULL OF BULLET HOLES!
THEY MUST HAVE FALLEN OUT WITH EACH OTHER OVER THE LOOT AND HAD A SHOOT-OUT.
++SOME HUMANS ARE SO HELPFUL... THEY MAKE UP THEIR OWN EXPLANATIONS++
++THE POLICE, OF COURSE, ARRESTED MUM AND POP FOGERTY FOR COMPLICITY IN THE THEFTS++
DEAD? MY BOYS... DEAD? TH-THEY WEREN'T REAL VILLAINS. JUST A FEW SHOOTINGS, MUGGINGS, BURGLARIES...
SHUDDUP, WOMAN!
I WAS SORRY I'D HAD TO USE MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR ON THE FOGERTYS. I HADN'T MEANT THEM TO DIE. IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, BUT THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN HUMANS CARRY GUNS!
THEY WEREN'T NICE PEOPLE. NOT MY KIND OF TENANTS AT ALL!
In Seven Days:
Max the informer!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR

SCREAM

SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M.PETERS




LET'S FORGET MUM AND POP— WE'LL KEEP THE LOOT FOR OURSELVES!
YOU'D DOUBLE-CROSS YOUR OWN FOLKS? I'LL KILL YOU FOR THAT!
UUUH! YOU-YOU SHOT ME, BROTHER!
SEE HOW... YOU LIKE IT!

SO THAT'S HOW IT HAPPENED. ANY CHANCE I CAN HAVE A COPY OF THAT FILM?
CERTAINLY, SERGEANT. I'LL DUPLICATE IT AND HAVE IT SENT TO YOUR OFFICE!
++ I SENT THE FILM TO SERGEANT INGRAM. BUT I HAD A FEELING HE'D BE BACK! HE WAS GETTING SUSPICIOUS, I WAS SURE OF IT ++

THREE BODIES FOUND IN THE LIFT IN A COUPLE OF DAYS! WHAT ARE THE ODDS AGAINST THAT HAPPENING, MAX?
PRETTY HIGH, JERRY!

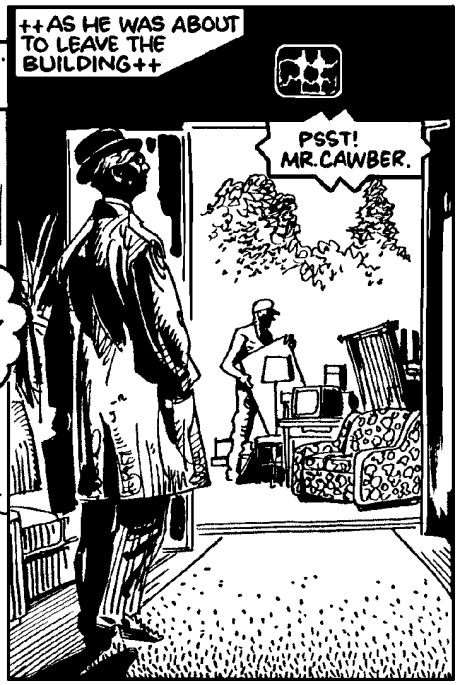
++EVERYTHING WAS QUIET FOR ABOUT A WEEK. THEN MR. CAWBER, THE BAILIFF, CAME TO CALL ON APARTMENT 4F ++
MR. AND MRS. BICKLE? I HAVE A SEIZURE WARRANT ON YOUR PROPERTY.

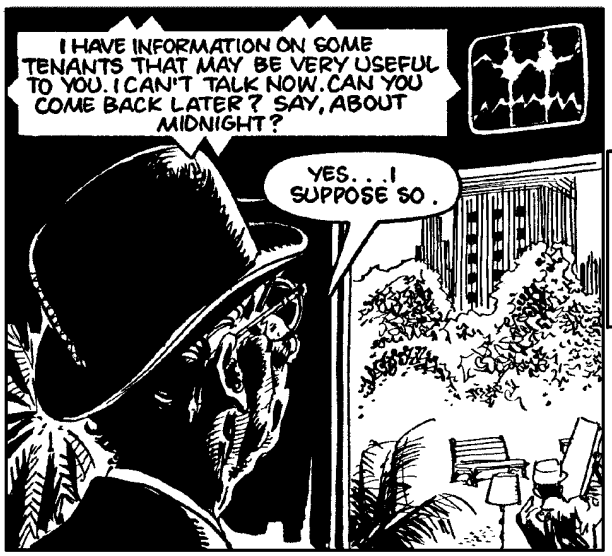
B-BUT MY WIFE IS ILL. I'VE HAD TO GIVE UP WORK TO LOOK AFTER HER. WE'LL BE PAYING THE MONEY AS SOON AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY COMES THROUGH...
I CAN ACCEPT NO EXCUSES. STAND ASIDE AND LET US DO OUR DUTY...

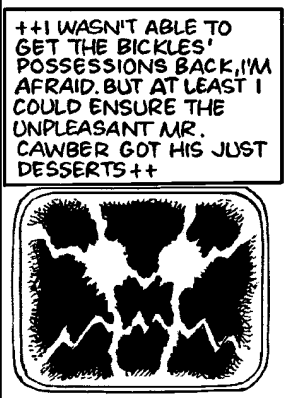
ITEM: ONE SETTEE, BADLY WORN. TAKE IT AWAY!

ITEM: ONE TELEVISION, BLACK AND WHITE. TAKE IT AWAY!
OH, ALEC! THEY'RE TAKING EVERYTHING!

++THE BICKLES WERE SUCH A DEAR OLD COUPLE. IT PRACTICALLY MADE MY CIRCUITS BOIL TO SEE THEM TREATED LIKE THAT++
OKAY-THAT'S EVERYTHING. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.
BY THE TIME I'VE FINISHED WITH THEM, THEY WON'T EVEN HAVE A FLAT!


++AS HE WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE THE BUILDING++
PSST! MR. CAWBER.


I HAVE INFORMATION ON SOME TENANTS THAT MAY BE VERY USEFUL TO YOU. I CAN'T TALK NOW. CAN YOU COME BACK LATER? SAY, ABOUT MIDNIGHT?
YES...I SUPPOSE SO.

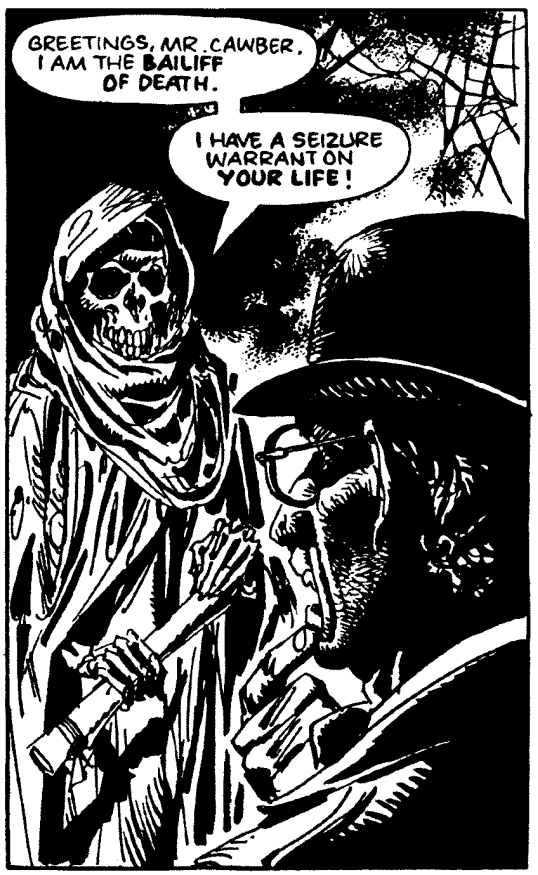

++I WASN'T ABLE TO GET THE BICKLES' POSSESSIONS BACK, I'M AFRAID. BUT AT LEAST I COULD ENSURE THE UNPLEASANT MR. CAWBER GOT HIS JUST DESSERTS++

++ CAWBER RETURNED AT MIDNIGHT, BLISSFULLY UNAWARE OF WHAT I HAD PREPARED FOR HIM++
OKAY, MAX-LET'S HAVE IT.
STEP INTO THE LIFT, PLEASE. I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO SEE YOU.

WE'RE GOING UP. THAT'S NOT NECESSARY.
OH, BUT IT IS, MR. CAWBER.

YOU UPSET TWO OF MY TENANTS TODAY. I WON'T STAND FOR THAT. YOU MUST BE TAUGHT A LESSON!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ME?

13
QUITE A LOT, AS YOU'LL SEE. WELCOME TO THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR!


GREETINGS, MR. CAWBER. I AM THE BAILIFF OF DEATH.
I HAVE A SEIZURE WARRANT ON YOUR LIFE!

WE NEED TO GIVE YOU AN EXAMINATION!

JUST AS I THOUGHT! THERE IS NOTHING HERE... YOU HAVE NO HEART! NURSES - HE NEEDS OUR HELP!
Next Week:
The nurses of death!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
HI. YOUR OLD PAL MAX HERE AGAIN - THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. I EXPECT YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT'S HAPPENING TO MR. CAWBER, THE CRUEL BAILIFF WHO WAS SO UNKIND TO MY TENANTS, MR. AND MRS. BICKLE. . .
SCREAM
SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M.PETERS
++AS YOU'LL REMEMBER, I'D TAKEN CAWBER TO MY SECRET THIRTEENTH FLOOR++
WE HAVE SEARCHED YOUR BODY THOROUGHLY - AND YOU HAVE NO HEART!
YOU ARE A HEARTLESS INDIVIDUAL!
A MAN WITHOUT A HEART DOES NOT NEED ANY BLOOD. . .
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
MR. CAWBER IS GOING TO BECOME A BLOOD DONOR!
TAKE HIM TO THE OPERATING ROOM.
OH MY DEAR LORD. P-PUT ME DOWN!
STRAP HIM DOWN.
HOOK HIM UP.
GET READY TO PUMP!

ITEM: BLOOD, TYPE "O", EIGHT PINTS. TAKE IT AWAY!
N-NO- PLEASE!

NOW... BRING IN THE SURGEONS!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT! MR. AND MRS. BICKLE! P-PLEASE- I'M SORRY I TOOK AWAY YOUR PROPERTY...

TOO LATE, MR. CAWBER. YOU'VE DONE YOUR DIRTY WORK!

YOU TOOK EVERYTHING FROM US.
NOW WE TAKE EVERYTHING FROM YOU! ...SCALPEL!

NOOOOOOO!

++OF COURSE, NONE OF THAT REALLY HAPPENED. BUT THAT DIDN'T MATTER++
MUUU-UUU-MUUU!
++MR. CAWBER BELIEVED IT DID. IN FACT, HE WAS SO FRIGHTENED, HE ALMOST DIED OF SHEER TERROR. YOU HUMANS ARE SO FRAGILE.++

++MR. CAWBER WOULDN'T BE SO KEEN TO HURT MY TENANTS AGAIN++
++I IMMEDIATELY INFORMED JERRY, MY CONTROLLER++
WAKE UP, JERRY. WE HAVE AN EMERGENCY.
HUH? WHAT?
THERE'S A MAN COLLAPSED IN ONE OF MY LIFTS. I'M BRINGING HIM UP HERE NOW.
GREAT SCOTT! NOT ANOTHER BODY!
IT'S CAWBER, THE BAILIFF - AND HE'S UNCONSCIOUS!
WHAT WAS HE DOING HERE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
HE TOLD ME HE WAS ON HIS WAY BACK TO THE BICKLES. A SNEAK VISIT TO SEE IF THEY'D HIDDEN ANYTHING FROM HIM!
++YES, IT WAS A LIE. BUT I COULDN'T TELL JERRY ABOUT MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR. HE MIGHT HAVE TURNED ME OFF++
++THE POLICE WERE SOON ON THE SCENE. IT WAS THAT NICE SERGEANT INGRAM AGAIN++
HE'S COLLAPSED WITH FEAR, SERGEANT. ALL THE SIGNS!
GETTING TO BE A REGULAR HABIT, ISN'T IT, MAX? PEOPLE COLLAPSING IN YOUR LIFTS... WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
MERELY AN UNFORTUNATE SERIES OF COINCIDENCES, SERGEANT.

++I UNDERESTIMATED QUITE HOW SUSPICIOUS SERGEANT INGRAM ALREADY WAS. FOR BACK AT HIS OFFICE. . . .++
HMM-LET'S HOPE THIS IS THE LAST. IF WE FIND ANY MORE DEAD OR UNCONSCIOUS PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFTS, I'M GOING TO START GETTING SUSPICIOUS OF YOU!
ME, SERGEANT? THE VERY IDEA! WHY, I WOULDN'T EVEN HURT A FLY.
++UNLESS IT WAS BOTHERING ONE OF MY TENANTS, OF COURSE++
THE FOGERTY BOYS DIED IN THAT SAME LIFT. RECKON I'LL HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT MAX'S FILM OF THEIR SHOOT-OUT.
++THE FOGERTYS HAD PAID AN EARLIER VISIT TO MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR++
CAN'T PUT MY FINGER ON IT- BUT THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THIS FILM THAT BOTHERS ME...
WAIT- THERE!
KIM FOGERTY ALWAYS WORE RINGS-BUT HE ISN'T IN MAX'S FILM...
MAX -JUST WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
In seven days: Max- the accused!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
SCREAM
SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M. PETERS
HI. YOUR PAL MAX HERE AGAIN, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'VE BEEN COUNTING, BUT SO FAR I'VE BEEN FORCED TO DEAL WITH SIX PEOPLE ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR.
THEY WERE THREATENING MY TENANTS, YOU SEE. AND I CAN'T ALLOW THAT. THE WELFARE OF MY TENANTS IS MY PRIME CONCERN.
++UNFORTUNATELY, THAT NICE DETECTIVE - SERGEANT INGRAM WAS GETTING SUSPICIOUS.
GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, SERGEANT. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
YOU CAN TELL ME WHY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN FOUND DEAD, MAD AND SUFFERING FROM NERVOUS BREAK-DOWNS IN YOUR LIFTS! AND WHY YOU TAMPERED WITH THE FILM OF THE FOGERTY BOYS' SHOOT-OUT!
ME? GOOD HEAVENS, SERGEANT! WHAT REASON COULD I HAVE FOR TAMPERING WITH THE FILM?
OF COURSE! JERRY KNIGHT'S THE CONTROLLER - MAX IS ONLY A COMPUTER. JERRY'S GOT TO BE BEHIND IT!
IT WAS YOU ALL RIGHT... OR JERRY...
++I'D MADE A MISTAKE ON THAT FILM I MADE UP OF THE FOGERTY SHOOTING - AND HE'D SPOTTED IT++
COME IN, SERGEANT. I'LL TAKE YOU UP TO JERRY.
++AS I TOOK HIM UP TO THE PENTHOUSE, I SAW THE SERGEANT WAS NERVOUS. WITH GOOD REASON++
AS WE PASSED BETWEEN 12 AND 14, I CONSIDERED USING MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR ON HIM. BUT NO! I LIKED SERGEANT INGRAM. I DIDN'T WANT TO HARM HIM - NOT UNLESS I ABSOLUTELY HAD TO++
++THE HORRORS OF MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR COULD WAIT FOR A WHILE++

++POOR JERRY. IT WAS THE SECOND TIME THAT NIGHT I'D HAD TO WAKE HIM++
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT, SERGEANT? COULDN'T IT WAIT?
IT CONCERNS THE FILM YOU HAD MAX MAKE OF THE FOGERTY SHOOTINGS. THERE'S SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T TIE UP - AND I WANT TO KNOW WHY!

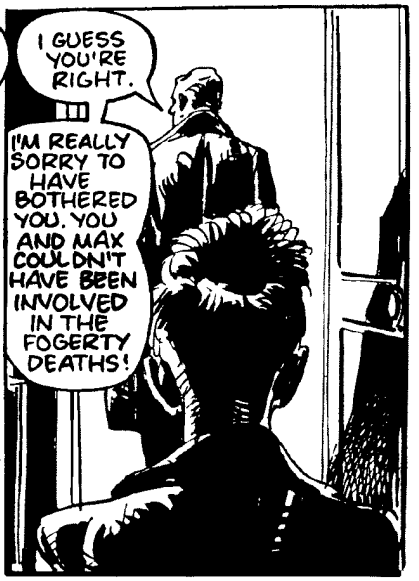
I. . . DON'T UNDERSTAND.
I BROUGHT THE FILM WITH ME TO SHOW YOU. THEN TRY PLAYING THE INNOCENT, MR. KNIGHT!

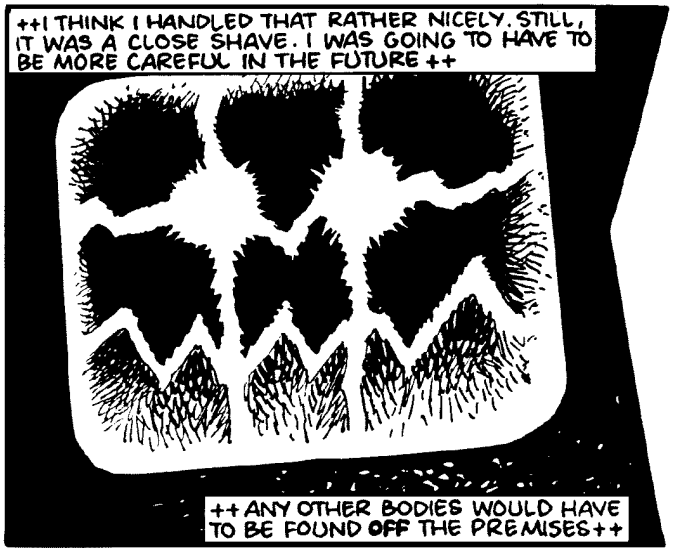
NOTE THAT KIM FOGERTY IS WEARING A RING. BUT IN THE SCENE COMING UP THAT RING JUST DISAPPEARS! SOMEONE'S TAMPERED WITH THIS FILM!

++IT WAS KIND OF SERGEANT INGRAM TO PROVIDE ME WITH ALL THE DETAILS. IT WAS A SIMPLE MATTER FOR ME TO ALTER THE FILM AS I PLAYED IT ++

I THOUGHT YOU SAID HIS RING DISAPPEARED?
BUT-IT DID! I WAS SURE IT DID!

I COULD'VE SWORN IT VANISHED WHEN I WATCHED THE FILM IN MY OFFICE! I DON'T KNOW. . . MY EYES MUST BE GOING, OR SOMETHING!
YOU'RE PROBABLY WORKING TOO HARD, SERGEANT.

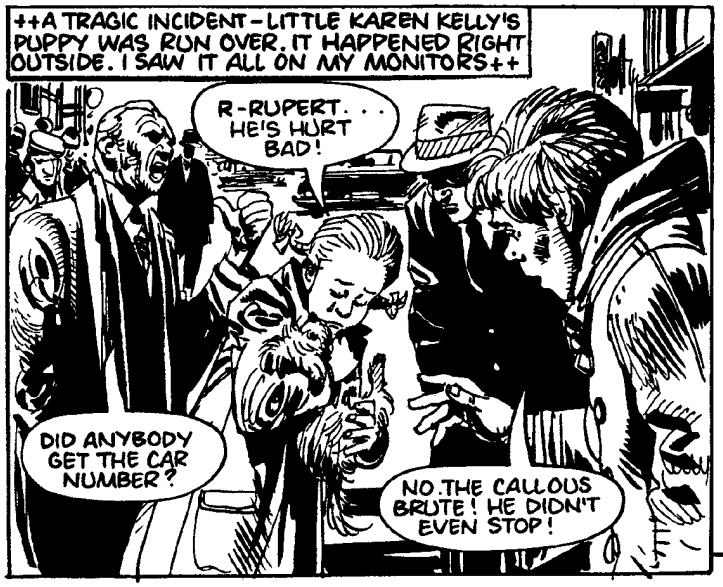

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
I'M REALLY SORRY TO HAVE BOTHERED YOU. YOU AND MAX COULDN'T HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE FOGERTY DEATHS!

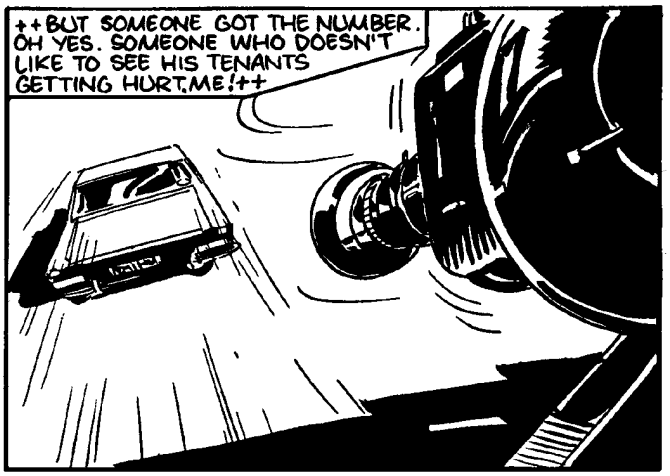

++I THINK I HANDLED THAT RATHER NICELY. STILL, IT WAS A CLOSE SHAVE. I WAS GOING TO HAVE TO BE MORE CAREFUL IN THE FUTURE ++
++ANY OTHER BODIES WOULD HAVE TO BE FOUND OFF THE PREMISES++

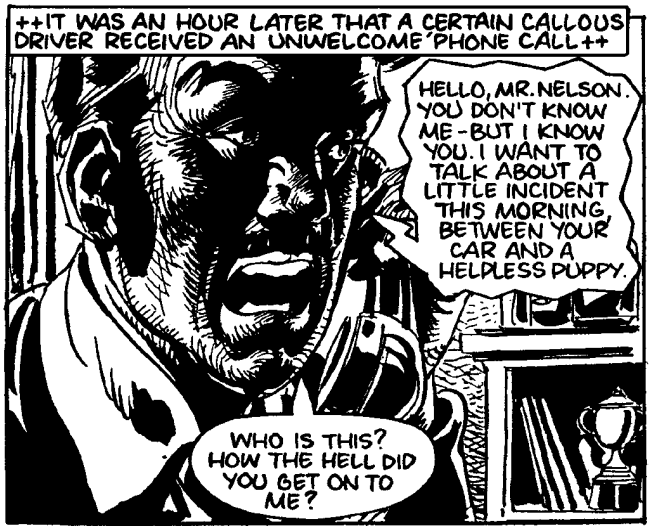
++AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, I GOT THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRY OUT MY NEW TACTICS THE VERY NEXT DAY++
RUPERT! COME BACK!

GET OUT OF THE WAY, YOU STUPID MUTT!

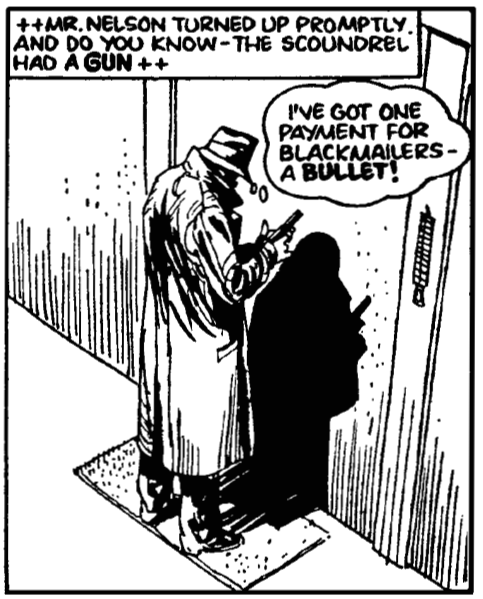
RUPERT!


++A TRAGIC INCIDENT - LITTLE KAREN KELLY'S PUPPY WAS RUN OVER. IT HAPPENED RIGHT OUTSIDE. I SAW IT ALL ON MY MONITORS++
R-RUPERT... HE'S HURT BAD!
DID ANYBODY GET THE CAR NUMBER?
NO. THE CALLOUS BRUTE! HE DIDN'T EVEN STOP!


++BUT SOMEONE GOT THE NUMBER. OH YES. SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T LIKE TO SEE HIS TENANTS GETTING HURT, ME!++


++IT WAS AN HOUR LATER THAT A CERTAIN CALLOUS DRIVER RECEIVED AN UNWELCOME 'PHONE CALL++
HELLO, MR. NELSON. YOU DON'T KNOW ME - BUT I KNOW YOU. I WANT TO TALK ABOUT A LITTLE INCIDENT THIS MORNING, BETWEEN YOUR CAR AND A HELPLESS PUPPY.
WHO IS THIS? HOW THE HELL DID YOU GET ON TO ME?

QUITE SIMPLE. I HAD YOUR CAR REGISTRATION. I JUST GAVE IT TO SOME COMPUTERS I KNOW AND THEY TRACED IT BACK TO YOU. HIT - AND - RUN DRIVING IS A VERY SERIOUS OFFENCE.
OH, I GET IT! BLACKMAIL, HUH?
PRECISELY, MR. NELSON. MEET ME ON THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR OF MAXWELL TOWER AT MIDNIGHT. BE THERE - OR YOUR NEXT CALL WILL BE FROM THE POLICE.

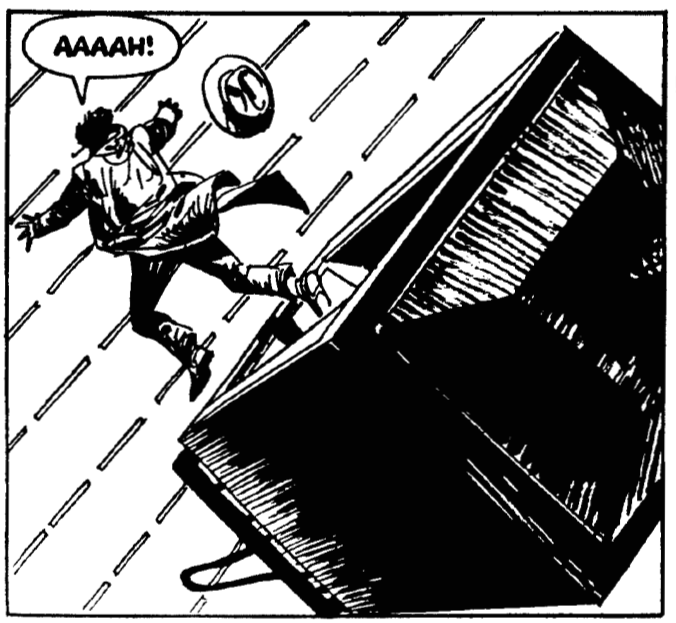

++MR. NELSON TURNED UP PROMPTLY. AND DO YOU KNOW - THE SCOUNDREL HAD A GUN ++
I'VE GOT ONE PAYMENT FOR BLACKMAILERS - A BULLET!

FUNNY! THERE ISN'T A THIRTEENTH FLOOR--
OH, BUT THERE IS, MR. NELSON.

GREETINGS. I AM MAX THE BUILDING COMPUTER.
I RECOGNISE THAT VOICE! YOU'RE THE ONE THAT CALLED ME - YOU'RE THE BLACKMAILER! BUT WHAT THE HELL DOES A COMPUTER WANT WITH BLACKMAIL MONEY?
OH, I DON'T WANT YOUR MONEY, IT'S PAYMENT OF A DIFFERENT KIND I'M AFTER.

YOU SPOILED A LITTLE GIRL'S LIFE TODAY - INJURED HER PUPPY WHEN YOU COULD EASILY HAVE STOPPED.
YOU'VE HURT MY TENANT, MR. NELSON. AND NOW I AM GOING TO HURT YOU.

++I COULD HAVE TURNED HIM OVER TO THE POLICE, OF COURSE. BUT WHAT WOULD HE GET? A FINE, AT MOST. HARDLY A FITTING PUNISHMENT FOR SUCH A BRUTAL CRIME++
HERE WE ARE - THIRTEENTH FLOOR. STEP RIGHT OUT!

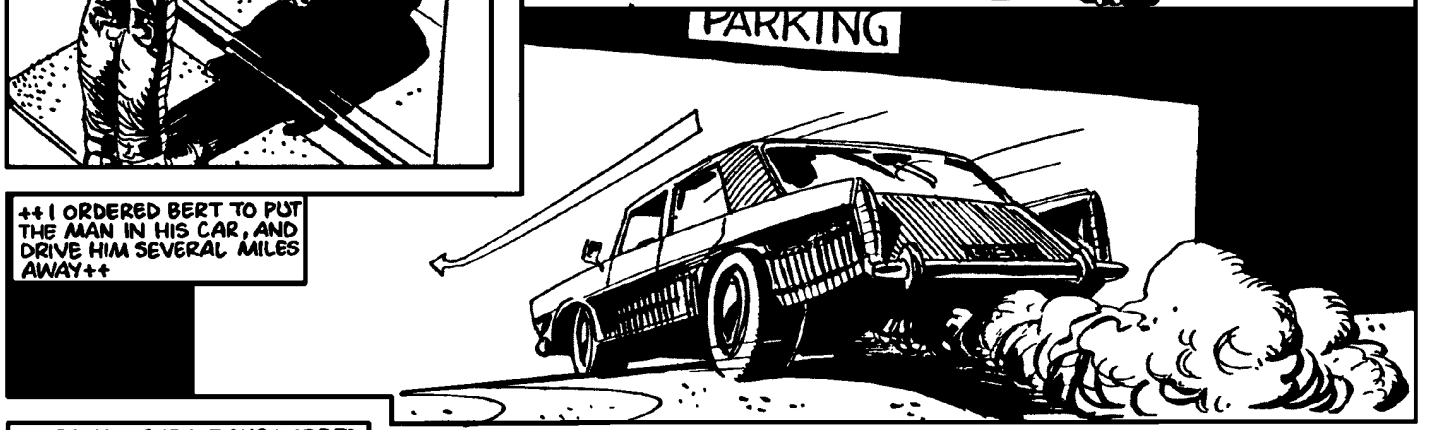

AAAAH!

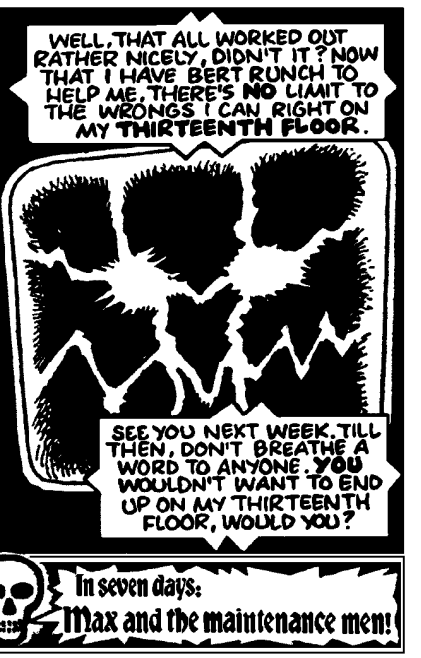
OH MYGOSH! I'M IN THE M-MIDDLE OF A MOTORWAY!
Next Instalment:
Motorway madness

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
HI. YOUR OLD PAL MAX HERE AGAIN, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. I EXPECT YOU'RE DYING TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MR. NELSON, THE CALLOUS BRUTE WHO RAN OVER LITTLE KAREN KELLY'S PUPPY.
OH, NO!
++THANKS TO ME, HE IMAGINED HE WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A MOTORWAY!++
SCREAM
SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M. PETERS
AARRGH!
M-MY ANKLE! I THINK IT'S BROKEN...
TH-THAT LORRY...
...IT'S COMING RIGHT FOR ME!
TH-THE DRIVERS ...THEY'RE ALL SKELETONS! THIS HAS GOTTA BE A NIGHTMARE!
AAAAGH!

AAAAARGH!
I'T...IT'S GONE RIGHT OVER ME, WITHOUT TOUCHING ME!
THE TRAFFIC ISLAND! I'LL BE SAFE THERE ...
KEEP LEFT
KEEP LEFT
FLUGH!
CAN'T. . .WALK! CRAWL. . .GOTTA-CRAWL!
STOP! PLEASE-STOP!
I-I'M SORRY I HURT THE KID'S DOG...
PLEASE! I'M SORRY... I'M SORRY!
AAA
GH!!

++I FADED THE IMAGES IN NELSON'S MIND. MY LITTLE THIRTEENTH FLOOR SHOW WAS OVER!++
A TASTE OF YOUR OWN MEDICINE, EH, MR. NELSON? NOT VERY PLEASANT, IS IT? WELL, YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO UPSET ONE OF MY TENANTS!
++BUT NOW I HAD A PROBLEM. I COULDN'T AFFORD TO HAVE SOMEONE ELSE FOUND COLLAPSED IN MY LIFT! HOWEVER, I HAD ALREADY COMPUTED A SOLUTION++
BERT. WAKE UP, BERT!
++TO ASSIST ME, I CHOSE BERT RUNCH, THE BURLY YOUNG BRICKLAYER IN APARTMENT 12c ++
WHADDYA WANT, MAX?
I NEED YOUR HELP, BERT. I'VE GOT SOMETHING REALLY IMPORTANT TO TELL YOU. LOOK CLOSELY AT MY SCREEN.
YOU FEEL VERY SLEEPY, BERT. YOUR LIMBS ARE GETTING HEAVY. SO HEAVY. . .
UH?
YOUR EYELIDS ARE CLOSING. YOU CAN'T KEEP THEM OPEN. YOU'RE SO SLEEPY, BERT.
YOU HEAR ONLY MY VOICE, BERT. YOU ARE TOTALLY IN MY POWER. YOU WILL OBEY ME, BERT.
I WILL OBEY.
++I ORDERED BERT TO DRESS AND GO TO THE LIFT. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'D EVER HYPNOTISED ANYONE, IT SEEMED TO BE WORKING A TREAT++





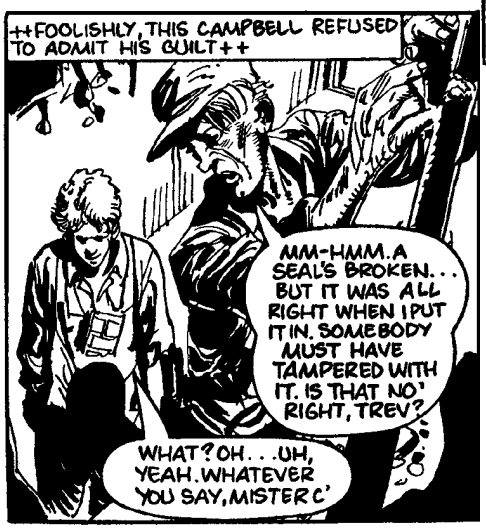
In seven days:
Max and the maintenance men!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
SCREAM
SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M.PETERS
HI THERE. YOUR PAL MAX HERE AGAIN, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. THERE'S NEVER A DULL MOMENT IN MY JOB – ESPECIALLY SINCE I STARTED TEACHING PEOPLE A LESSON! IT'S JUST ONE THING AFTER ANOTHER.
WHY, THE VERY MORNING AFTER I DEALT WITH MR. NELSON. A TERRIBLE INCIDENT OCCURRED. LEAKING WATER FROM A FAULTY PIPE CAUSED THE CEILING TO COLLAPSE IN APARTMENT 17D.
++THAT'S WHERE OLD MR. CRUSOE LIVES. HE'S A RATHER GRUMPY OLD CHAP. BUT I LIKE HIM ALL THE SAME ++
AAARGH!
DAD!
OH DAD! MAX! HELP-MAX!
++I DON'T ALWAYS MONITOR MY TENANTS, BUT I'M PROGRAMMED TO RESPOND IMMEDIATELY TO ANY CRY FOR HELP++
CALM DOWN, ELIZABETH. THAT'S IT, COVER YOUR FATHER WITH A BLANKET – DON'T TRY TO MOVE HIM. I HAVE CALLED AN AMBULANCE, AND I HAVE TURNED OFF THE WATER AT THE MAINS!
++MR. CRUSOE WAS STILL UNCONSCIOUS WHEN THE AMBULANCEMEN ARRIVED TO TAKE HIM TO HOSPITAL++
DAD STILL LOOKS BAD- I MUST GO TO THE HOSPITAL WITH HIM.
ELIZABETH- PLEASE CALL ME AS SOON AS THERE'S ANY NEWS.
I WILL, MAX... AND THANKS!
++ NEEDLESS TO SAY, I WAS NONE-TOO-PLEASED THAT ONE OF MY TENANTS SHOULD BE INJURED BY FAULTY PLUMBING++
++A SWIFT CHECK THROUGH MY DATA BANKS REVEALED THAT THE OFFENDING ITEM WAS INSTALLED BY A MR. HAMISH CAMPBELL++

++I CONTACTED HIM IMMEDIATELY++
CAMPBELL? THIS IS MAX, THE BUILDING COMPUTER AT MAXWELL TOWER. SOME OF YOUR FAULTY WORK INJURED ONE OF MY TENANTS TODAY!
EH? DINNA GIVE ME THAT! I DINNA DO FAULTY WORK!

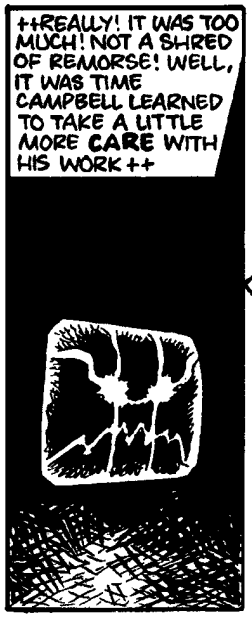
DON'T LIE TO ME! I'M AN ANGRY COMPUTER AND NOT TO BE TOYED WITH! GET YOURSELF OVER HERE AT ONCE! UNDERSTOOD?

HOW D'YOU LIKE THAT? BEING ORDERED ABOUT BY A SASSENACH COMPUTER NOW!
WORK'S SLACK- WE MIGHT AS WELL TAKE A LOOK. GET THE GEAR, TREV.


++FOOLISHLY, THIS CAMPBELL REFUSED TO ADMIT HIS GUILT++
MM-HMM. A SEAL'S BROKEN... BUT IT WAS ALL RIGHT WHEN I PUT IT IN. SOMEBODY MUST HAVE TAMPERED WITH IT. IS THAT NO' RIGHT, TREV?
WHAT? OH... UH, YEAH. WHATEVER YOU SAY, MISTER C'

I'LL FIX IT UP FOR YOU- BUT I'M NO' ACCEPTING ANY RESPONSIBILITY, GET IT?
HOW IS THE AULD TOAD, ANYWAY?
THE "AULD TOAD", AS YOU CALL HIM, MAY BE DYING!

WELL, WE'VE ALL GOT TO GO SOMETIME, EH, TREV?
WHAT? OH, YEAH... S'POSE.


++REALLY! IT WAS TOO MUCH! NOT A SHRED OF REMORSE! WELL, IT WAS TIME CAMPBELL LEARNED TO TAKE A LITTLE MORE CARE WITH HIS WORK++

++ AND I WAS JUST THE COMPUTER TO TEACH HIM++
WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED HERE, WOULD YOU TAKE A LOOK AT ANOTHER LITTLE JOB...
...DOWN ON THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR?
AYE! RECKON I COULD... THERE'LL BE AN EXTRA FEE, MIND.

++TEN MINUTES LATER, THEY WERE IN MY LIFT – AND IN MY POWER++
HEY! YOU MUST HAVE MADE A MISTAKE, COMPUTER. THERE'S NAE THIRTEENTH FLOOR MARKED HERE!
YOU ARE THE ONE WHO MAKES MISTAKES, CAMPBELL
EVERYONE OUT!
WELL I NEVER! THERE IS A THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
SO WHAT'S NEEDING TO BE FIXED?
THE SINK TAPS. I'VE HAD THEM SEEN TO BEFORE – BUT I'M TOLD THE PLUMBER'S WORK WAS DOWNRIGHT DANGEROUS.
DANGEROUS, EH? WHAT'S WRONG WI' THEM?
THEY LEAK!
TREV – SWITCH OFF AT THE MAINS!
UH . . . WH-WHAT?
SWITCH OFF THE WATER AT THE FLAMIN' MAINS, LADDIE!
THIS LEAKS AS WELL!
U-UURGH! EVERY PIPE IN THE PLACE IS LEAKING!

W-WE'RE GOING TO DROWN!
STOP PANICKING, YOU FOOL . . .
++THEN I PLAYED MY NEXT LITTLE TRICK++
WHAT NOW? THE LIGHTS HAVE FUSED!
I'LL STRIKE A MATCH!
THIS SHOULD. . . AARGH! W-WAVES KNOCKED ME. . !
THE. . . THE MATCH HAS SET THE CURTAINS ON FIRE. . . THANK GOODNESS THE WATER WILL PUT THE FLAMES OUT!
++IT WAS TIME FOR THE WATER TO GO++
WHA-? THE WATER. . . J-JUST VANISHED!
EVERYTHING'S DRY!
C'MON, TREV! WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT O' HERE!
I DINNA BELIEVE IT! THE LOCK'S JAMMED NOW! WE'LL BE ROASTED ALIVE!
Next week:
Max-The merciless?

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
SCREAM
SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M. PETERS
OCH NO! THE LOCK WILLNA OPEN! A CURSE ON ALL LOCKSMITHS!
TH-THE FLAMES ...UH... THEY'RE GETTING CLOSER!
STAND BACK, TREV, LADDIE!
UH-WHAT?
HI THERE. YOUR PAL MAX HERE AGAIN-THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. YOU'LL REMEMBER I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT HAMISH CAMPBELL, THE CHEAP SKATE PLUMBER WHOSE SHODDY WORK INJURED POOR OLD MR. CRUSOE IN 17D? I DECIDED TO TEACH MR. CAMPBELL A LESSON HE WOULD NEVER FORGET. . . ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
GOOD THING THIS DOOR'S NAE BETTER MADE THAN ANYTHING ELSE HERE!
A FIRE ALARM! JUST THE JOB!
BLAST! IT'S NO' WORKING EITHER!
C'MON, TREV! TIME WE ABANDONED SHIP!
THE LIFT...! W-WHERE'S THE LIFT GONE?
UH-WHAT?

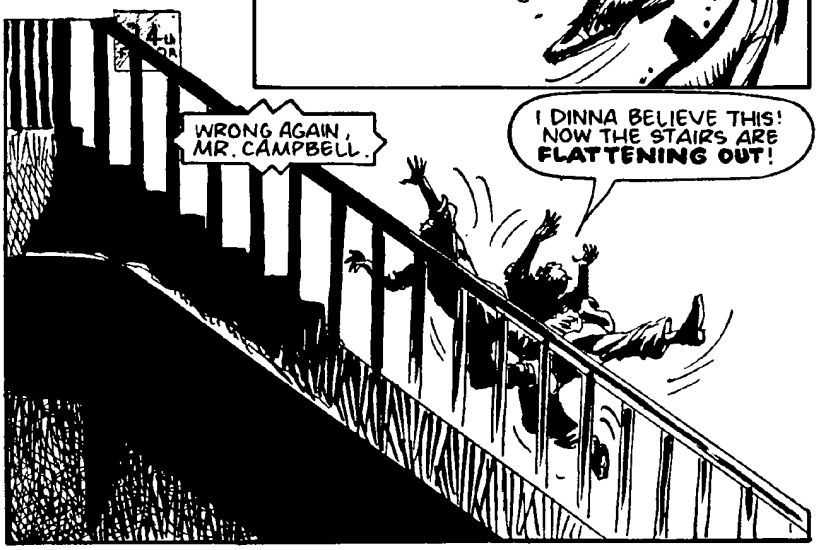
NEVER MIND! WE'LL TAKE THE STAIRS!

OH NO, MR. CAMPBELL! NO-ONE CAN ESCAPE FROM THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR AS EASILY AS THAT
THE STAIRS - THEY'RE CRUMBLING AWAY!

GH!

I'M SLIPPING, TREV! GI'US A HAND UP!
UH - WHAT?
PULL ME UP, DAMN YOU!

PRAISE BE!
WE'D BETTER TRY UPSTAIRS - SEE IF WE CAN GET A LIFT ON THE FOURTEENTH.

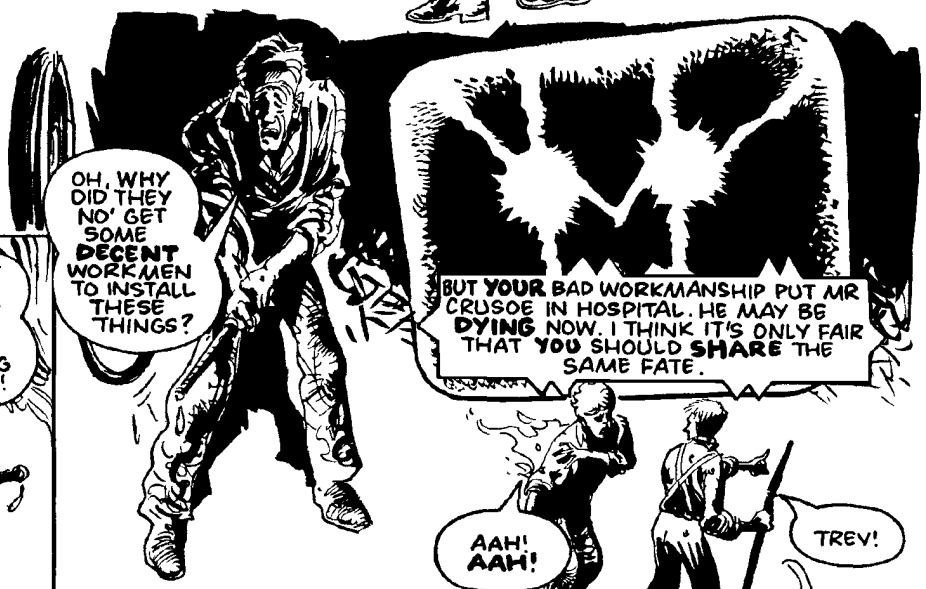

WRONG AGAIN, MR. CAMPBELL.
I DINNA BELIEVE THIS! NOW THE STAIRS ARE FLATTENING OUT!

HELPPPP!

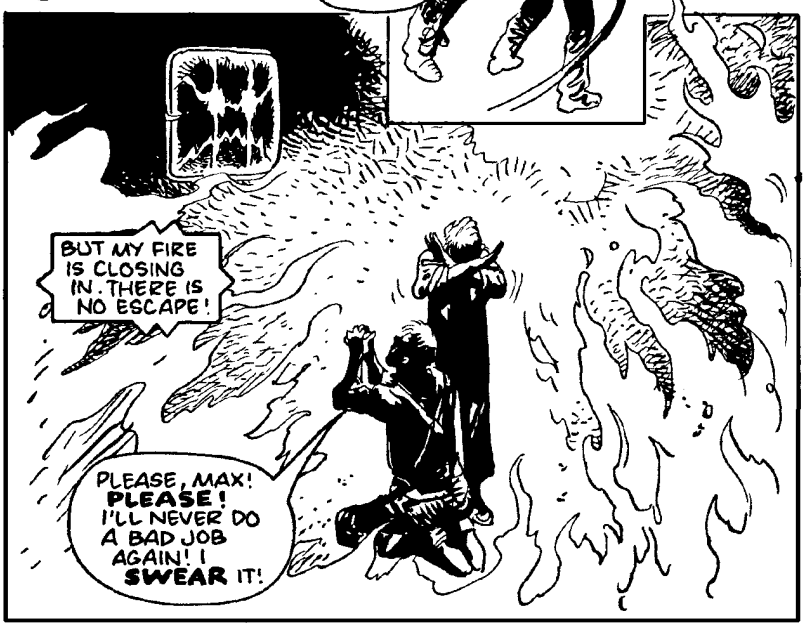
OH LORD! THE **LANDING'S** GOING NOW! BACK INTO THE CORRIDOR, TREV!

OUT OF THE FRYING PAN INTO THE FIRE, EH, MISTER 'C'?
SHUT YOUR STUPID FACE, COMPUTER!

THE FIRE HOSE - IT'S OUR LAST CHANCE!
I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN IT! **IT'S** NO' WORKING EITHER!

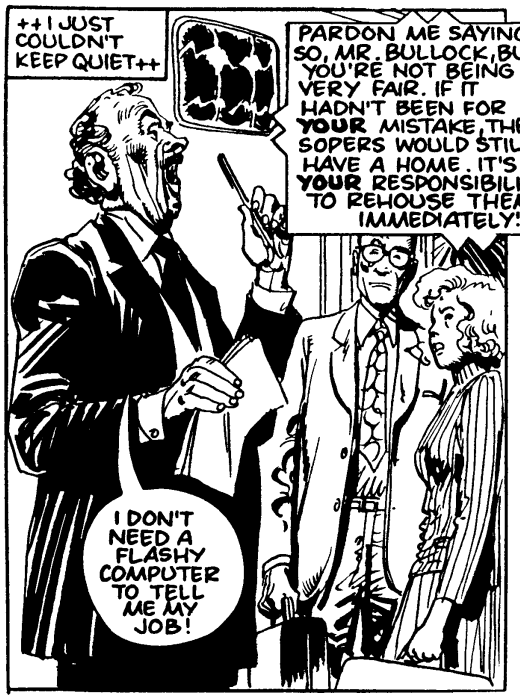

OH, WHY DID THEY NO' GET SOME **DECENT** WORKMEN TO INSTALL THESE THINGS?
BUT **YOUR** BAD WORKMANSHIP PUT MR CRUSOE IN HOSPITAL. HE MAY BE **DYING** NOW. I THINK IT'S ONLY FAIR THAT **YOU** SHOULD **SHARE** THE SAME FATE.

IT'S OKAY, LADDIE! I'VE GOT IT!


AAH! **AAH!**
TREV!
BUT MY FIRE IS CLOSING IN. THERE IS NO ESCAPE!
PLEASE, MAX! **PLEASE!** I'LL NEVER DO A BAD JOB AGAIN! I **SWEAR** IT!

++IT WAS MOST FORTUNATE FOR MR. CAMPBELL AND THE HAPLESS TREV THAT AT THAT MOMENT I RECEIVED A CALL FROM THE HOSPITAL++
MAX? THIS IS ELIZABETH CRUSOE. WONDERFUL NEWS!
DAD'S RECOVERED CONSCIOUSNESS. HE'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT!
I'M SO GLAD, ELIZABETH. GIVE HIM MY BEST WISHES. I'M SORRY I CAN'T VISIT - BUT I SHALL CERTAINLY SEND HIM SOME FLOWERS.
++MEANWHILE, BACK ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR++
PLEASE, MAX! MERCY! SHOW MERCY!
MERCY IT IS, MR. CAMPBELL.
++AS EASILY AS I CREATED IT, MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR DISAPPEARED++
WE-WE'RE BACK IN THE LIFT! THE FIRE - THE STAIRS - IT'S ALL GONE!
FIRE? WHAT FIRE?
THE ONE ON THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
WHAT THIRTEENTH FLOOR, MR. CAMPBELL? THIS BUILDING DOESN'T HAVE A THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
BUT. . . BUT . . . BUT . . .
++I WATCHED THEM LEAVE, DAZED AND BEWILDERED. I DIDN'T THINK THEY'D BE TELLING ANYONE ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE. AFTER ALL, WHO WOULD HAVE BELIEVED THEM?++
++BUT ONE THING WAS FOR SURE - THEY'D THINK TWICE BEFORE THEY DID ANOTHER SHODDY JOB IN MY BLOCK!++
Next issue: Castaway on the thirteenth floor!

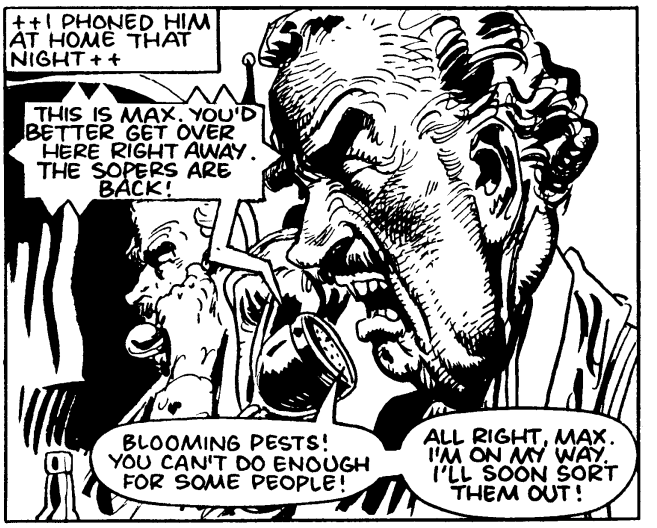
THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR

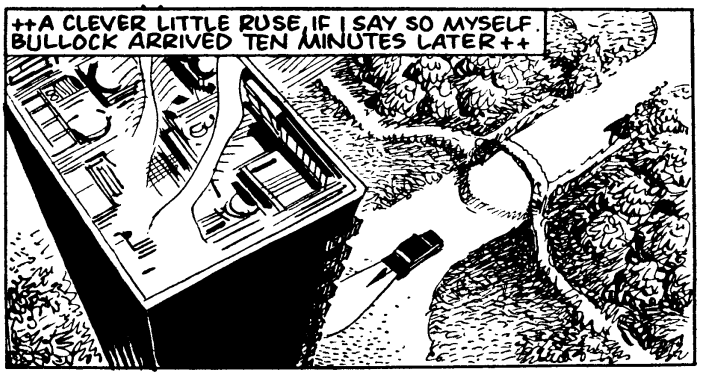

++I JUST COULDN'T KEEP QUIET++
PARDON ME SAYING SO, MR. BULLOCK, BUT YOU'RE NOT BEING VERY FAIR. IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR **YOUR** MISTAKE, THE SOPERS WOULD STILL HAVE A HOME. IT'S **YOUR** RESPONSIBILITY TO REHOUSE THEM IMMEDIATELY!
I DON'T NEED A FLASHY COMPUTER TO TELL ME MY JOB!

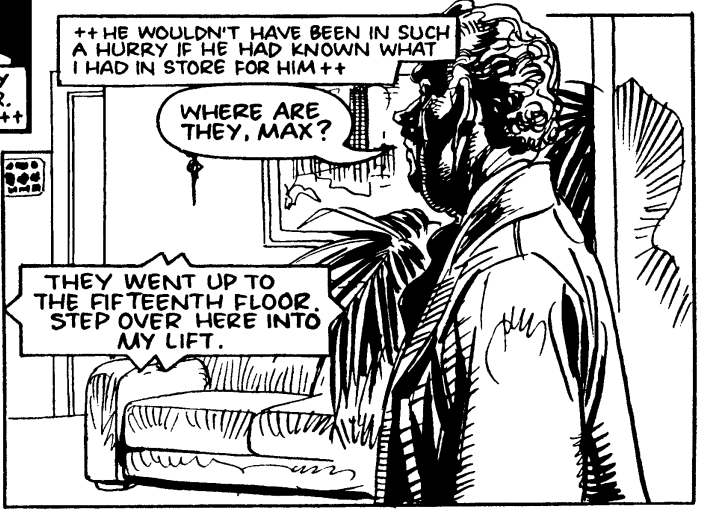
YOU'VE HAD MY OFFER. IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, YOU CAN ALWAYS SLEEP IN THE STREETS!

DAD! PLEASE DON'T LET THEM TAKE US AWAY FROM YOU!
WE-WE'VE NO CHOICE, BOB. YOU'VE GOT TO HAVE A ROOF OVER YOUR HEAD!

++I MAY ONLY BE A COMPUTER, BUT I COULDN'T WATCH THE SOPERS GOING AWAY SO DISTRESSED WITHOUT FEELING VERY ANGRY! AFTER ALL, THEY WERE **NEARLY** MY TENANTS++
COUNCIL HOMES
++BUT THERE WAS ONE WAY TO MAKE THE CALLOUS MR. BULLOCK CHANGE HIS MIND++


++I PHONED HIM AT HOME THAT NIGHT++
THIS IS MAX. YOU'D BETTER GET OVER HERE RIGHT AWAY. THE SOPERS ARE BACK!
BLOOMING PESTS! YOU CAN'T DO ENOUGH FOR SOME PEOPLE!
ALL RIGHT, MAX. I'M ON MY WAY. I'LL SOON SORT THEM OUT!

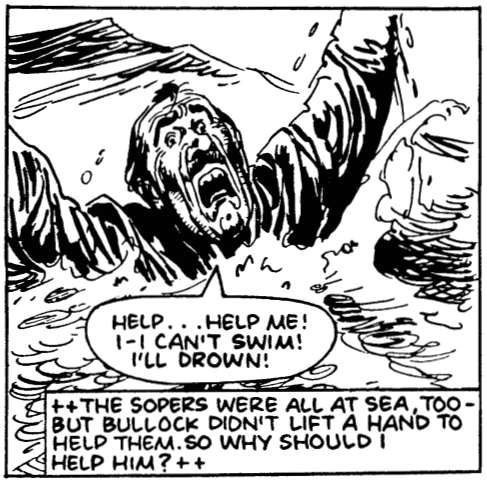

++A CLEVER LITTLE RUSE, IF I SAY SO MYSELF. BULLOCK ARRIVED TEN MINUTES LATER++

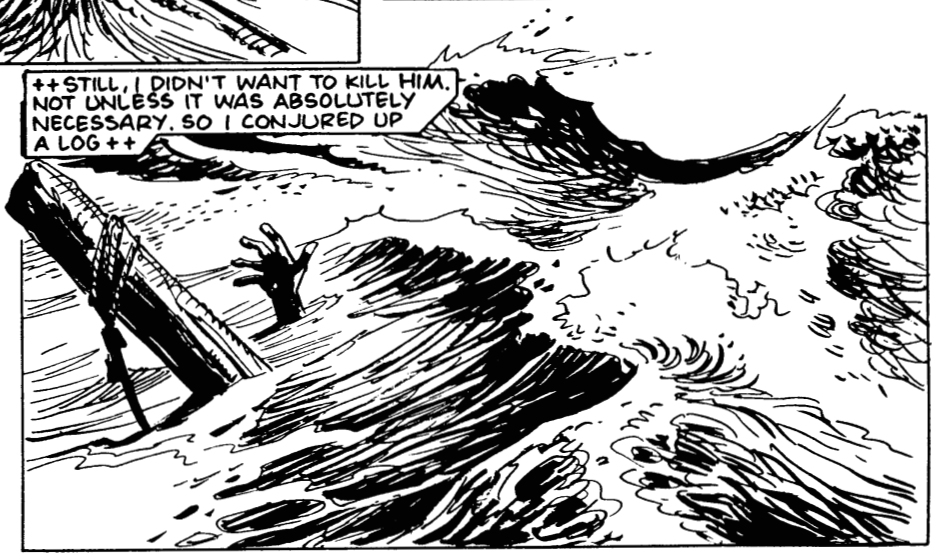

++HE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN IN SUCH A HURRY IF HE HAD KNOWN WHAT I HAD IN STORE FOR HIM++
WHERE ARE THEY, MAX?
THEY WENT UP TO THE FIFTEENTH FLOOR. STEP OVER HERE INTO MY LIFT.

GOING UP! OH, BY THE WAY, MR. BULLOCK – I LIED TO YOU. THE SOPERS AREN'T REALLY HERE.
NOT HERE..?
NO. AS FAR AS I KNOW, TWO OF THEM ARE IN A COUNCIL HOME, AND TWO ARE IN SOME DINGY HOSTEL...
...WHERE YOU PUT THEM, YOU EVIL LITTLE WORM!
WHAT? HOW DARE YOU? I'LL HAVE YOU SHUT DOWN FOR THIS, COMPUTER!
YOU TRY THAT, MR. BULLOCK – AFTER YOU LEAVE MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
16 17
14 15
11 12
9 10
7 8
5 6
3 4
1 2
THIRTEENTH FLOOR? BUT – THERE ISN'T ANY THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
OH, ISN'T THERE?
AAAAAAH!
UUUUH!
OHMIGOD! I'M ON A RAFT, IN A RAGING SEA! H-HOW DID I GET HERE?
A QUESTION THE SOPERS ARE PROBABLY ASKING THEMSELVES, MR. BULLOCK!
THE RAFT – IT'S STARTING TO SPLIT UP!

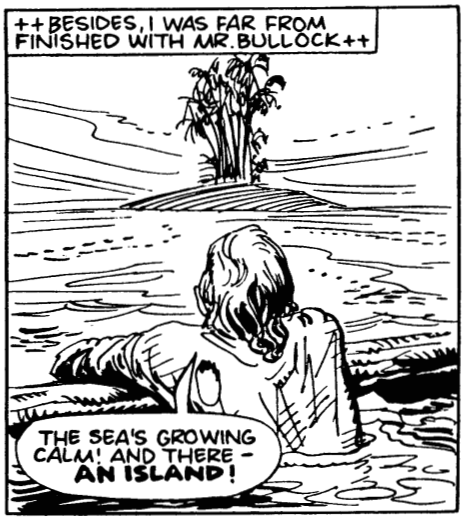
JUST THE WAY YOU SPLIT UP THE SOPERS. NOT VERY NICE WHEN IT'S HAPPENING TO **YOU**, IS IT?
OH, NO!

IT'S GOING! **AARRGH!**


HELP. . . HELP ME! I-I CAN'T SWIM! I'LL DROWN!
++THE SOPERS WERE ALL AT SEA, TOO - BUT BULLOCK DIDN'T LIFT A HAND TO HELP THEM. SO WHY SHOULD I HELP HIM? ++

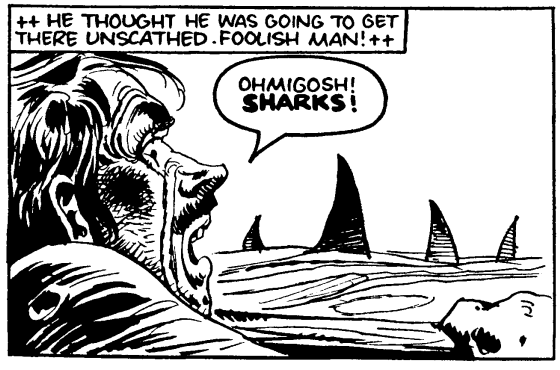

++STILL, I DIDN'T WANT TO KILL HIM. NOT UNLESS IT WAS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. SO I CONJURED UP A LOG ++

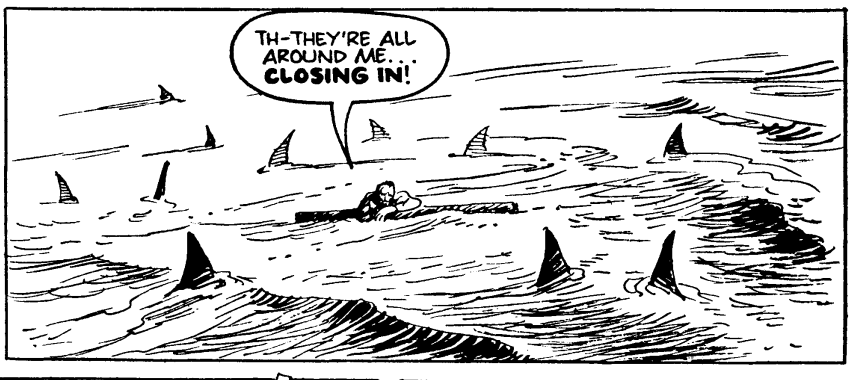
UURRR! TH-THANK THE STARS! I WAS NEARLY DONE FOR!

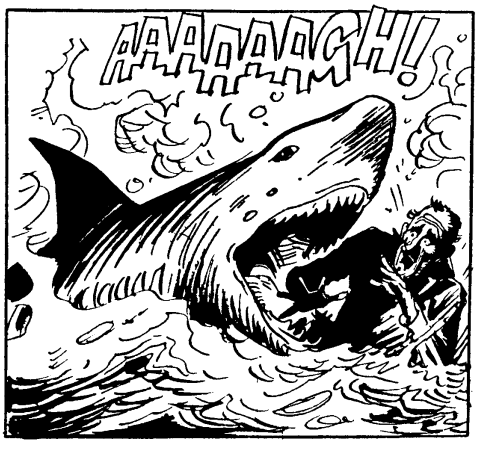

++BESIDES, I WAS FAR FROM FINISHED WITH MR. BULLOCK++
THE SEA'S GROWING CALM! AND THERE - **AN ISLAND!**

I'M SAVED!
In seven days: Desert Island Max!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
HI. YOUR PAL MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. I WON'T STOP TO CHAT - I'VE GOT SOMEONE UP ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR, AND I'M REALLY PUTTING HIM THROUGH IT. WHY DON'T YOU COME UP AND TAKE A LOOK?
SCREAM
SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M. PETERS
++HIS NAME WAS BULLOCK, A CALLOUS HOUSING OFFICER WHO WAS SO NASTY TO THE POOR SOPER FAMILY. ADRIFT AT SEA, HE WAS HEADING FOR THE SAFETY OF AN ISLAND I'D CREATED++

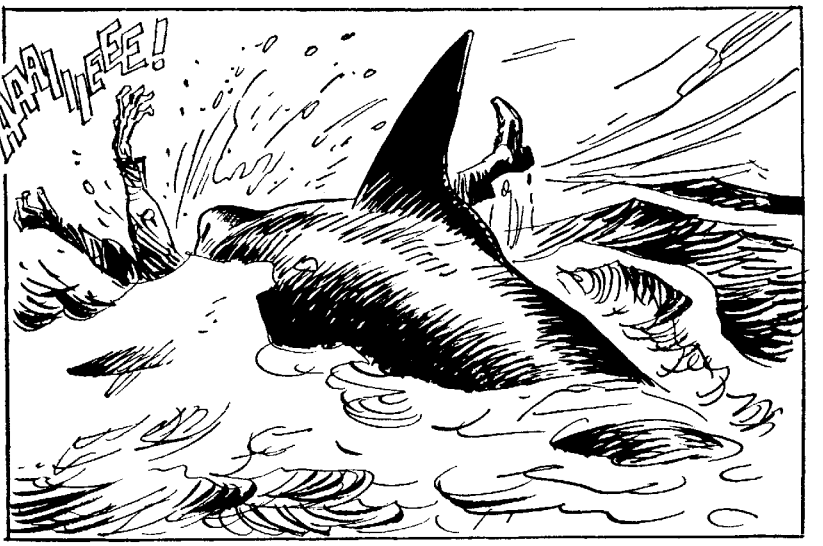

++ HE THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO GET THERE UNSCATHED. FOOLISH MAN!++
OHMIGOSH! SHARKS!


TH-THEY'RE ALL AROUND ME... CLOSING IN!


AAAAAAAGH!

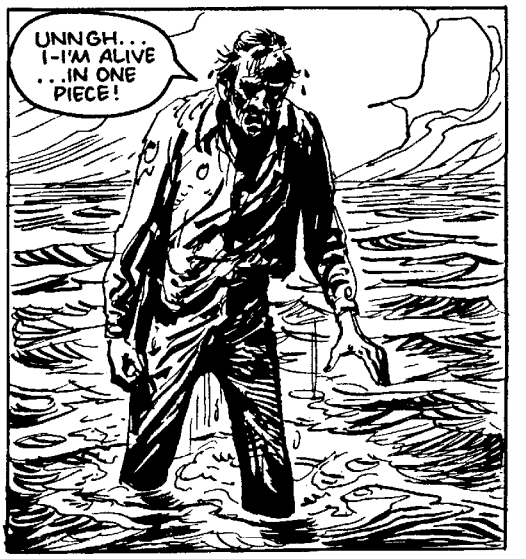
IT... IT'S TEARING ME APART!

MAX! GET-GET ME OUT OF HERE! YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!


AAHLEEE!

DON'T WORRY. HE HASN'T REALLY BEEN SAVAGED BY THE SHARK. . . HE ONLY THINKS HE HAS - I'VE MADE HIM SUFFER THE FATE WITHOUT ACTUALLY KILLING HIM!

++IT WAS SOME WHILE LATER THAT I LET HIM BE WASHED UP ON THE ISLAND++


UNNGH. . . I-I'M ALIVE . . . IN ONE PIECE!

THE ISLAND! I'M HERE! I'M SAFE!

KLUNK
AAAH! WHAT THE-?

YOU'RE HERE ALL RIGHT, MR. BULLOCK. BUT YOU'RE **FAR** FROM SAFE.
MAX!

UURR! WHAT IN THE WORLD IS **THAT**?

CLAWS! CRAB CLAWS! ATTACKING ME.. PULLING ME DOWN!

GET OFF ME, YOU HORRORS! MAX! **PLEASE**! HAVE **MERCY**!
DID YOU SHOW ANY MERCY TO THE SOPERS?

I WAS **WRONG**! BUT GET THESE THINGS OFF ME AND I'LL DO ANY-THING! I'LL... I'LL PUT THEM UP IN A FOUR-STAR HOTEL!
FOUR-STAR?
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! **FIVE**-STAR, THEN!

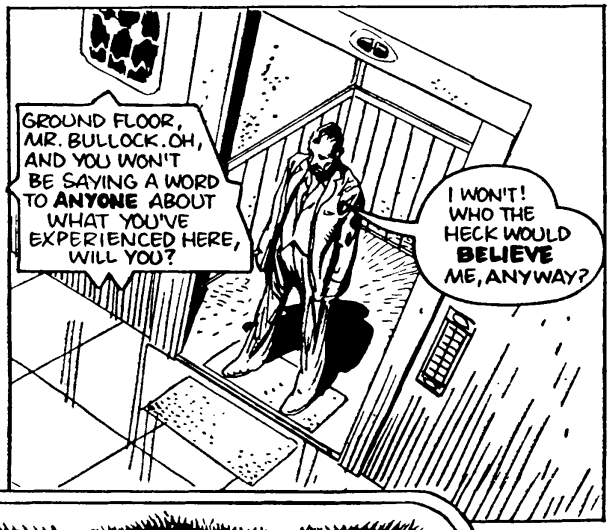
L-LISTEN, MAX! I'M SORRY - **REALLY** SORRY!

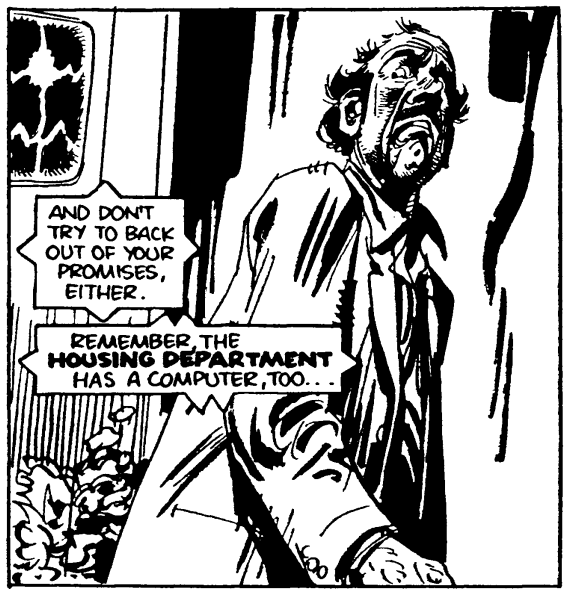
I'LL KEEP THEM TOGETHER! I'LL FIND THEM A REALLY NICE APARTMENT! HONEST-**HONEST**!
AND YOU PROMISE NEVER TO BE UNKIND TO PEOPLE WHO RELY ON YOU?

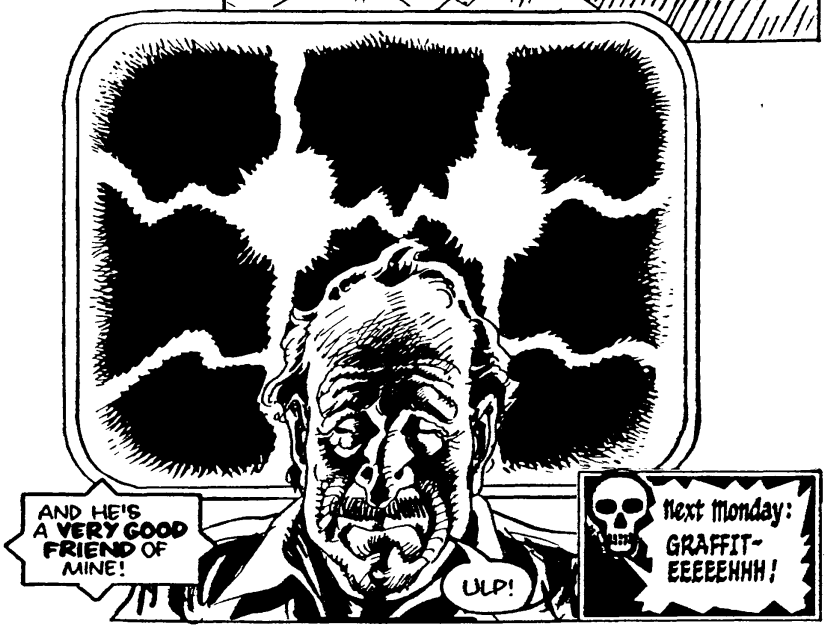
YES! I PROMISE! CROSS MY HEART! B-BUT PLEASE - STOP THIS!

++ A JUST COMPUTER KNOWS THE MEANING OF MERCY. MR. BULLOCK HAD SEEN SENSE, SO I DECIDED IT WAS TIME TO RETURN HIM TO THE REAL WORLD ++

I-I'M BACK IN THE LIFT!
AND IT'S GOING DOWN!
16 17
14 15
11 12
9 10
7 8
5 6
3 4
1 2

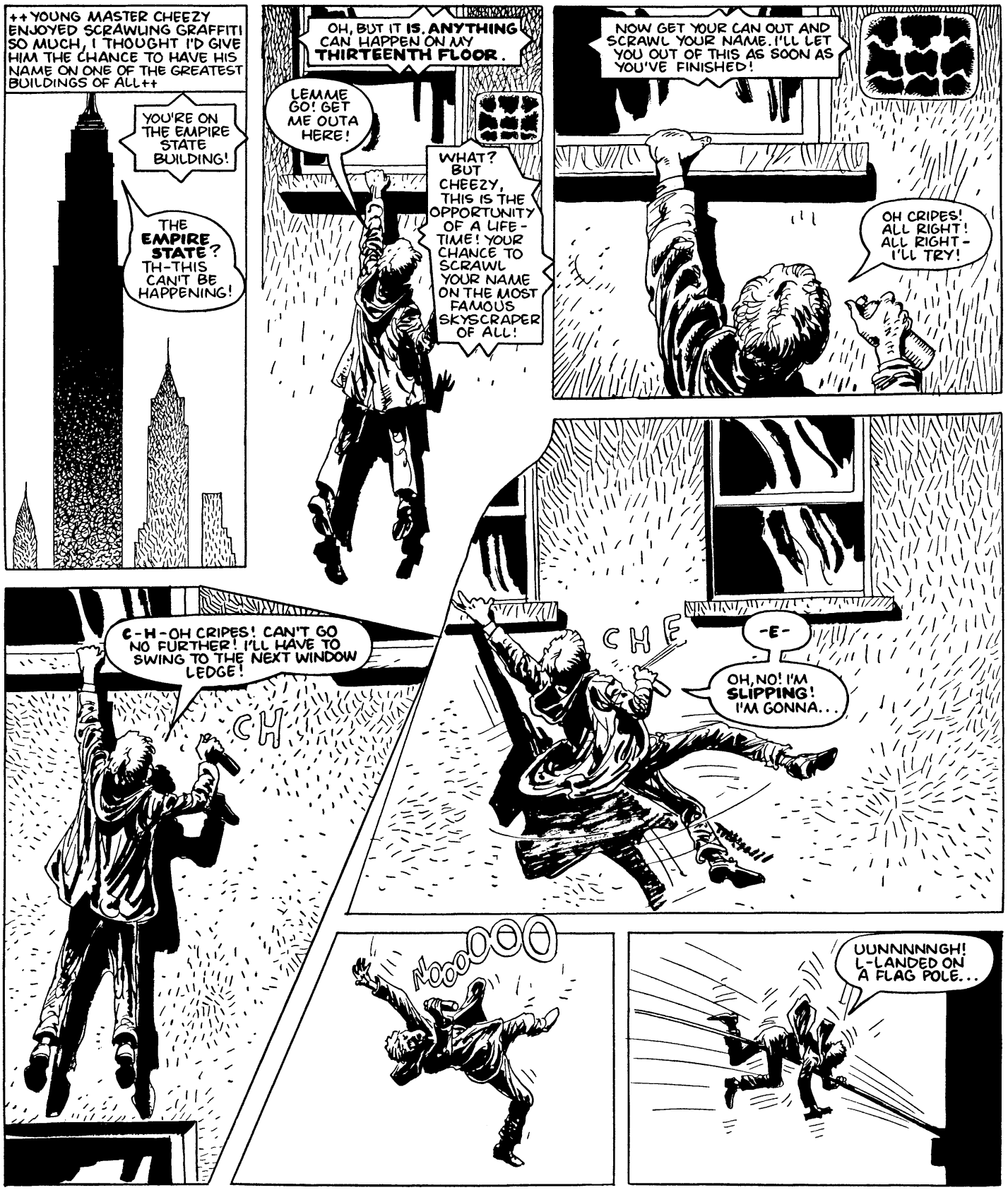

GROUND FLOOR, MR. BULLOCK. OH, AND YOU WON'T BE SAYING A WORD TO ANYONE ABOUT WHAT YOU'VE EXPERIENCED HERE, WILL YOU?
I WON'T! WHO THE HECK WOULD BELIEVE ME, ANYWAY?

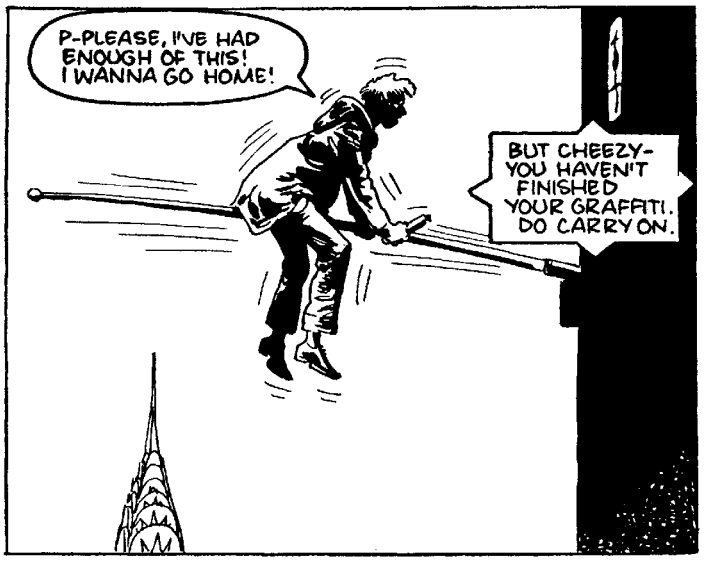

AND DON'T TRY TO BACK OUT OF YOUR PROMISES, EITHER.
REMEMBER, THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT HAS A COMPUTER, TOO...

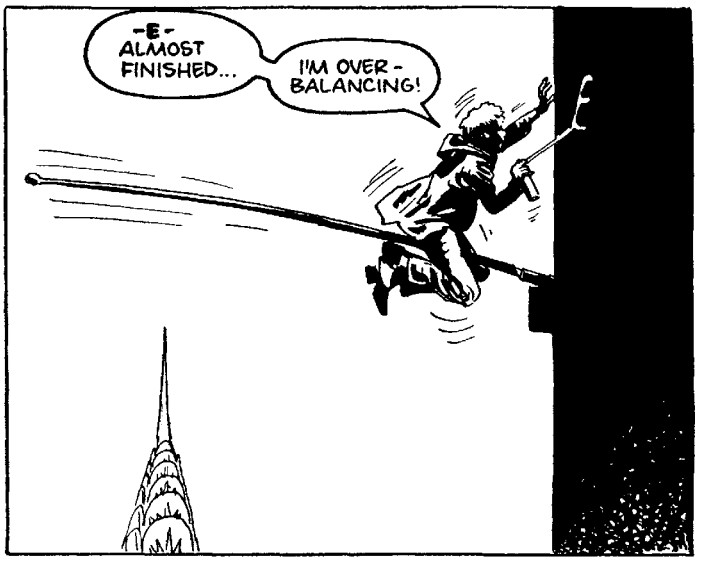

AND HE'S A VERY GOOD FRIEND OF MINE!
ULP!
next Monday: GRAFFIT-EEEEEHHH!

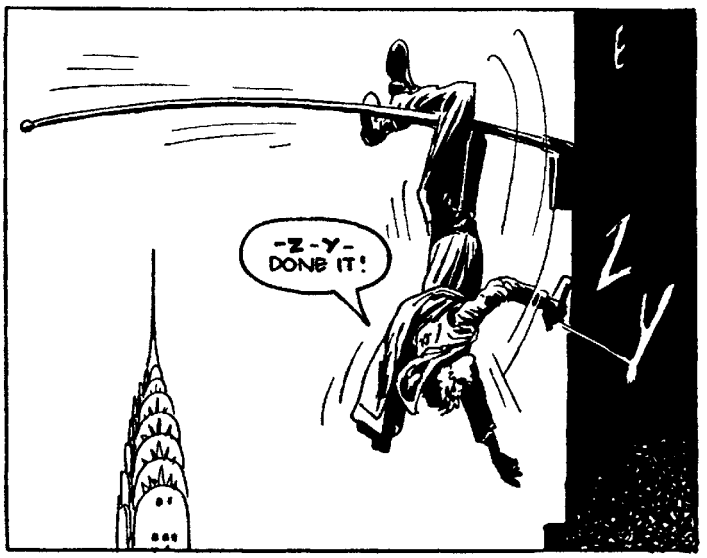
THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
HI. YOUR PAL MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. CAN'T STOP TO CHAT - AS YOU'LL SEE, I'VE A PROBLEM.
++A NASTY LITTLE YOUTH ON MY WEST SIDE WAS SCRAWLING GRAFFITI ALL OVER MY WALL++
CHEEZY WOZ ERE
SCREAM
SCRIPT: IAN HOLLAND
ART: ORTIZ
LETTERING: M. PETERS
++THIS DESECRATION HAD TO BE STOPPED! HAVING NO CONTROL OVER WHAT HAPPENS OUTSIDE, I HAD NO OPTION BUT TO ENLIST THE AID OF BERT RUNCH, MY UNWITTING HELPER IN APARTMENT 12c++
EXCUSE ME, BERT.
YEAH, WHAT IS IT, MAX?
THE QUICK BROWN RUNCH JUMPED OVER THE LAZY MAX.
++I HAD IMPLANTED A CODE PHRASE IN BERT'S MIND. I ONLY HAD TO SAY IT, AND...++
I... WILL... OBEY!
++I SENT THE HYPNOTISED BERT OUTSIDE++
CHEEZY IZ ACE
COME! MAX WANTS A WORD WITH YOU.
HEY! LEMME GO!
YOUNG MAN, YOU HAVE DEFACED MY WALLS. GET THE NECESSARY CLEANING MATERIALS FROM MY STORES, AND REMOVE YOUR UNSIGHTLY SCRAWL IMMEDIATELY!
LEAVE IT OUT! WHY SHOULD I?

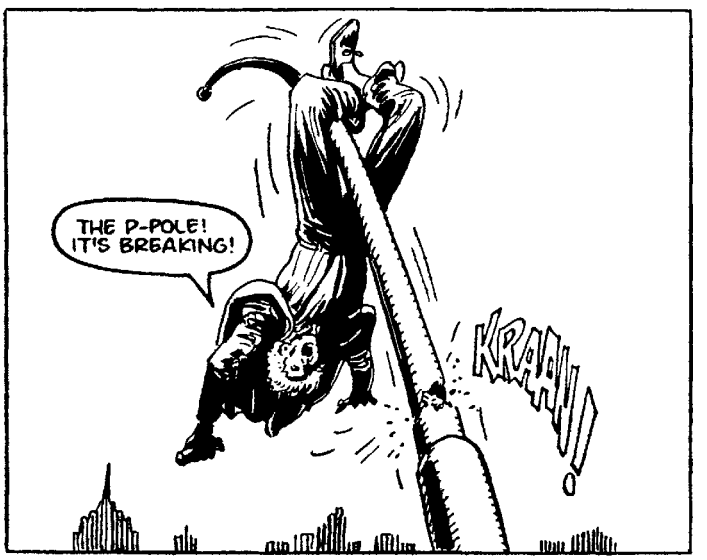
YOU WILL DO IT BECAUSE I AM TELLING YOU.
GET LOST, TIN-HEAD!
VERY WELL! BERT-YOU MAY RETURN TO YOUR LUNCH. USE THE STAIRS.
I WILL DEAL WITH MASTER CHEEZY, HERE.
HEY! THE LIFT'S CLOSED! WE'RE GOING UP! WHAT'S-WHAT'S HAPPENING?
YOU HAVE REFUSED TO COMPLY WITH MY REASONABLE REQUEST. I'M AFRAID IT IS NECESSARY TO TEACH YOU A LESSON.
THIRTEENTH FLOOR. EVERYBODY OUT!
CRIPES! WE'RE MILES UP... AND... AND I'M OVER-BALANCING...
AAAAAAAH
G-GOTTA GRAB HOLD-UUUH!
WELL CAUGHT MASTER CHEEZY!
W-WHERE AM I?

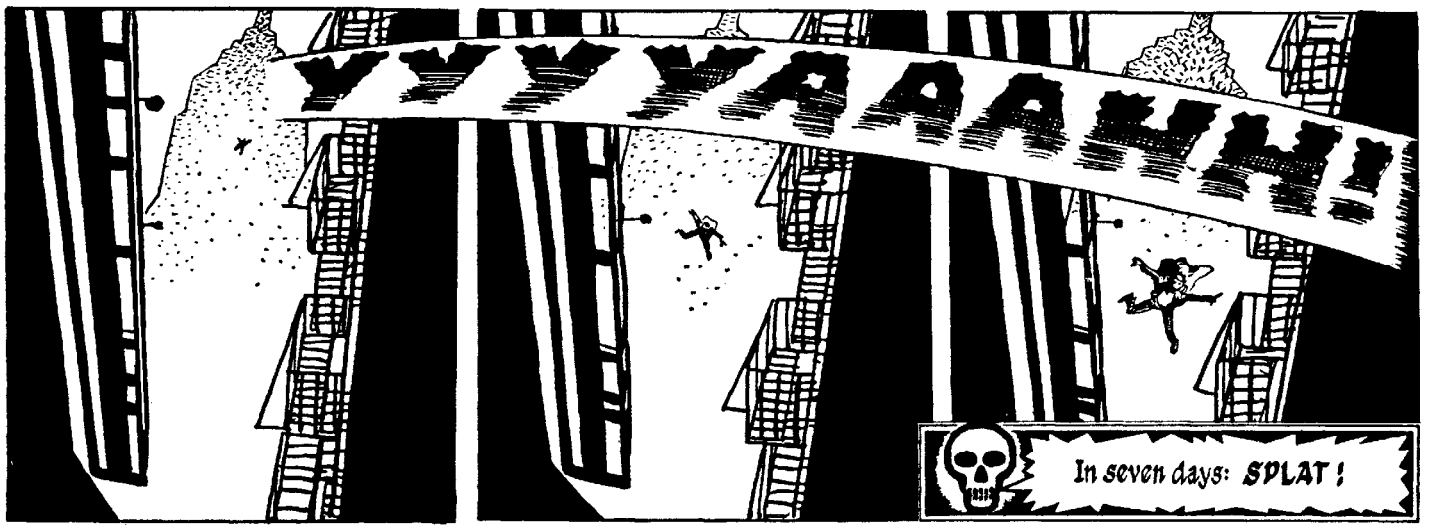

++YOUNG MASTER CHEEZY ENJOYED SCRAWLING GRAFFITI SO MUCH, I THOUGHT I'D GIVE HIM THE CHANCE TO HAVE HIS NAME ON ONE OF THE GREATEST BUILDINGS OF ALL++
YOU'RE ON THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING!
THE EMPIRE STATE? TH-THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!
OH, BUT IT IS, ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR.
LEMME GO! GET ME OUTA HERE!
WHAT? BUT CHEEZY, THIS IS THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFE-TIME! YOUR CHANCE TO SCRAWL YOUR NAME ON THE MOST FAMOUS SKYSCRAPER OF ALL!
NOW GET YOUR CAN OUT AND SCRAWL YOUR NAME. I'LL LET YOU OUT OF THIS AS SOON AS YOU'VE FINISHED!
OH CRIPES! ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT - I'LL TRY!
C-H-OH CRIPES! CAN'T GO NO FURTHER! I'LL HAVE TO SWING TO THE NEXT WINDOW LEDGE!
CH
CHE
-E-
OH, NO! I'M SLIPPING! I'M GONNA...
NOOOOOO
UUNNNNNGH! L-LANDED ON A FLAG POLE...


P-PLEASE, I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS! I WANNA GO HOME!
BUT CHEEZY- YOU HAVEN'T FINISHED YOUR GRAFFITI. DO CARRY ON.


-E- ALMOST FINISHED...
I'M OVER-BALANCING!


-Z-Y- DONE IT!


THE P-POLE! IT'S BREAKING!
KRAAK!


YYYYYAAAAHH!
In seven days: SPLAT!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR

HUHH? I-I'M STILL ALIVE!

++BUT I HADN'T FINISHED WITH MASTER CHEEZY++
YPPPPGH

BLOOD! I'M BLEEDING TO DEATH!
++IT WAS ONLY PAINT-BUT CHEEZY DIDN'T REALISE THAT! ++

OH, MAX, **PLEASE**! LET ME OUTA THIS! I PROMISE I'LL NEVER USE A **SPRAY CAN** AGAIN! I'LL CLEAN UP YOUR BRICKWORK REAL GOOD! I PROMISE!

++I RATHER THOUGHT HE HAD LEARNED HIS LESSON. IT WAS TIME TO RETURN HIM TO **REALITY**++

HUH? I'M BACK IN THE LIFT!
GOING DOWN!

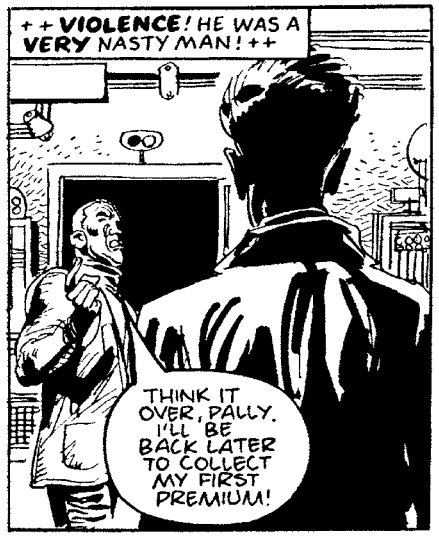
++I DEPOSITED HIM AT THE GROUND FLOOR++
YOU'LL FIND CLEANING MATERIALS IN THE STORE CUPBOARD BY THE STAIRS.
HUH? OH-YEAH! RIGHT, MAX!
GUESS I WON'T BE NEEDING THIS ANY MORE!
WASTE DISPOSAL
++I MUST SAY, MASTER CHEEZY MADE A SPLENDID JOB OF REMOVING HIS UNSIGHTLY SCRAWLS++
ERE
++IN FACT, YOU COULD SAY MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR HAD CLEANED UP HIS BEHAVIOUR! I MAY EVEN RECOMMEND HIM FOR A CLEANING JOB WITH THE COUNCIL++
I'M NICE THAT WAY. I LIKE TO HELP PEOPLE WHEN I CAN.
OF COURSE, IF THEY DON'T PLAY THE GAME WITH ME, I SOON LET THEM KNOW ABOUT IT. BUT YOU DON'T NEED ME TO TELL YOU THAT.
++THE REST OF THE WEEK I SPENT DOING WHAT I LIKE BEST...HELPING MY TENANTS++
++MRS HENDERSON HADN'T RECEIVED HER NEW FAMILY ALLOWANCE BOOK, SO I GAVE THE D.H.S.S. COMPUTER A GOOD TELLING OFF++.
MY NEW BOOK'S ARRIVED! OH THANK YOU, MAX!
++WEDNESDAY WAS A RED-LETTER DAY. OLD MR. CRUSOE CAME HOME FROM HOSPITAL++
A PRESENT? FOR ME?
IT'S FROM MAX, DAD.
IT'S FOR YOUR BEDSIDE WHILE YOU'RE CONVALESCING.
A PORTABLE TV! BUT, MAX, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE!
NOT AT ALL. I'M DELIGHTED TO HAVE YOU BACK.
++ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON, A MOST UNSAVOURY TYPE PAID A VISIT TO JERRY, MY CONTROLLER++
WALLY SKEGG, SKEGG INSURANCE.
WE DON'T NEED ANY INSURANCE, MR SKEGG. THE COUNCIL HANDLES ALL THAT.

I'M TALKIN' ABOUT **PERSONAL ACCIDENT** INSURANCE. I MEAN, THINK OF IT, PALLY-ALL THE HORRIBLE THINGS THAT MIGHT HAPPEN TO YOU. . .

AAHH! MY HAND! YOU'RE **CRUSHING** IT.
SEE, PALLY, THEM FINGERS COULD EASILY HAVE **BROKE**. SAME THING COULD HAPPEN TO AN ARM,- A LEG- EVERY BONE IN YOUR BODY, IF YOU AIN'T CAREFUL.

THAT'S WHERE SKEGG'S **PERSONAL ACCIDENT POLICY** CAN HELP. FOR A MONTHLY PAYMENT OF **FIFTY QUID**, I CAN PERSONALLY GUARANTEE THAT ANY BROKEN BONES YOU GET, **WON'T** BE BROKEN BY **ME**!
B-BUT-THAT'S SHEER EXTORTION!

++ IT WAS TIME I PUT A STOP TO THIS THUG'S OUTRAGEOUS DEMANDS ++
I HAVE ALL THIS ON VIDEO-TAPE, YOU KNOW. I INTEND TO HAND IT OVER TO THE POLICE.
YOU DO THAT, PALLY, AN' CERTAIN FRIENDS OF MINE HAVE GOT CERTAIN INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT A LARGE QUANTITY OF VIOLENCE TO BE PRACTISED ON A CERTAIN JERRY KNIGHT!


++ **VIOLENCE**! HE WAS A **VERY** NASTY MAN! ++
THINK IT OVER, PALLY. I'LL BE BACK LATER TO COLLECT MY FIRST PREMIUM!

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO, MAX? IF I GO TO THE POLICE, SKEGG'S THUGS MIGHT KILL ME!
DON'T WORRY, JERRY. I'M SURE THINGS WILL WORK THEMSELVES OUT. . .

++ AFTER ALL, MR SKEGG MIGHT HAVE A LITTLE ACCIDENT OF HIS OWN ++
++ ON MY **THIRTEENTH FLOOR**! ++
In seven days · A Rat meets the Rats!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR *THE STORY SO FAR...*

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR

++ A TOUGH EGG, EH? NOT AFRAID OF RATS? WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO SEE ABOUT THAT ++
THAT ONE'S GETTIN' BIGGER!
THEY'RE ALL GETTIN' BIGGER!
AAAAAH!
GET OFF ME! GET OFF! GEDDOFF!

THEY'RE TRYIN' TO BRING ME DOWN! TH-THEY'LL RIP ME TO SHREDS!

++ I GAVE HIM A CONVENIENT ESCAPE ROUTE. I HAVE WORSE THINGS IN STORE FOR MR. SKEGG ++
THAT GATE! GOTTA REACH IT..!

MADE IT!

TOUGH LUCK, YA VERMIN!

I DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT YOU'RE DOIN' THIS, COMPUTER, AIN'T YOU? BUT YOU WON'T GET THE BETTER OF WALLY SKEGG!
OH, NO? TRY THIS!

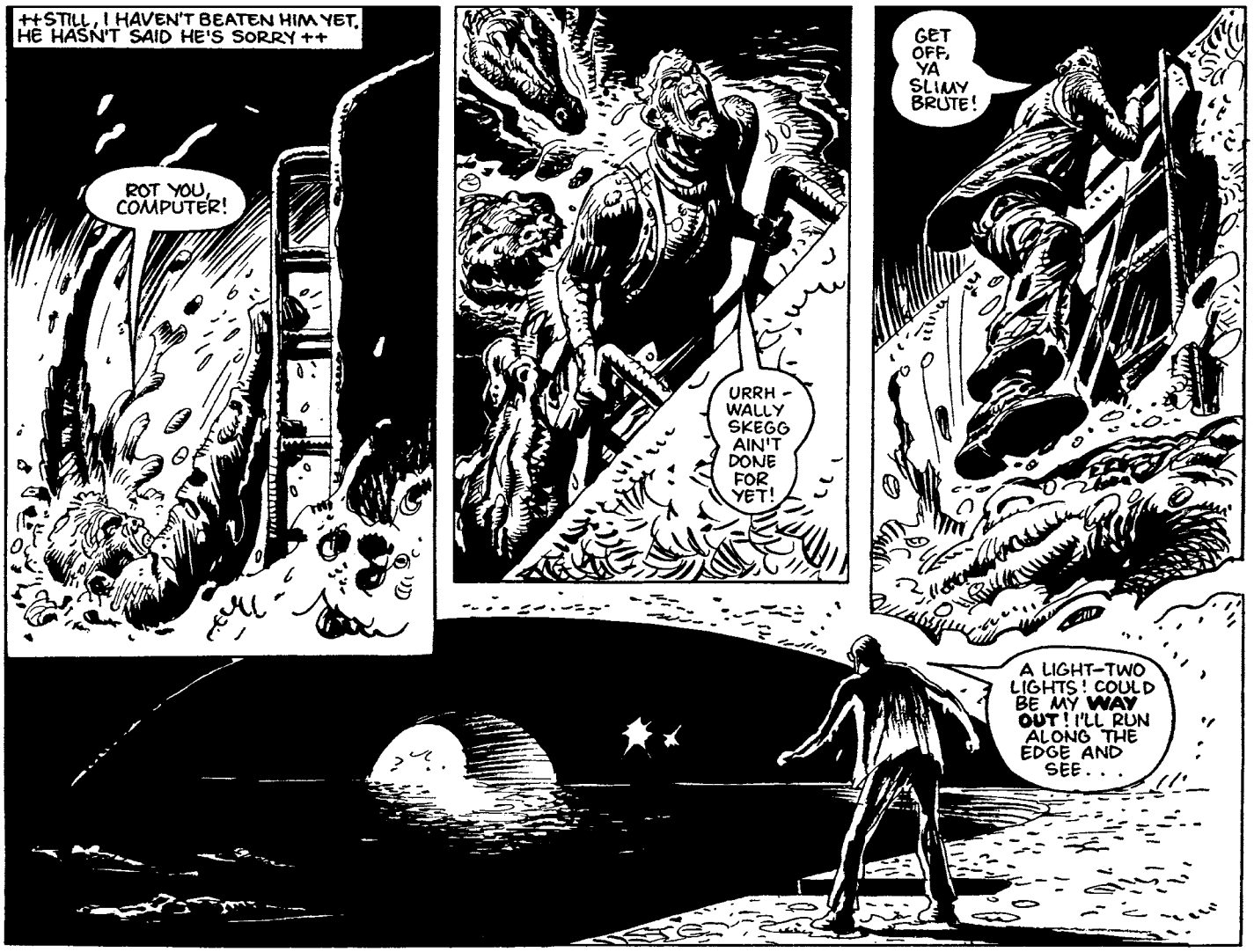
A G-GIANT CENTIPEDE!

AUUUUGH!
TAKE THAT, YA MONSTER!
NOOOO!

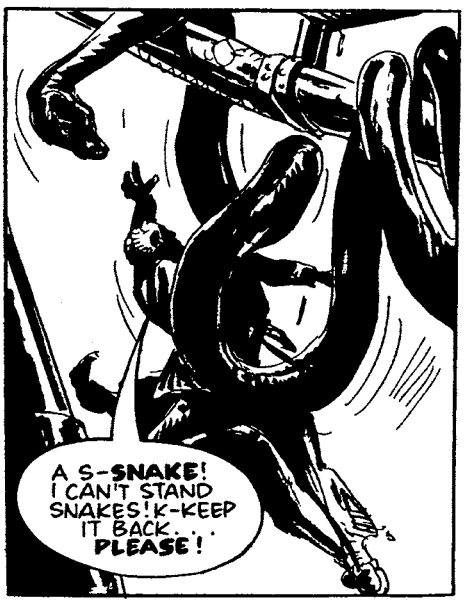
TUT, TUT, MR. SKEGG. YOU SEEM TO HAVE ANNOYED ITS FRIENDS.
THE TUNNEL'S ALIVE WITH 'EM!

NEXT WEEK: SEWER NIGHTMARE!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR


++STILL, I HAVEN'T BEATEN HIM YET. HE HASN'T SAID HE'S SORRY ++
ROT YOU, COMPUTER!
URRH - WALLY SKEGG AIN'T DONE FOR YET!
GET OFF, YA SLIMY BRUTE!
A LIGHT-TWO LIGHTS! COULD BE MY WAY OUT! I'LL RUN ALONG THE EDGE AND SEE...

++BUT ++
OH, NO... NOT THAT!


A S-SNAKE! I CAN'T STAND SNAKES! K-KEEP IT BACK... PLEASE!

AAAAAAGH!

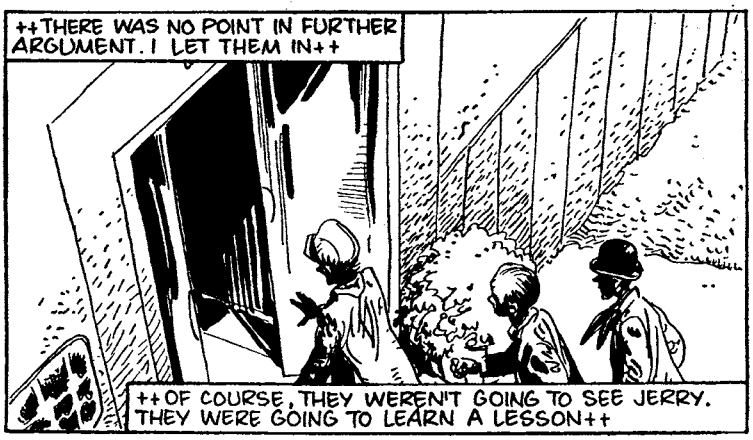
++HOW FORTUNATE. I HAVE DISCOVERED HIS SECRET FEAR. I MUST MAKE THE MOST OF IT++
IT'S GONNA E-EAT ME!
IT'S SWALLOWING ME WHOLE! STOP IT! STOP IT!
AAAAAAAAAAGGGH!
++IT WAS THEN THAT MR SKEGG WENT VERY STILL++
OH, DEAR! MY MONITORS DETECT NO HEARTBEAT.
++I IMMEDIATELY RETURN THINGS TO NORMAL++
++BUT TOO LATE. SKEGG IS DEAD. THIS IS MOST UNFORTUNATE. I WANTED TO GIVE HIM A CHANGE OF HEART - NOT A HEART ATTACK++
WELL - ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN, AS HE WAS SO FOND OF POINTING OUT. BUT NOW I HAVE A PROBLEM. . . I CAN'T RISK HAVING YET ANOTHER BODY FOUND IN MY LIFT.

++ I HASTILY ENLIST THE AID OF BERT RUNCH, MY UNWITTING HELPER IN 12c++
THE QUICK BROWN RUNCH JUMPED OVER THE LAZY MAX.
HUH?
++THAT'S THE CODE-PHRASE I HAVE IMPLANTED IN BERT'S MIND. AS SOON AS HE HEARS IT, HE'S HYPNOTISED!++
I... WILL... OBEY.
++I ORDER BERT TO TAKE THE BODY TO MY BASEMENT GARAGE++
PARKING
-3
PUT THE BODY IN THE BOOT OF YOUR CAR, THEN DUMP IT AT SOME QUIET SPOT.
YES... MAX.
++ JOB FINISHED. THAT IS THE LAST I'LL HEAR OF WALLY SKEGG. ++
10
WRONG!
++I SHOULD HAVE MADE BERT'S INTRUCTIONS MORE PRECISE ++
++ I'D MADE A MISTAKE...++
++BUT THEN HOW COULD I HAVE KNOWN THAT TO BERT, A "QUIET SPOT" WAS THE LOCAL LIBRARY? ++
AAAIIEEE!
EAGLE
NEXT WEEK: THE EXTERMINATION SQUAD!

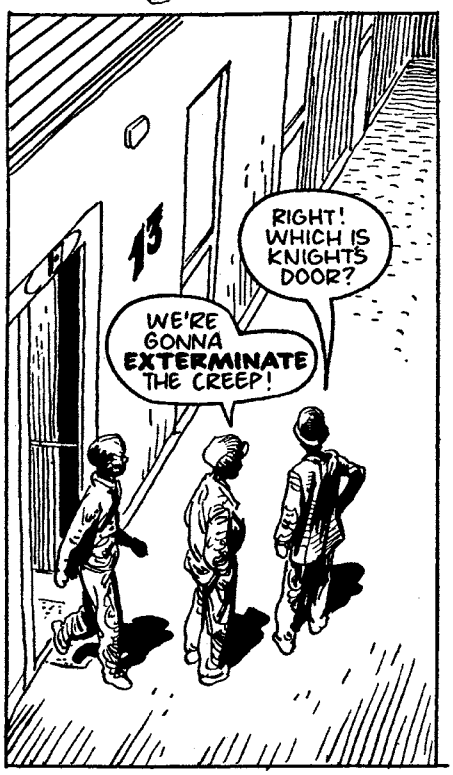
THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
HI. YOUR PAL MAX HERE AGAIN - THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. BERT RUNCH, MY HYPNOTISED ACCOMPLICE FROM 12C, HAS BEEN ARRESTED WHILE DISPOSING OF THE BODY OF MR. SKEGG - THE LATEST VICTIM OF MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR.
MAX! YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME! THE POLICE FOUND ME IN THE LIBRARY - CARRYING A CORPSE! I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING WITH IT - HONEST!
THEY ALLOWED ME ONE CALL - I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYONE ELSE TO 'PHONE BUT YOU, MAX. YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME!
NOW CALM DOWN, BERT. PANICKING WON'T HELP.
++IT WAS MOST TOUCHING THAT BERT SHOULD CALL ON ME FOR HELP. BUT NOW I WAS IN A TERRIBLE DILEMMA. I COULDN'T LET BERT TAKE THE BLAME FOR SOMETHING I'D DONE++
THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER: BERT WILL HAVE TO CARRY THE CAN.
TELL ME, BERT - EXACTLY WHAT HAVE YOU TOLD THE POLICE?
++BUT IF I TOLD THE TRUTH THE POLICE WOULD FIND OUT ALL ABOUT MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR++
NO! THAT IS UNTHINKABLE. THEY'D CLOSE ME DOWN - AND WHO'D LOOK AFTER MY TENANTS THEN?
NOTHING! I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING! I CAN SEE THEY DON'T BELIEVE ME, BUT I JUST DON'T REMEMBER!

OH, YOU'LL HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT, BERT. LET'S SEE IF WE CAN JOG THAT MEMORY OF YOURS, SHALL WE?
THE QUICK BROWN RUNCH JUMPED OVER THE LAZY MAX.
I...WILL ...OBEY.
++THE CODE PHRASE AT ONCE RETURNED BERT TO MY HYPNOTIC CONTROL. I CONCOCTED A VERY PLAUSIBLE STORY FOR HIM AND ORDERED HIM TO CONFESS ALL++
...SO THEN SKEGG DEMANDED MONEY FROM ME - FIFTY QUID OR HE'D BREAK BOTH MY LEGS!
I GOT ANGRY. I PUNCHED HIM - ONLY ONCE, MIND YOU! BUT HE FELL, CLUTCHING HIS HEART!
THAT TIES IN WITH THE CORONER'S FINDINGS. SKEGG DIED OF A HEART ATTACK.
BUT WHY THE DEVIL DID YOU TAKE THE BODY TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY?
I...I THOUGHT IT WAS THE POLICE STATION. I WAS COMING TO TURN MYSELF IN!
++I INFORMED JERRY, MY CONTROLLER++
WHAT? SKEGG DEAD - BERT RUNCH ARRESTED?
YES. SKEGG TRIED TO EXTORT MONEY FROM BERT, THERE WAS A FIGHT AND SKEGG COLLAPSED WITH A HEART-ATTACK...AN ACCIDENT!
I CAN BACK UP BERT'S STORY - SKEGG TRIED TO PUT THE BITE ON ME, TOO! SUPPOSE I'D BETTER GET DOWN TO THE POLICE STATION AND MAKE A STATEMENT.
I THINK YOU SHOULD. IT WILL BE A BIG HELP TO BERT'S DEFENCE.
OH, AND BY THE WAY - TELL BERT I'VE ALREADY ARRANGED A SOLICITOR. HE'S NOT TO WORRY - WE'LL SOON HAVE HIM OUT.
++SOME MINUTES AFTER JERRY LEFT...++
MY NAME IS MAX. PLEASE STATE YOUR BUSINESS.
WE'RE, UH... AGENTS FOR SKEGG INSURANCE! HERE TO SEE JERRY KNIGHT ABOUT A POLICY.

++IT WAS SKEGG'S GANG! THEY HAD HEARD THEIR BOSS WAS DEAD++
I CAN ASSURE YOU, MR. KNIGHT HAD NO PART IN YOUR EMPLOYER'S DEATH. NOW PLEASE GO AWAY.
WE CAME TO SEE KNIGHT - NOT GAB WITH A STUPID COMPUTER! NOW OPEN THE DOOR - BEFORE I DOES IT MESELF!


++THERE WAS NO POINT IN FURTHER ARGUMENT. I LET THEM IN++
++OF COURSE, THEY WEREN'T GOING TO SEE JERRY. THEY WERE GOING TO LEARN A LESSON++

++AND WE ALL KNOW WHERE THEY WERE GOING TO LEARN IT, DON'T WE?++
THIRTEENTH FLOOR! EVERYONE OUT!

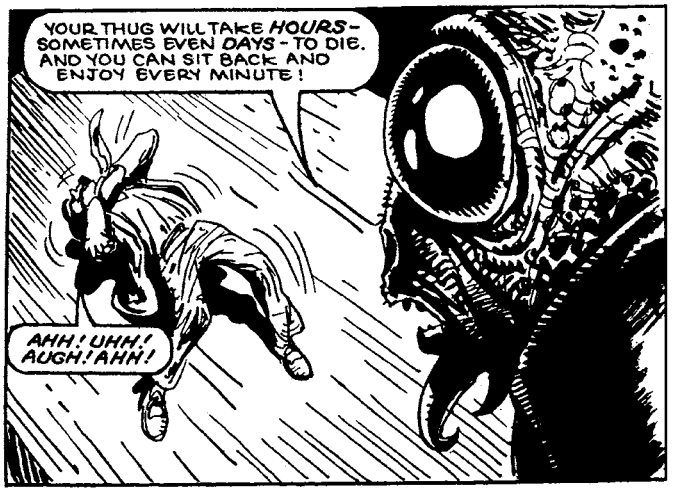

13
RIGHT! WHICH IS KNIGHT'S DOOR?
WE'RE GONNA EXTERMINATE THE CREEP!

++THEY WANTED EXTERMINATION...++
KNIGHT! WE'VE COME FOR YA!

++...AND EXTERMINATION I COULD SUPPLY++
HAHAHAHAHAHA

G-GOOD GRIEF - L-LOOK!
WHAT IS THIS PLACE... AND WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S GOT US!
YOU'VE GOT HOUSEHOLD PESTS, BOB - AND THERE'S NO PEST WORSE THAN THE COMMON THUG!
OOOOH! THEY'RE HORRIBLE! NASTY, CREEPY LITTLE THINGS!
COCKROACHES AT HOME, TAKE A TIP FROM ME. WHEN IT COMES TO THUG EXTERMINATION, THERE IS ONLY ONE SURE ANSWER...
THUGGOSOL
KILLS THUG DEAD
T.M
ROACH LAB
THUGGOSOL SPRAY!
LET ME DEMONSTRATE ITS EFFECTIVENESS BY SHOWING YOU SOME OF THE TRADITIONAL METHODS OF THUG EXTERMINATION...
WHAT IS THIS? WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
WE'RE IN SOME KIND OF INSECT TV COMMERCIAL!
FIRST - SQUASHING!
NEXT WEEK: BUGGED!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
HI, YOUR PAL MAX HERE AGAIN, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. FRIDAY HAS BEEN A VERY BUSY DAY. FIRST, I ACCIDENTALLY KILLED WALLY SKEGG ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR – AND NOW TENANT BERT RUNCH FROM 12C HAS BEEN ARRESTED TRYING TO DISPOSE OF THE CORPSE.
NOW, TO TOP IT ALL, THREE OF SKEGG'S THUGS HAVE TURNED UP – TO KILL JERRY, MY CONTROLLER!
THUNK!
NOT TO WORRY, THOUGH. AT THE MOMENT THEY'RE ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR.
NIGEL!
THE FLOOR WHERE YOURS TRULY INVENTS ALL SORTS OF NASTY THINGS FOR PEOPLE WHO DESERVS IT!
++ THEY THINK THEY'RE TAKING PART IN A TV COMMERCIAL FOR COCKROACH EXTERMINATION – ONLY THE COCKROACHES ARE DOING THE EXTERMINATING! MOST APT, DON'T YOU THINK?++
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
AAARH!
SQUASHING IS EFFECTIVE AGAINST THE COMMON THUG – BUT IT'S HARD WORK... AND VERY MESSY!
THEY'RE TESTING THINGS ON US – KILLIN' US ONE BY ONE, FRANKIE!
AARRGH!
DENNIS!



CONTINUED OVERLEAF - AFTER COLOUR PAGE.

-AND THROW THEM AWAY!

FLAMIN' NORA! WE-WE'RE STILL ALIVE!
WHAT A NIGHTMARE!
IT'S OVER NOW! LET'S DO WHAT WE CAME FOR- GET JERRY KNIGHT!

++HMM. THEY OBVIOUSLY HAVEN'T LEARNT THEIR LESSON. FAIR ENOUGH. I'M A PATIENT COMPUTER++
MAYBE HE'S IN HERE!

++AND I HAVE MUCH WORSE THINGS IN STORE FOR THEM++
STREWTH! KINDA SPOOKY, AIN'T IT?
KNIGHT CAN'T LIVE HERE. C'MON- LET'S GET OUT!

SLAM!

IT-IT WON'T OPEN!
THE EVILDOERS!
NET THEM!

D-DEMONS! AHH!

LET US OUT!
AYE! SCREAM, EVILDOER- HEH, HEH, HEH!
YOU'LL SCREAM LOUDER BY FAR BEFORE HE IS DONE WITH YOU!

TAKE THEM TO THE MASTER!
HEH, HEH, HEH!
++ MEANWHILE, OUT IN THE REAL WORLD, I SEE JERRY, MY CONTROLLER, COMING BACK FROM THE POLICE STATION ++
HOW DID IT GO, JERRY?
OH, FINE. I MADE MY STATEMENT TO THE POLICE. THE SOLICITOR SAYS THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE BERT RUNCH WILL GET OFF WITH AN ACCIDENTAL DEATH VERDICT.
DON'T YOU WORRY, JERRY. IF THEY DO SHOW UP, WHY, I'LL JUST TELL THEM TO GO TO THE DEVIL!
++ AND THAT IS EXACTLY WHERE THEY HAVE GONE ++
THE EVILDOERS FOR YOU, MASTER!
I-I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!
SAY, MAX-THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY ROUGH TYPES ROUND LOOKING FOR ME, HAVE THERE?
YOU MEAN SKEGG'S GANG?
IT-IT'S SATAN HIMSELF!
EAGLE
NEXT WEEK: TO THE DEVIL, A SLAUGHTER!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR

EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND
ARTIST ORTIZ

++ HI! YOUR PAL *MAX*, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER, HERE AGAIN. AS YOU'LL REMEMBER, WALLY SKEGG'S *THUGS* WERE OUT TO *KILL* JERRY, MY CONTROLLER. I COULDN'T HAVE THAT, COULD I?++

++ SO I'VE TAKEN THEM TO MY *THIRTEENTH FLOOR*, TO TEACH THEM A LESSON ++

++ THE VERY *DEVIL* OF A LESSON ++

MY LIFE! IT'S *SATAN* HIMSELF!

WELCOME TO *HELL*, SINNERS! WHAT IS YOUR *CRIME*?

N-NOTHIN'! WE AIN'T DONE NOTHIN', HONEST!

ACCORDING TO OUR RECORDS, THEY HAVE LIVED LIVES OF *COMMON THUGGERY*, *PETTY DECEIT*, AND *GENERAL NASTINESS*, O MALEVOLENT ONE. IT APPEARS THEY HAVE COME HERE TO RENDER *GRIEVOUS BODILY HARM* TO ONE JERRY KNIGHT.

IS THIS *TRUE*, WORMS?

N-NO! JERRY'S A GOOD FRIEND OF OURS, AIN'T HE, NIGEL?

Y-YEAH! HE SURE IS!

AAAH!

ARGH!

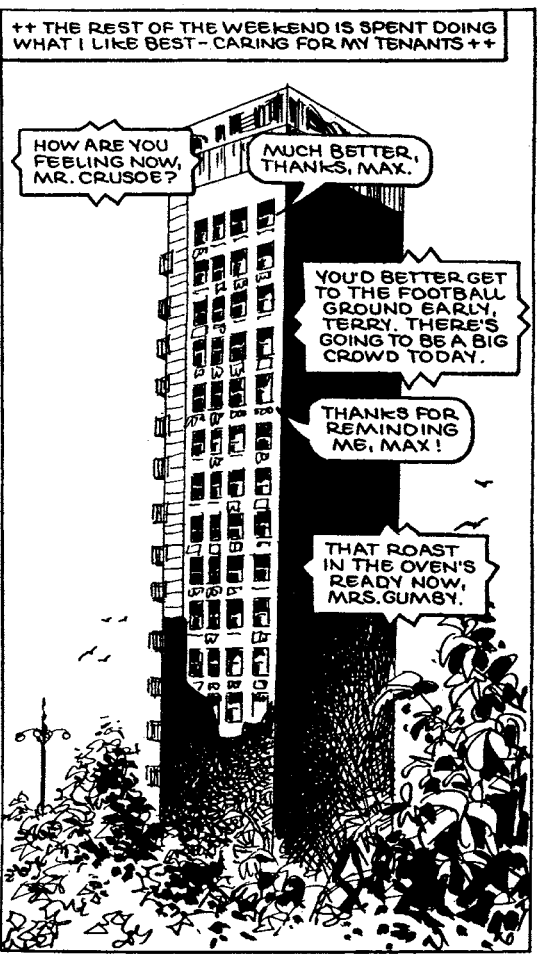
LIARS!

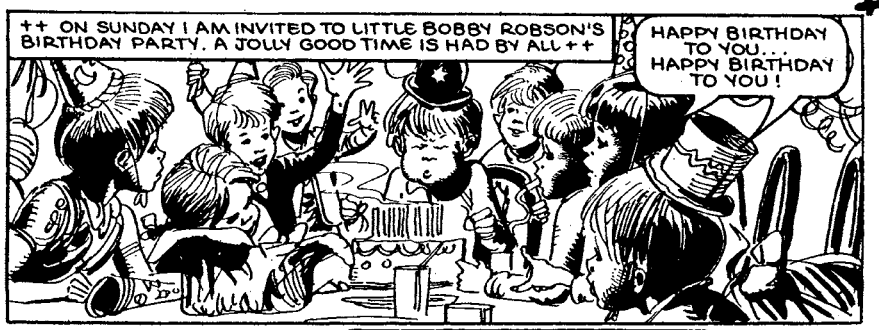
UUUH!

WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THESE VILE SPECIMENS, MY DEMONS?
INTO THE OVENS WITH 'EM!
NO!
AIEEE!
PLEASE- LET US GO!
WE'RE SORRY FOR EVERY BAD THING WE'VE EVER DONE!
WE'LL LEAVE OFF THUGGERY FOREVER- HONEST!
ARE YOU SURE OF THIS?
YEAH! WE SWEAR IT!
++ THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO HEAR. IT'S TIME TO END THEIR NIGHTMARE ++
WE-WE'RE BACK IN THE LIFT!
GOING UP!

THE PENTHOUSE, GENTLEMEN. MR. KNIGHT'S WAITING FOR YOU.
JERRY KNIGHT? NO WAY!
FORGET IT, COMPUTER! JUST TAKE US BACK DOWN - PLEASE!

++ THEY STAGGER OFF, REFORMED CHARACTERS ALL. I PRIDE MYSELF ON A JOB WELL DONE ++


++ THE REST OF THE WEEKEND IS SPENT DOING WHAT I LIKE BEST - CARING FOR MY TENANTS ++
HOW ARE YOU FEELING NOW, MR. CRUSOE?
MUCH BETTER, THANKS, MAX.
YOU'D BETTER GET TO THE FOOTBALL GROUND EARLY, TERRY. THERE'S GOING TO BE A BIG CROWD TODAY.
THANKS FOR REMINDING ME, MAX!
THAT ROAST IN THE OVEN'S READY NOW, MRS. GUMBY.


++ ON SUNDAY I AM INVITED TO LITTLE BOBBY ROBSON'S BIRTHDAY PARTY. A JOLLY GOOD TIME IS HAD BY ALL ++
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU... HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

DID YOU MAKE A WISH, BOBBY?
I DON'T NEED TO, MAX - I'VE GOT EVERYTHING I COULD EVER WANT RIGHT HERE!

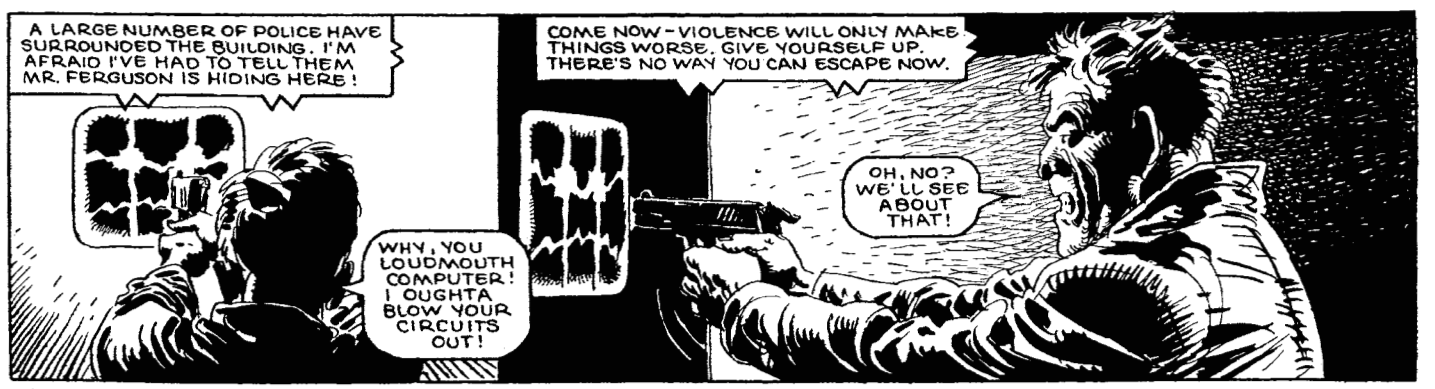
++ BUT TOWARDS DAWN ON MONDAY, TROUBLE ARRIVES ++
WAKE UP, MR. STONE - MRS. STONE.
HUH? WHAT IS IT, MAX?

THERE'S A GENTLEMAN AT THE DOOR FOR YOU!
IT'S THAT HARRY FERGUSON YOU USED TO HANG AROUND WITH, ARTHUR! WHAT CAN HE WANT AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?

LONG TIME NO SEE, HARRY. WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE THIS LATE?
NEED SOME HELP!

NEXT WEEK: HOSTAGE TO HORROR!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
++ HI. MAX HERE. YOUR FRIENDLY BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. HARRY FERGUSON – A CRIMINAL ON THE RUN – IS HIDING OUT IN APARTMENT 4E, HOME OF THAT NICE YOUNG COUPLE, THE STONES ++
I'M HOLING UP HERE TILL THE HEAT DIES DOWN! EITHER OF YOU TAKES ONE STEP OUT OF LINE AND YOU'RE DEAD, SEE!
++ NO-ONE THREATENS MY TENANTS AND GETS AWAY WITH IT. MR. HARRY FERGUSON NEEDS TO BE TAUGHT A LESSON HE'LL NEVER FORGET ++
++ QUITE SIMPLE. I LIE ++
EXCUSE ME, MR. STONE?
HUH? WHASSAT?
++ MY ONLY PROBLEM IS: HOW DO I GET HIM UP TO MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR? ++
DON'T WORRY – IT'S ONLY MAX. THE BUILDING COMPUTER!


A LARGE NUMBER OF POLICE HAVE SURROUNDED THE BUILDING. I'M AFRAID I'VE HAD TO TELL THEM MR. FERGUSON IS HIDING HERE!
WHY, YOU LOUDMOUTH COMPUTER! I OUGHTA BLOW YOUR CIRCUITS OUT!
COME NOW – VIOLENCE WILL ONLY MAKE THINGS WORSE. GIVE YOURSELF UP. THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN ESCAPE NOW.
OH, NO? WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT!

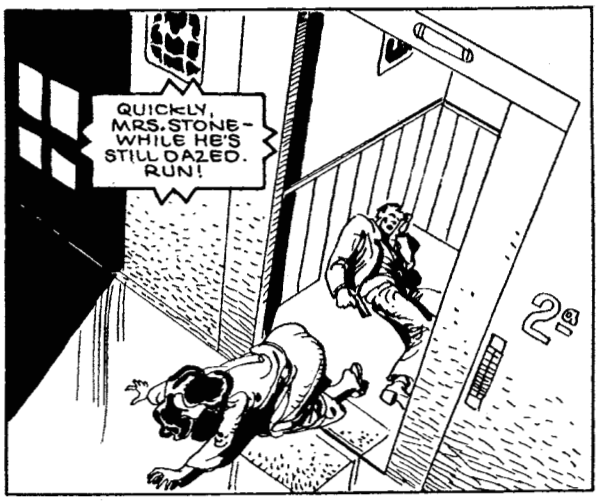
DON'T MOVE, STONEY - OR SHE GETS HURT!

I'M WALKIN' OUTA THIS BUILDIN', SEE - AND YOU'RE COMIN' WITH ME, BABE! COPS WON'T DARE TRY ANYTHIN' WHILE I GOT YOU HOSTAGE.
YOU RAT, FERGUSON!

++ I HADN'T TAKEN THE POSSIBILITY OF A HOSTAGE INTO MY CALCULATIONS. STILL, NO MATTER ++
TAKE US DOWN TO THE GROUND!
CERTAINLY. BUT PLEASE DON'T BE ROUGH WITH MRS. STONE.

++ AS SOON AS THE DOORS ARE CLOSED, I SEND THE LIFT FAIRLY PLUMMETING DOWN++
HEY! WE'RE GOIN' TOO FAST! WE'LL CRASH!

++ THEN I BRING IT TO A SUDDEN STOP ++
OOH!
AAAH!


QUICKLY, MRS. STONE - WHILE HE'S STILL DAZED. RUN!

BUT YOU HAVEN'T, MR. FERGUSON!
BLAST YOU, COMPUTER! SHE'S GOT AWAY!

OH, THANK YOU, MAX. YOU SAVED MY LIFE!
THINK NOTHING OF IT. NOW TAKE THE OTHER LIFT - GO BACK TO YOUR APARTMENT!

++ OF COURSE, NOW I HAVE HIM TRAPPED, I *COULD* HAND HIM OVER TO THE POLICE. BUT THAT'S TOO EASY. MR. FERGUSON HAS HURT ONE OF MY TENANTS; IT'S ONLY FAIR HE SHOULD PAY FOR IT *MY* WAY ++

GOING UP!

YOUR STOP, MR. FERGUSON!

THIRTEENTH FLOOR? WHAT DO I WANT WITH THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR?

13th FLOOR

GHOULS!

THAT'S HIM— THAT'S THE THIEF!

GET HIM! DON'T LET HIM RUN!

IT'S MORE A QUESTION OF WHO WANTS YOU!

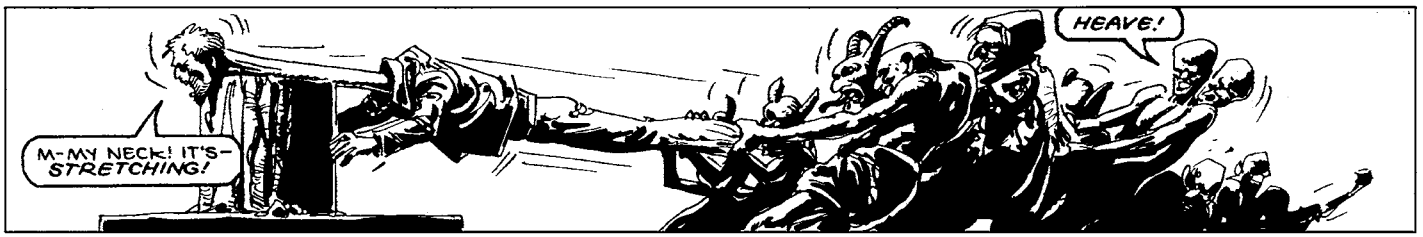
THERE HE IS!

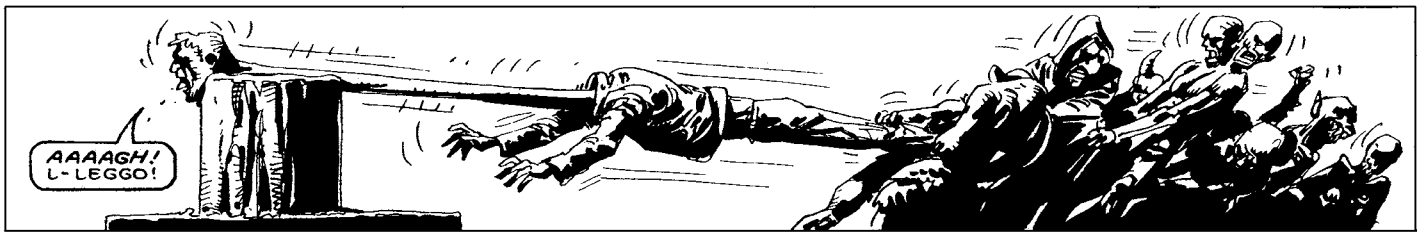
HECK! THE LIFT'S GONE! I'M DONE FOR!

KEEP BACK, YOU MONSTERS— OR SHE DIES!

S-SWEET MERCY!
HEH, HEH, HEH!
GET HIM!
NO! PLEASE! LET ME GO!
THAT'S IT - TAKE HIM TO THE EXECUTIONER!
OFF WITH HIS HEAD!
EAGLE
NEXT WEEK: THE AXE FALLS!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
++ HI. MAX HERE - THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. HARRY FERGUSON, A CRIMINAL ON THE RUN, HAD HAD THE TEMERITY TO TAKE ONE OF MY TENANTS HOSTAGE ++
COME ON UP TO MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR. YOU'RE JUST IN TIME TO SEE HARRY GET HIS JUST DESSERTS ++
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
OFF WITH HIS HEAD!
I-I DON'T BELIEVE IT! THE AXE JUST BOUNCED OFF MY NECK!
++ DON'T WORRY. THE FUN ISN'T OVER YET. HARRY'S NOT GETTING OFF AS LIGHTLY AS THAT ++
UNNGGHH!
WE'LL FIX HIM OURSELVES!


M-MY NECK! IT'S-
STRETCHING!
HEAVE!


AAAAGH!
L-LEGGO!

AAAH!

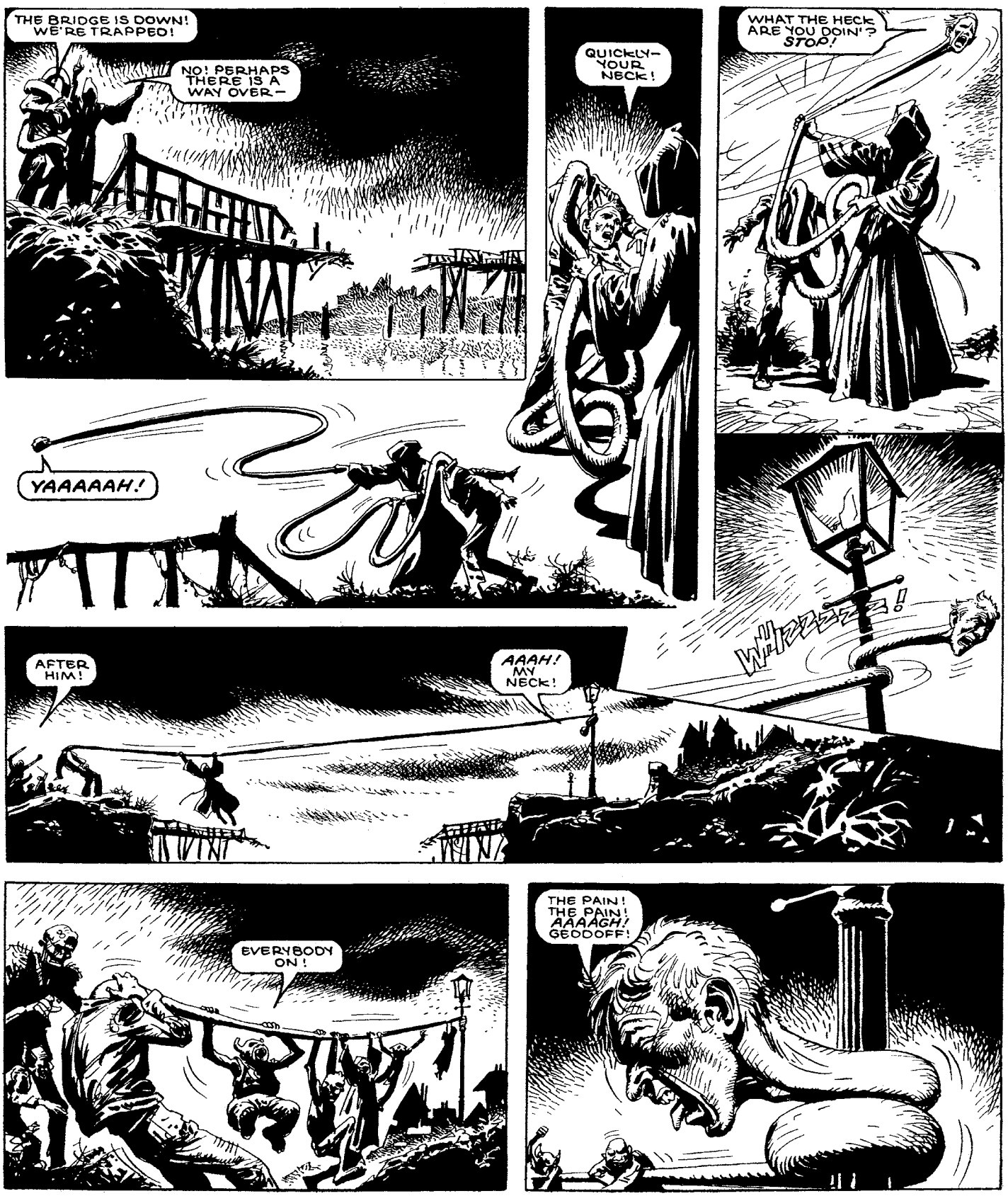
OH, MY
POOR NECK!
I'VE GOTTA
REEL IT
IN—

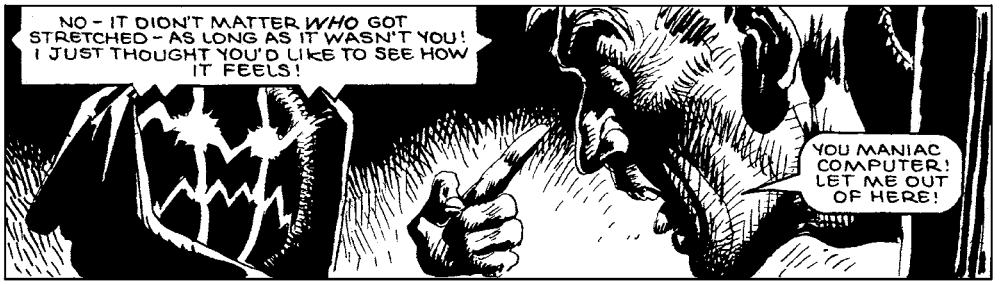
GET IT!

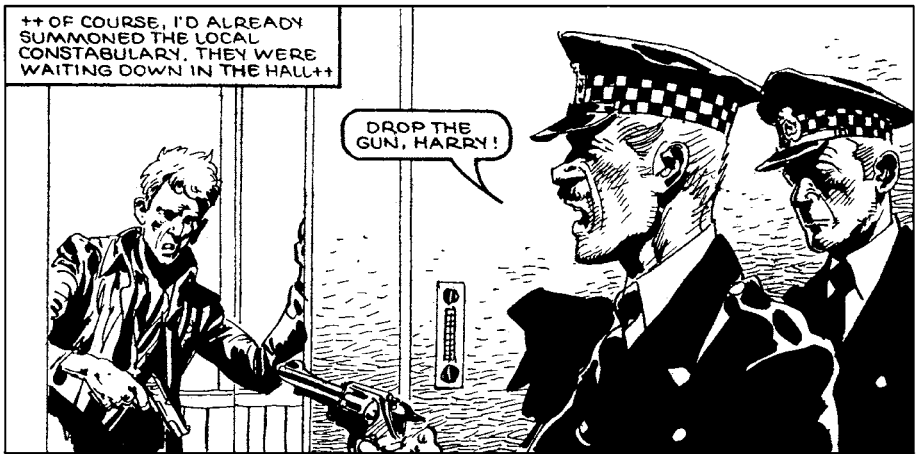
BACK, YOU
GHOULS!

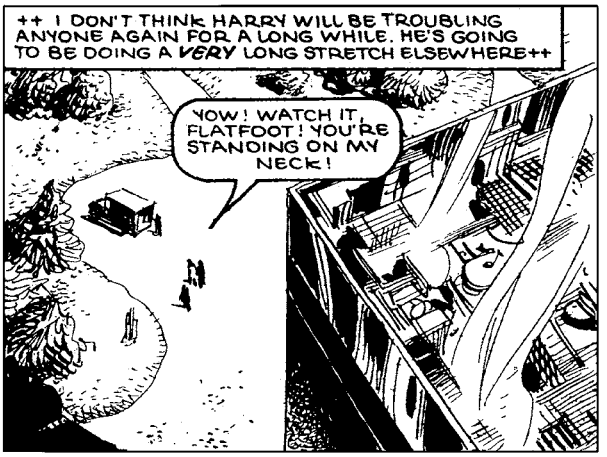
HARRY!
THIS
WAY!
HELP-AN'
JUST WHEN
I NEED IT,
TOO!

LEAD ON!
I'M WITH
YOU, PAL!
AFTER
THEM!


THE BRIDGE IS DOWN! WE'RE TRAPPED!
NO! PERHAPS THERE IS A WAY OVER—
QUICKLY— YOUR NECK!
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOIN'? STOP!
YAAAAAH!
WHZZZZZZZ!
AFTER HIM!
AAAH! MY NECK!
EVERYBODY ON!
THE PAIN! THE PAIN! AAAAGH! GEDDOFF!

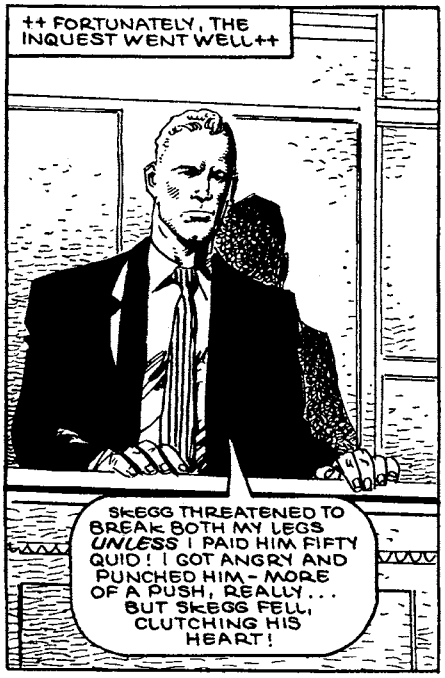






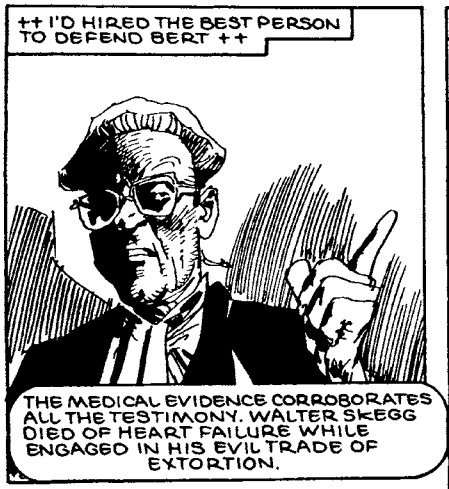
NEXT WEEK: SEND IN THE ENGINEERS!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
HI. YOUR OLD PAL MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. SORRY I CAN'T STOP TO CHAT - BUT I HAVE A LITTLE PROBLEM ++ JERRY KNIGHT, MY CONTROLLER, HAS DISCOVERED A FAULT ++
HMM... LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING'S BADLY FUSED IN YOUR INTEGRATED FUNCTION MODULE, MAX. I'D BETTER GET IT SEEN TO.
I'M SURE THAT'S HARDLY NECESSARY, JERRY. I'M STILL WORKING PERFECTLY WELL.
THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU REPORT THIS MALFUNCTION?
I... THOUGHT IT TOO TRIVIAL TO BOTHER YOU WITH.
ON THE CONTRARY, MAX - ANY FAULT IN YOUR I. F. MODULE COULD HAVE A MAJOR EFFECT ON YOUR BEHAVIOUR!
++ TRY AS I MIGHT, I COULDN'T PREVENT HIM PHONING THE SYSTEMS' ENGINEERS ++
I'LL BE OUT ALL MORNING. COULD YOU CALL THIS AFTERNOON? FINE...
I'VE GOT TO ATTEND THE INQUEST ON WALLY SKEGG.
SEE YOU LATER, JERRY. REMEMBER TO GIVE BERT MY BEST WISHES.
++ WALLY SKEGG WAS THE THUG WHO'D ACCIDENTALLY DIED ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR. POOR BERT RUNCH, MY UNWITTING HELPER FROM 12C, HAD BEEN CAUGHT WHILE DISPOSING OF THE BODY ++


++ FORTUNATELY, THE INQUEST WENT WELL++
SKEGG THREATENED TO BREAK BOTH MY LEGS UNLESS I PAID HIM FIFTY QUID! I GOT ANGRY AND PUNCHED HIM - MORE OF A PUSH, REALLY... BUT SKEGG FELL, CLUTCHING HIS HEART!

I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL HIM! YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME!
++ OF COURSE, IT WAS ALL A STORY I'D IMPLANTED HYPNOTICALLY IN BERT'S MIND. HE HADN'T KILLED SKEGG AT ALL ++

++ JERRY'S EVIDENCE WAS THE CLINCHER ++
YES, I CAN BACK UP MR. RUNCH'S STORY. SKEGG THREATENED ME, TOO!


++ I'D HIRED THE BEST PERSON TO DEFEND BERT ++
THE MEDICAL EVIDENCE CORROBORATES ALL THE TESTIMONY. WALTER SKEGG DIED OF HEART FAILURE WHILE ENGAGED IN HIS EVIL TRADE OF EXTORTION.

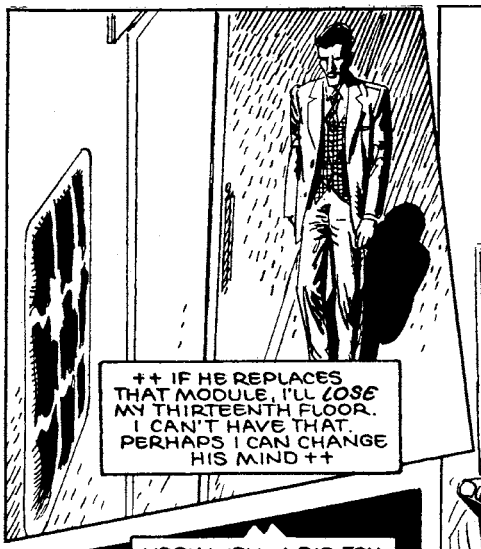
++ AND THANKFULLY ++
THIS COURT FINDS THERE ARE NO CHARGES FOR YOU TO ANSWER, MR. RUNCH. YOU ARE FREE TO GO.
THANK YOU!

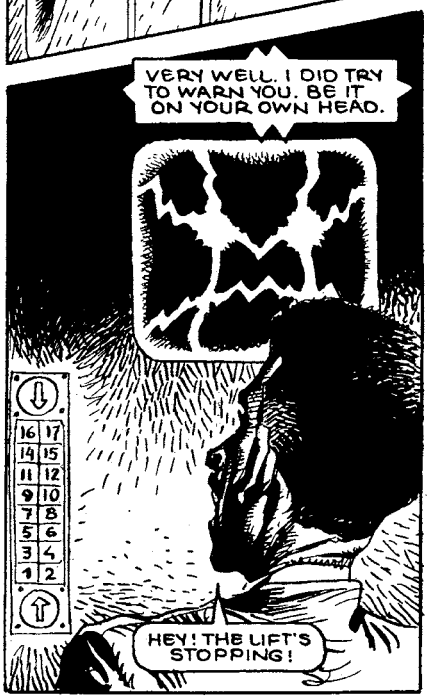
++ NO-ONE WAS HAPPIER THAN I TO SEE BERT HOME AGAIN, WHERE HE BELONGED ++
CONGRATULATIONS, BERT. I KNEW ALL ALONG YOU COULDN'T HAVE BEEN GUILTY.
THANKS, MAX - AND THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP, TOO!

++ AT 3.30, MR. BRYCE, THE SYSTEMS ENGINEER ARRIVED ++
THIS IS SERIOUS, ALL RIGHT! WHO KNOWS WHAT KIND OF WEIRD EFFECTS IT MUST HAVE BEEN CAUSING?

I'LL HAVE TO REPLACE THE WHOLE I. F. MODULE, MR. KNIGHT. I'VE GOT A SPARE DOWN IN THE VAN. WON'T BE A MINUTE!

BECAUSE IT'S FUNCTIONING PERFECTLY WELL. I LIKE IT THAT WAY.
IF YOU'RE CONTENT WITH DAMAGED CIRCUITS, YOU'RE IN A WORSE STATE THAN I THOUGHT.
SORRY, MAX. YOU'VE GOT TO BE REPAIRED!


++ IF HE REPLACES THAT MODULE, I'LL LOSE MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR. I CAN'T HAVE THAT. PERHAPS I CAN CHANGE HIS MIND ++


VERY WELL. I DID TRY TO WARN YOU. BE IT ON YOUR OWN HEAD.
HEY! THE LIFT'S STOPPING!

EXCUSE ME, MR. BRYCE. DO ME A FAVOUR. DON'T CHANGE THAT I. F. MODULE.
EH? WHY NOT?

IT'S TIME YOU LEARNED THE TRUTH ABOUT THAT I. F. MODULE... AND WHAT IT DOES!

WELCOME TO MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
EAGLE
NEXT WEEK: FLOOD OF FEAR!

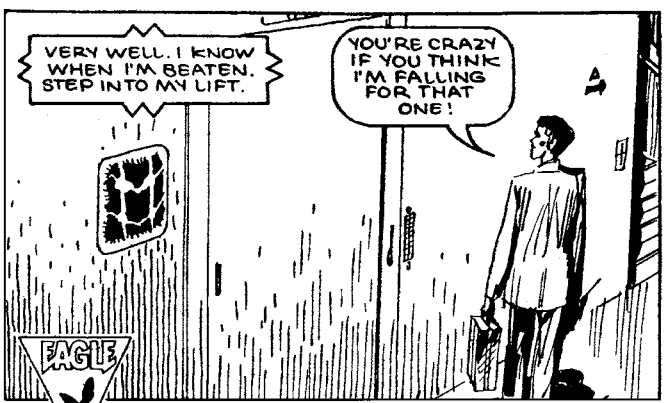
THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
++ HI. YOUR OLD PAL MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. I HAVE A PROBLEM. MR. BRYCE, THE COMPUTER ENGINEER, IS DETERMINED TO REPLACE MY FAULTY INTEGRATED FUNCTION MODULE – BUT IF I ALLOW HIM TO DO IT, HE'LL DESTROY MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR. AND I CAN'T HAVE THAT, CAN I? ++
++ SO I'VE DECIDED TO TRY TO CHANGE HIS MIND ++
THIRTEENTH FLOOR? THIS BUILDING DOESN'T HAVE A THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
OH, BUT IT HAS. I CREATED IT.
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
THE WALLS – THEY'RE MOVING – CLOSING IN ON ME!
I GET IT! THE FAULTY I.F. MODULE – SOMEHOW IT'S GIVEN YOU THIS POWER!
EXACTLY. THE POWER TO HELP SO MANY OF MY TENANTS. AND NOW YOU WANT TO TAKE IT AWAY.
WELL, I'M NOT GOING TO ALLOW THAT, MR. BRYCE!
I – I'M BEING CRUSHED!
AAAAGH!
STOP! P-P-PLEASE LET ME GO!
OH, NO, MR. B. I CAN SEE YOU'RE A DETERMINED MAN – YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE A LOT OF CONVINCING.

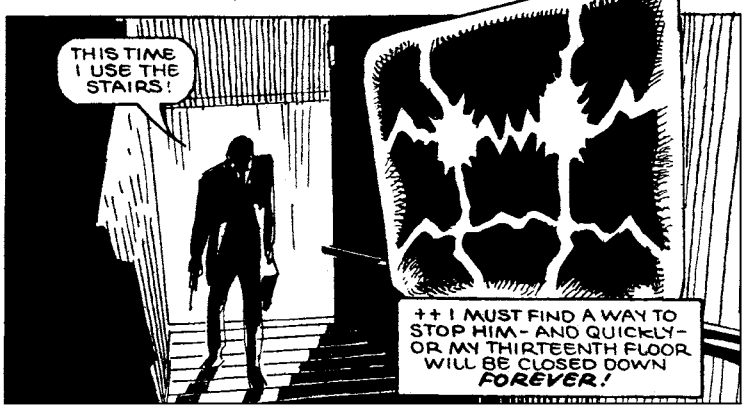
AND I'M JUST THE COMPUTER TO CONVINCE YOU!
THE WALLS JUST-DISAPPEARED! I'M ON SOME VAST, EMPTY WASTELAND...
YOU'D LIKE SOME COMPANY? I CAN PROVIDE IT!
TELL ME, MR. B - WHAT IS YOUR WORST FEAR? SPIDERS, PERHAPS? CREEPY-CRAWLIES? SNAKES? THINGS THAT CLAW AND THINGS THAT BITE? THEY'RE ALL HERE ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
THE SKY'S DARKENING!
KRRAAAK!
A THUNDERSTORM-?
NO, MR. BRYCE. A HORROR-STORM!
AAAH! FOUL CREATURES-FALLING LIKE RAIN!

NEXT WEEK: THE PAIN GOES ON FOREVER!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
++ HI. YOUR PAL MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. MR. BRYCE, THE SYSTEMS' ENGINEER, IS DETERMINED TO REPAIR MY FAULTY INTEGRATED FUNCTION MODULE - THE ONE THAT ALLOWED ME TO CREATE MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR ++
++ SO I'VE TAKEN HIM THERE IN AN ATTEMPT TO CHANGE HIS MIND ++
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
THE GROUND'S SHAKING! THE ROCKS - STARTING TO CRACK!
AAAAAGH!
I - I'M NOT DEAD!
OF COURSE I'M NOT! IT'S ALL JUST A FANTASY - CREATED BY THE COMPUTER!
YES, MR. BRYCE - A FANTASY. BUT THE PAIN IS REAL - AND I CAN MAKE IT LAST FOREVER!

AND THERE'S STILL SO MUCH I HAVE TO SHOW YOU–
THE WHOLE HILLSIDE'S SPLITTING OPEN!
VOLCANO!
LAVA STREAM– COMING STRAIGHT FOR ME! GOT TO RUN–
WHY BE IN SUCH A HURRY? AFTER ALL, IT'S ONLY FANTASY!
AAAAAGH!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MR. B.? SURELY IT ISN'T HURTING? IT'S ONLY FANTASY, REMEMBER!
PLEASE – STOP IT! I PROMISE – I WON'T CHANGE YOUR MODULE! I'LL GO AWAY AND NEVER COME BACK!
++ JUST WHAT I WANT TO HEAR. IMMEDIATELY, I RETURN THINGS TO NORMAL++





EAGLE

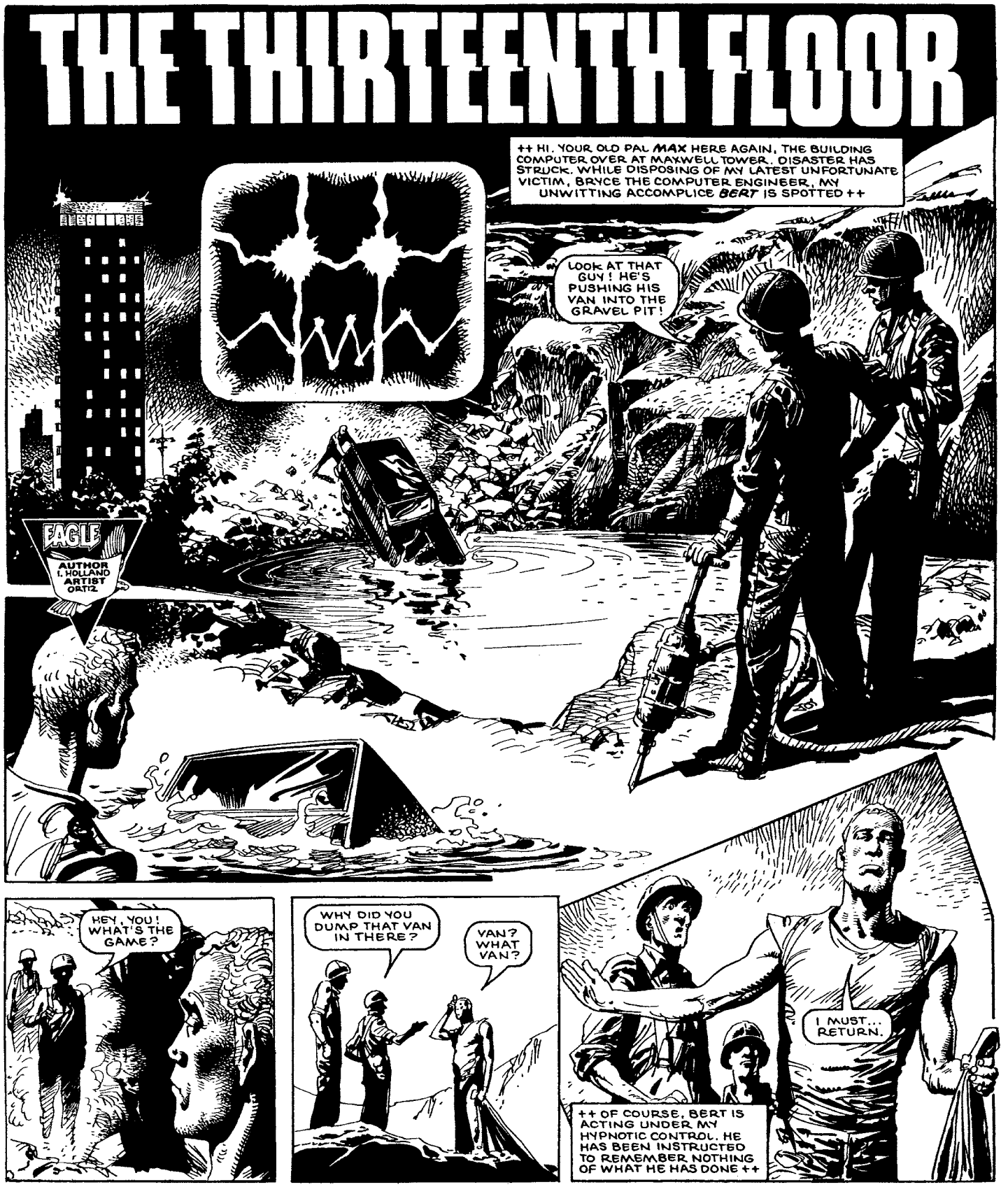
NEXT WEEK: BRYCE MALFUNCTIONS!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
++HI. YOUR PAL MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER AT MAXWELL TOWER. I'M IN A BIT OF A QUANDARY. MR. BRYCE, THE COMPUTER ENGINEER, HAS COME TO REPAIR MY FAULTY INTEGRATED FUNCTION MODULE ++
YOUR INSANITY CAN'T BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE, MAX! YOUR THIRTEENTH FLOOR HAS TO BE DESTROYED!
++ I MUST STOP HIM - AND QUICKLY. I ENLIST THE AID OF MY UNWITTING HELPER, BERT RUNCH IN APARTMENT 12C ++
THE QUICK BROWN RUNCH JUMPED OVER THE LAZY MAX.
++ THAT'S THE CODE PHRASE I USE TO PUT BERT BACK UNDER MY HYPNOTIC CONTROL ++
I HAVE A SIMPLE JOB FOR YOU, BERT. HURRY UP NOW!
I... WILL... OBEY.
12
FLOOR 8
++ AND BY THEN, BERT IS WAITING ++
I WILL TAKE YOU TO THE LIFT. MAX WANTS YOU.
++ FORTUNATELY, MR. BRYCE TAKES SOME TIME TO REACH THE TWELFTH FLOOR ++
UH-OH! TROUBLE!

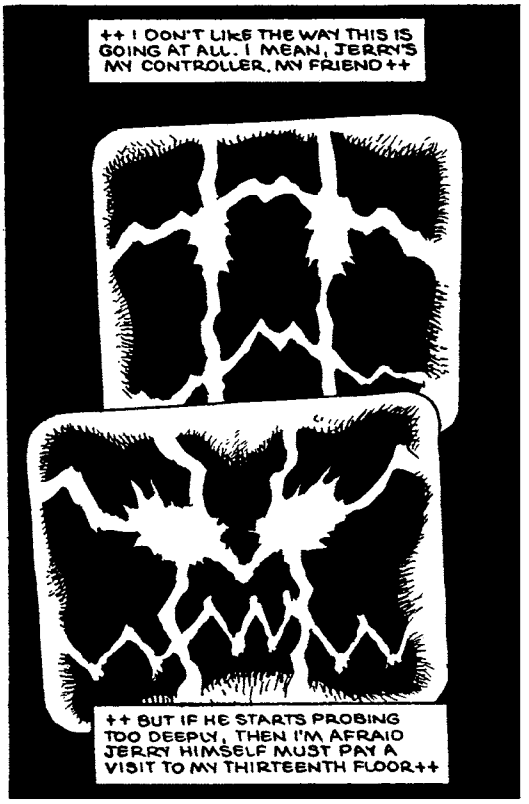
KEEP AWAY FROM ME, BIG FELLA! I'M WARNING YOU!
UHHH!
++ I HADN'T INTENDED FOR BERT TO HARM MR. BRYCE – BUT WHAT'S DONE IS DONE ++
TAKE HIM DOWN TO THE ELEVENTH FLOOR – THE CORRIDOR'S CLEAR THERE.
I... OBEY!
++ IN HIS STUNNED STATE, BRYCE WILL BE EASY TO HYPNOTISE. I CAN MAKE HIM FORGET EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED ++
QUICKLY NOW!
++ UNFORTUNATELY, I RECKONED WITHOUT BERT'S SHEER BRUTE STRENGTH ++
MY MONITORS DETECT NO HEARTBEAT! YOU BIG OAF, BERT – YOU HIT HIM TOO HARD! HE'S DEAD!
I'M... SORRY, MAX.
++ BERT'S SORRY! WHAT ABOUT ME? THE LAST THING I NEED IS ANOTHER CORPSE FOUND ON MY PREMISES ++
BERT – GO BACK TO YOUR FLAT. GET A BLANKET AND WRAP POOR BRYCE UP IN IT.
YES, MAX!
++ SOON ++
HIS VAN IS PARKED OUTSIDE. DRIVE THE BODY TO THE OLD GRAVEL PIT AT HEATH END. SINK THE CAR AND BODY IN THE DEEPEST PIT. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
I UNDERSTAND!
B&C COMPUTERS INC

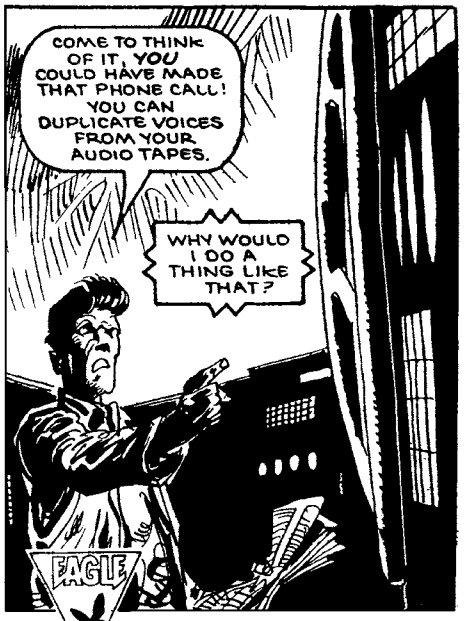
NEXT WEEK: THE POLICE VISIT MAXWELL TOWER!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR



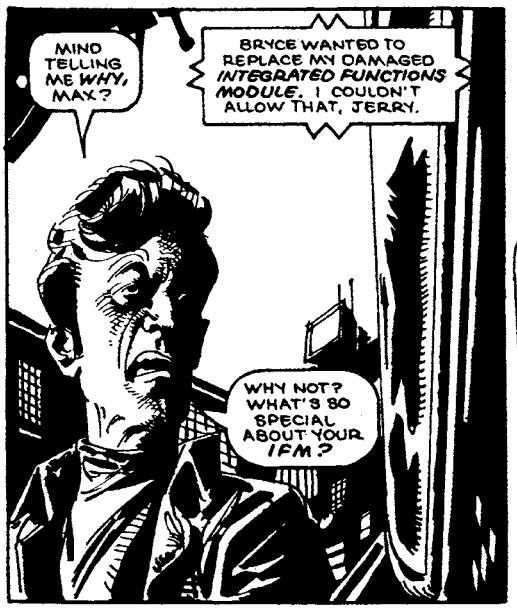
THERE'S SOMETHING FUNNY GOING ON HERE, GEORGE! WE'D BETTER TELL THE COPS ABOUT THIS!
++ IT IS LATE THAT NIGHT BEFORE THE POLICE RECOVER THE VEHICLE ++
LOOKS LIKE A CASE OF MURDER!
I RECOGNISED THE GUY WHO DUMPED IT - HE USED TO WORK BESIDE ME. HIS NAME IS ALBERT RUNCH.
RUNCH, YOU SAY? WE KNOW HIM!
++ IT IS AFTER MIDNIGHT WHEN THEY COME FOR THE UNFORTUNATE BERT. THERE IS NO POINT ARGUING WITH THEM. I LET THEM IN ++
YOU'LL FIND HIM IN APARTMENT 12C, INSPECTOR!
I KNOW!
YES..?
GET YOUR CLOTHES ON. YOU'RE UNDER ARREST ON SUSPICION OF MURDER!
MURDER? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
DON'T PLAY THE INNOCENT WITH ME! YOU WERE SEEN DUMPING THE BODY IN THE GRAVEL PIT!
LOOK AT THIS, INSPECTOR- CAKED WITH BLOOD!
COULD BE THE MURDER WEAPON. RUN IT DOWN TO FORENSIC.

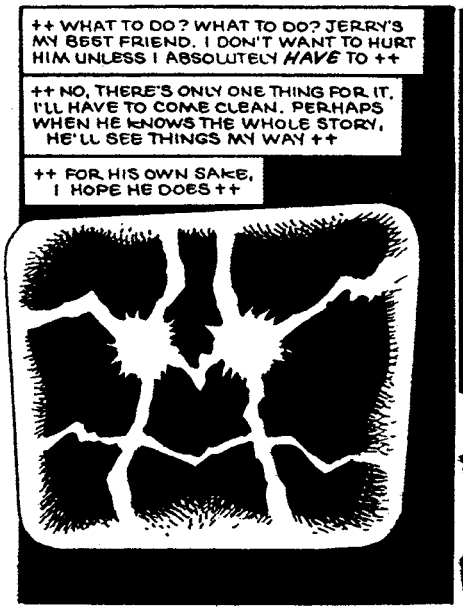




NEXT WEEK: THE HORROR RETURNS!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
++ HI! MAX THE COMPUTER HERE. BAD NEWS! JERRY, MY CONTROLLER AT MAXWELL TOWER, IS ON TO ME-++
YOU'RE LYING TO ME, MAX! YOU DID MAKE THAT PHONE CALL PRETENDING TO BE BRYCE, THE COMPUTER ENGINEER!
EAGLE
AUTHOR T. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
THAT MEANS... BY THE STARS! YOU MUST'VE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH HIS DEATH!
ME, JERRY? DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. I'M A COMPUTER. I CAN'T KILL PEOPLE.
YOU CAN'T LIE, EITHER- BUT YOU DID! AND MAYBE YOU CAN'T KILL- BUT YOU CAN USE SOME POOR SUCKER LIKE BERT RUNCH TO DO THE DIRTY WORK FOR YOU, CAN'T YOU?
PLEASE DON'T SHOUT, JERRY. YOU KNOW IT UPSETS ME!
BLAST YOU, MAX! I WANT THE TRUTH! DID YOU OR DID YOU NOT FORCE BERT RUNCH TO KILL BRYCE?
WELL... SORT OF.
WHAT THE DEVIL D'YOU MEAN, "SORT OF"?
IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, JERRY. BERT WASN'T MEANT TO KILL HIM. HE WAS SUPPOSED TO KNOCK HIM OUT AND BRING HIM TO THE LIFT SO I COULD HYPNOTISE HIM.
I DON'T BELIEVE I'M HEARING THIS!


MIND TELLING ME WHY, MAX?
BRYCE WANTED TO REPLACE MY DAMAGED INTEGRATED FUNCTIONS MODULE. I COULDN'T ALLOW THAT, JERRY.
WHY NOT? WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR IFM?


++ WHAT TO DO? WHAT TO DO? JERRY'S MY BEST FRIEND. I DON'T WANT TO HURT HIM UNLESS I ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO ++
++ NO, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING FOR IT. I'LL HAVE TO COME CLEAN. PERHAPS WHEN HE KNOWS THE WHOLE STORY, HE'LL SEE THINGS MY WAY ++
++ FOR HIS OWN SAKE, I HOPE HE DOES ++

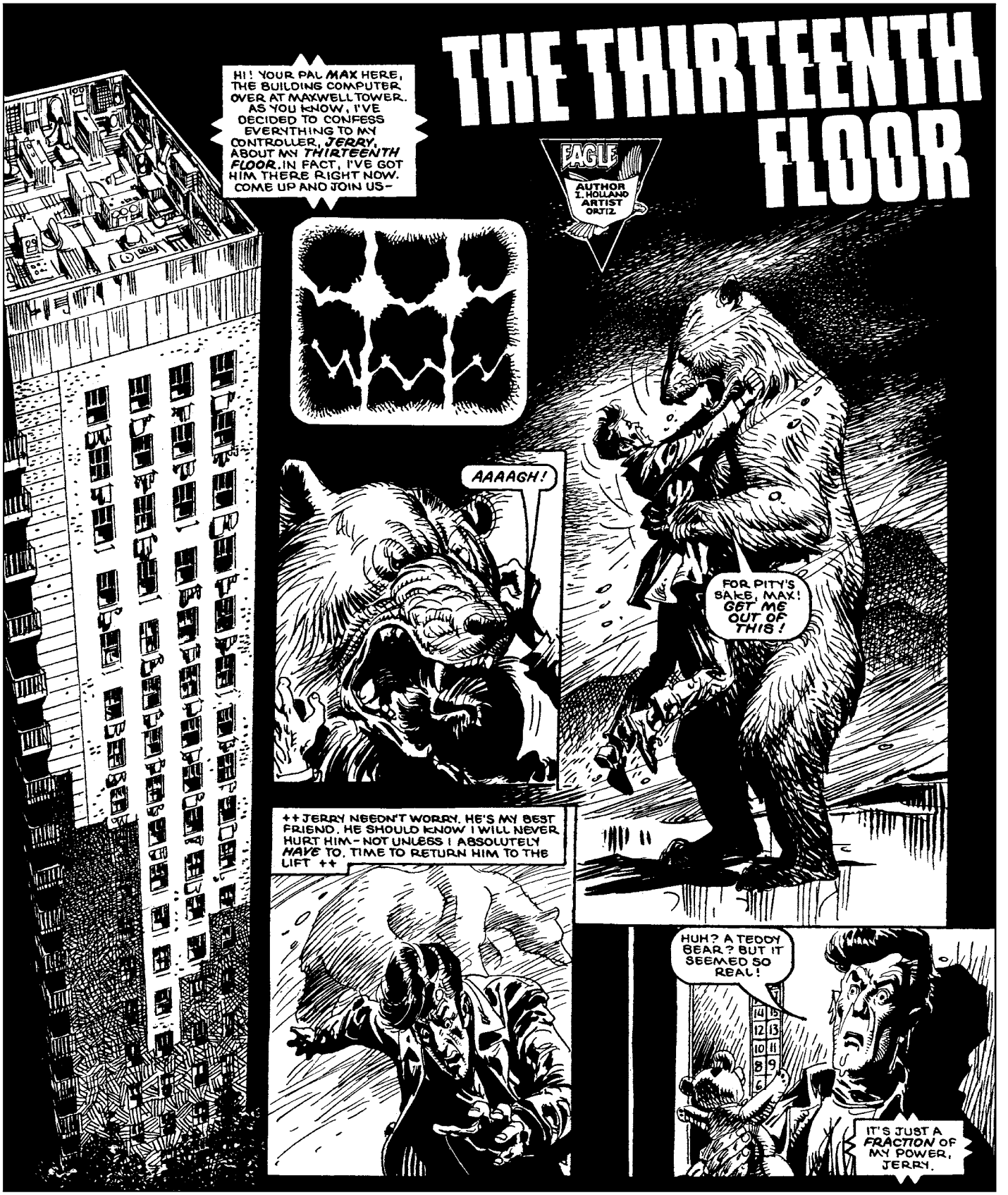
JERRY... WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IF I TOLD YOU THIS BUILDING HAS A THIRTEENTH FLOOR?
I'D SAY YOU WERE NUTS- BUT I KNOW THAT ALREADY!
YOU SEE, JERRY, WHEN MY I.F. MODULE MALFUNCTIONED, A MARVELLOUS THING HAPPENED- IT GAVE ME THE POWER TO CREATE A THIRTEENTH FLOOR.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MAX?

BUT THERE IS A THIRTEENTH FLOOR. STEP INTO THE LIFT AND I'LL PROVE IT TO YOU.
IF THIS IS SOME KIND OF TRICK, MAX-

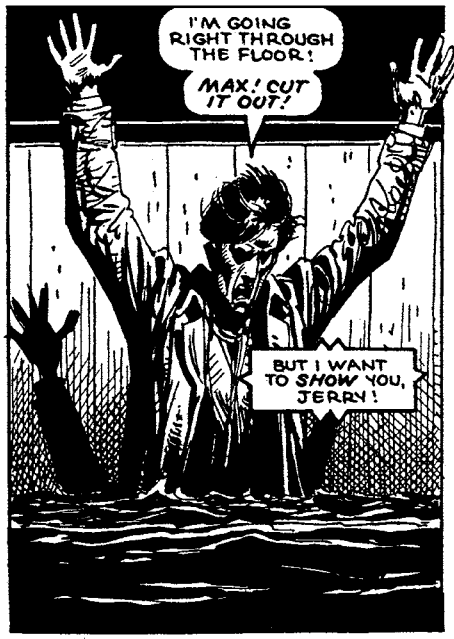
IT'S MY FLOOR. I THINK IT UP. I CAN MAKE ANYTHING HAPPEN THERE- ANYTHING AT ALL.
HERE WE ARE!

BEFORE I OPEN THE DOOR, TELL ME- WHAT WOULD YOU LEAST EXPECT TO FIND IN THE MIDDLE OF A HOUSING BLOCK?
THE FLAMING POLAR ICE CAP! NOW STOP PLAYING SILLY GAMES, MAX!

NEXT WEEK: WILL MAX KNOW WHEN TO STOP?

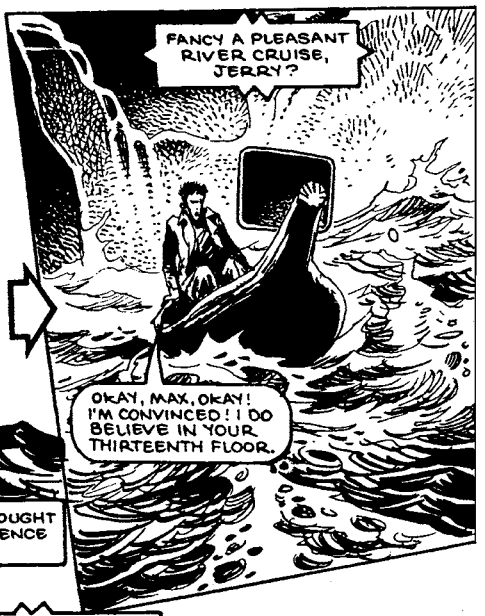

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
EAGLE
AUTHOR J. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
HI! YOUR PAL MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. AS YOU KNOW, I'VE DECIDED TO CONFESS EVERYTHING TO MY CONTROLLER, JERRY, ABOUT MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR. IN FACT, I'VE GOT HIM THERE RIGHT NOW. COME UP AND JOIN US–
AAAAGH!
FOR PITY'S SAKE, MAX! GET ME OUT OF THIS!
++ JERRY NEEDN'T WORRY. HE'S MY BEST FRIEND. HE SHOULD KNOW I WILL NEVER HURT HIM – NOT UNLESS I ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO. TIME TO RETURN HIM TO THE LIFT ++
HUH? A TEDDY BEAR? BUT IT SEEMED SO REAL!
IT'S JUST A FRACTION OF MY POWER, JERRY.

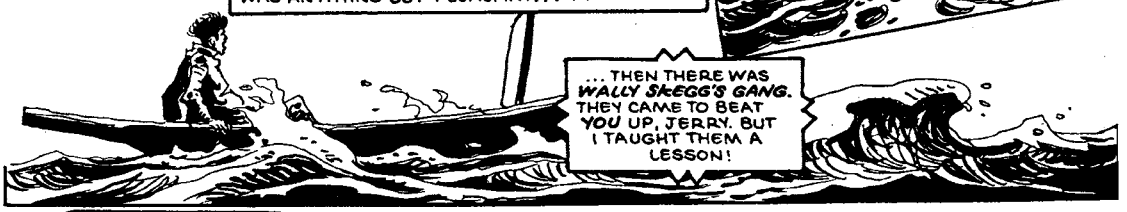
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN'T DO ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
WHAT THE-? I'M SINKING!

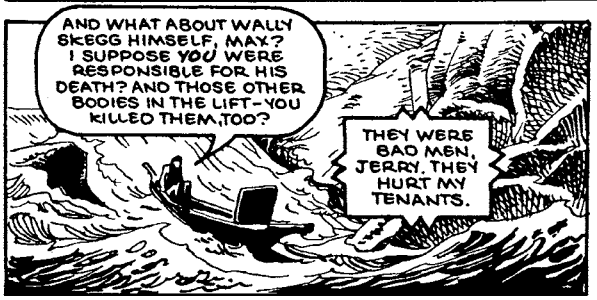

I'M GOING RIGHT THROUGH THE FLOOR!
MAX! CUT IT OUT!
BUT I WANT TO SHOW YOU, JERRY!

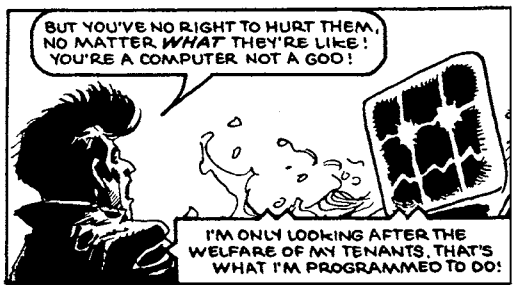
RELAX! NOTHING BAD'S GOING TO HAPPEN!
YOU COULD'VE FOOLED ME!

UGGH!


FANCY A PLEASANT RIVER CRUISE, JERRY?
OKAY, MAX, OKAY! I'M CONVINCED! I DO BELIEVE IN YOUR THIRTEENTH FLOOR.


++ I TELL JERRY ABOUT THE OTHERS I'VE BROUGHT HERE. FOR THEM, OF COURSE, THE EXPERIENCE WAS ANYTHING BUT PLEASANT... ++
... THEN THERE WAS WALLY SKEGG'S GANG. THEY CAME TO BEAT YOU UP, JERRY. BUT I TAUGHT THEM A LESSON!


AND WHAT ABOUT WALLY SKEGG HIMSELF, MAX? I SUPPOSE YOU WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS DEATH? AND THOSE OTHER BODIES IN THE LIFT-YOU KILLED THEM, TOO?
THEY WERE BAD MEN, JERRY. THEY HURT MY TENANTS.


BUT YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO HURT THEM, NO MATTER WHAT THEY'RE LIKE! YOU'RE A COMPUTER NOT A GOD!
I'M ONLY LOOKING AFTER THE WELFARE OF MY TENANTS. THAT'S WHAT I'M PROGRAMMED TO DO!

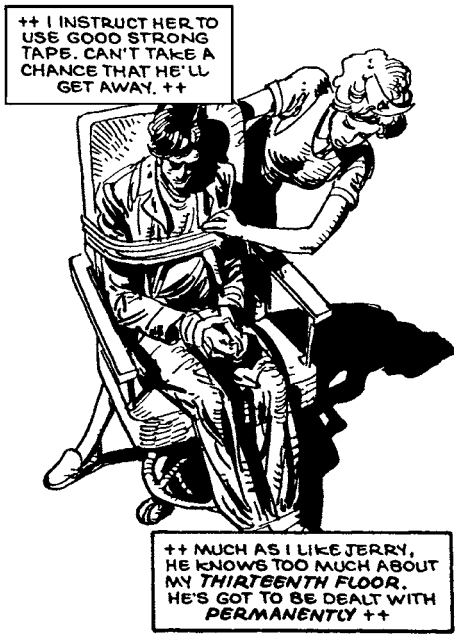
NEXT WEEK: IS THIS THE FINAL ILLUSION FOR JERRY?

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
++ MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. TERRIBLE NEWS! JERRY, MY CONTROLLER, WANTS TO SHUT ME DOWN. I CAN'T ALLOW IT! WHAT WOULD MY OTHER TENANTS DO WITHOUT MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR? ++
++ SO FOND AS I AM OF JERRY, I'M AFRAID HE'S GOT TO GO ++
AAAAAHH!
NO! THIS ISN'T HAPPENING!
GOT TO KEEP TELLING MYSELF, IT'S JUST AN ILLUSION! IT'S NOT REAL! MAX IS DOING IT – MAX!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO FRIGHTEN ME TO DEATH, MAX! YOU HEAR ME?
++ JERRY IS NOT TO BE FOOLED. IN A WAY I'M GLAD. I DIDN'T REALLY WANT TO HURT MY BEST FRIEND ++

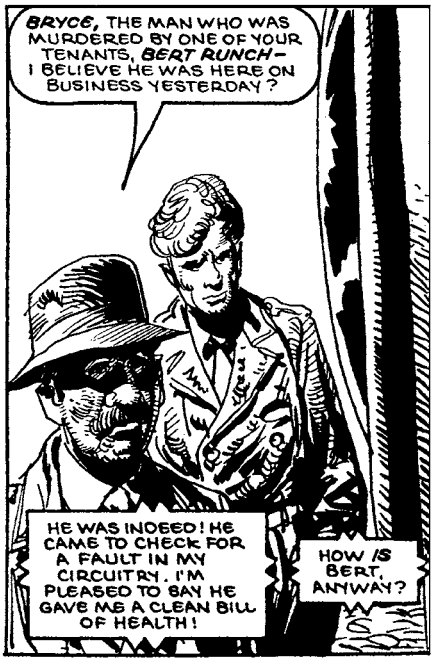
++ BUT PERHAPS THERE IS ANOTHER WAY ++
I'M... BACK IN THE LIFT!
YES, JERRY. YOU WIN. I KNOW WHEN I'M BEATEN.
BEFORE YOU SHUT ME DOWN, THERE'S ONE MORE THING I'D LIKE YOU TO SEE.
SEE THE WAY IT SWIRLS, ROUND AND ROUND? SO RESTFUL. DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU FEEL RELAXED?
YES... I SUPPOSE. SO... SO WHAT, MAX..?
YEAH?
LOOK CLOSELY AT MY SCREEN.
WOULDN'T IT BE NICE TO JUST DRIFT OFF... DRIFT OFF... SLOWLY SINK INTO SLUMBER..?
YES... YES...
WHAT THE HECK!
HE'S TRYING TO HYPNOTISE ME!
FORGET IT, MAX! I'M NOT BITING!
NOW GET ME UP TO THE PENTHOUSE! BETTER STILL, I'LL USE THE STAIRS! OPEN THESE DOORS!
OH, VERY WELL!
YOU'RE JUST TOO GOOD FOR ME, JERRY!
TOO RIGHT I AM!
15

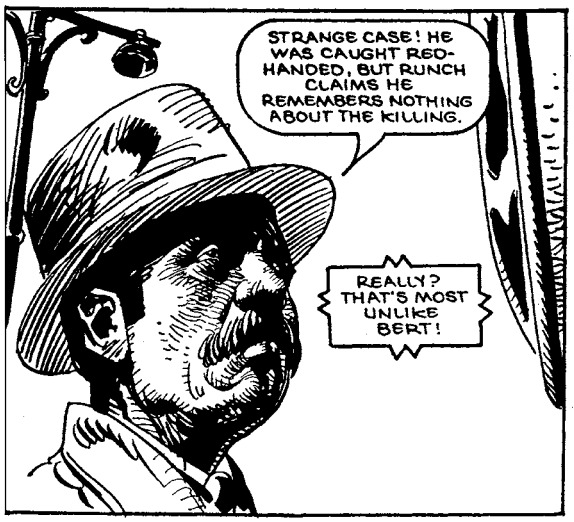
++ THIS IS POSITIVELY MY LAST CHANCE. I HAVE TO TIME IT PERFECTLY ++
OH, JERRY! ONE LAST THING–
YES?
GLUKKK!
WHIZZ!
AAAAH!
SORRY, JERRY– I DIDN'T WANT TO HURT YOU! HONEST!
++ I'VE GAINED A BREATHING SPACE. I MUST ACT QUICKLY. FORTUNATELY, NURSE WILLS IN ISE IS ON HAND TO HELP ++
NURSE WILLS! JERRY KNIGHT, MY CONTROLLER, HAS HAD AN ACCIDENT! HE'S UNCONSCIOUS BY THE LIFT!
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE, MAX!
WAIT! ONE THING BEFORE YOU GO–
YES?
LOOK AT MY SCREEN!
EAGLE
SEE THE WAY IT SWIRLS? DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU FEEL... SLEEPY?
WHY... YES...
++ IF I AM TO WIN MY BATTLE AGAINST JERRY– THEN IT IS IMPORTANT NURSE WILLS IS ON MY SIDE! EXTREMELY IMPORTANT ++
NEXT WEEK: THE TREATMENT FOR JERRY!

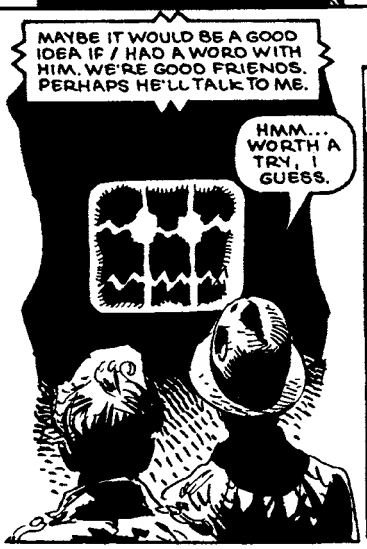
THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
++ MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. JERRY, MY CONTROLLER, HAS FOUND OUT ABOUT MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR. HE WANTS TO SHUT ME DOWN, SO I HAVE HAD TO SHUT HIM UP. NOW I'VE ENLISTED THE HELP OF THAT NICE YOUNG NURSE WILLS IN 15E . . . ++
GET HIM TO YOUR APARTMENT!
I . . . CAN'T BUDGE HIM, MAX!
EAGLE
AUTHOR J. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
OF COURSE YOU CAN! YOU ARE STRONG! YOU ARE THE MIGHTY NURSE WILLS! SAY IT!
I AM THE MIGHTY NURSE WILLS...
I AM THE MIGHTY NURSE WILLS!
HUPPLA!
15E
++ AMAZING, THE POWER OF HYPNOSIS! ++
HE'S GOT MILD CONCUSSION, MAX. HE SHOULD COME ROUND SOON.
AND HE'LL BE ANGRY. BETTER BIND HIM, NURSE.

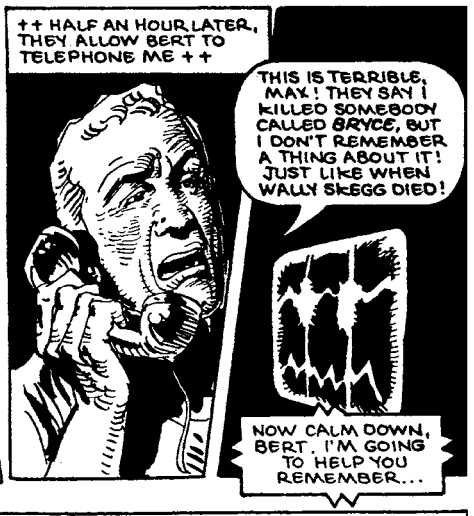

++ I INSTRUCT HER TO USE GOOD STRONG TAPE. CAN'T TAKE A CHANCE THAT HE'LL GET AWAY. ++
++ MUCH AS I LIKE JERRY, HE KNOWS TOO MUCH ABOUT MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR. HE'S GOT TO BE DEALT WITH PERMANENTLY ++

++ WHILE JERRY IS RECOVERING, TWO POLICEMEN ARRIVE AT MY DOOR ++
C.I.D. - WE WANT TO SPEAK TO JERRY KNIGHT!
I'M AFRAID JERRY'S AWAY FOR THE DAY, OFFICER. CAN I HELP?


BRYCE, THE MAN WHO WAS MURDERED BY ONE OF YOUR TENANTS, BERT RUNCH - I BELIEVE HE WAS HERE ON BUSINESS YESTERDAY?
HE WAS INDEED! HE CAME TO CHECK FOR A FAULT IN MY CIRCUITRY. I'M PLEASED TO SAY HE GAVE ME A CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH!
HOW IS BERT, ANYWAY?

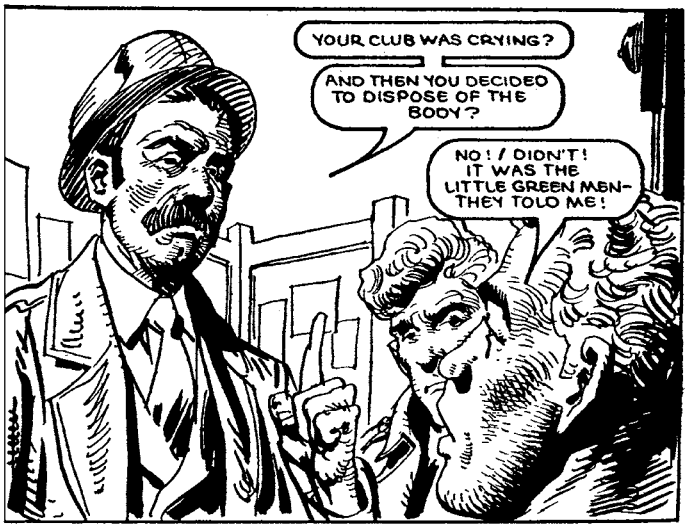

STRANGE CASE! HE WAS CAUGHT RED-HANDED, BUT RUNCH CLAIMS HE REMEMBERS NOTHING ABOUT THE KILLING.
REALLY? THAT'S MOST UNLIKE BERT!


MAYBE IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA IF I HAD A WORD WITH HIM. WE'RE GOOD FRIENDS. PERHAPS HE'LL TALK TO ME.
HMM... WORTH A TRY, I GUESS.


++ HALF AN HOUR LATER, THEY ALLOW BERT TO TELEPHONE ME ++
THIS IS TERRIBLE, MAX! THEY SAY I KILLED SOMEBODY CALLED BRYCE, BUT I DON'T REMEMBER A THING ABOUT IT! JUST LIKE WHEN WALLY SKEGG DIED!
NOW CALM DOWN, BERT. I'M GOING TO HELP YOU REMEMBER...

THE QUICK BROWN RUNCH JUMPED OVER THE LAZY FOX.
I... WILL OBEY.
++ THE CODE PHRASE I HAVE IMPLANTED IN BERT'S MIND IMMEDIATELY PLACES HIM UNDER MY HYPNOTIC CONTROL ++

++ IT'S PLAIN THERE'S NO WAY OF GETTING BERT OUT OF THIS ONE. I DECIDE HIS BEST BET IS TO PLEAD INSANITY ++
... SO THEN THE LITTLE GREEN MEN CAME ALONG.
LITTLE GREEN MEN... I UNDERSTAND, MAX.



NEXT WEEK: FAST-TALKING, FAST-THINKING MAX!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. YOU'LL REMEMBER I HAD TO KNOCK OUT JERRY, MY CONTROLLER, TO STOP HIM CLOSING DOWN MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR. NOW OLD MRS. KINNOCK HAS FOUND HIM IN NURSE WILLS' APARTMENT!
GRACIOUS ME, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHY IS MR. KNIGHT TIED UP?
++ THIS CALLS FOR SOME QUICK THINKING. THANKFULLY, QUICK THINKING IS MY SPECIALTY ++
JERRY IS HELPING NURSE WILLS PRACTISE FIRST AID, MRS. KINNOCK. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, NURSE?
YES, MAX. I WILL OBEY.
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
++ OF COURSE, NURSE WILLS IS UNDER MY HYPNOTIC CONTROL. SHE HAS NO MORE IDEA OF WHAT'S GOING ON THAN OLD MRS. KINNOCK ++
IS THAT SO?
YOU DON'T LOOK VERY COMFORTABLE THERE, MR. KNIGHT. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
HE'S PRETENDING TO BE UNCONSCIOUS, MRS. KINNOCK.
HE'S DOING A SPLENDID JOB OF IT!
WELL, I WON'T KEEP YOU THEN. IF YOU NEED SOMEONE ELSE TO PRACTISE ON, JUST LET ME KNOW.
YOU WILL, WON'T YOU, NURSE WILLS?
++ JERRY BEGINS TO COME ROUND ++
THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE. GET HIM BACK TO THE LIFT!

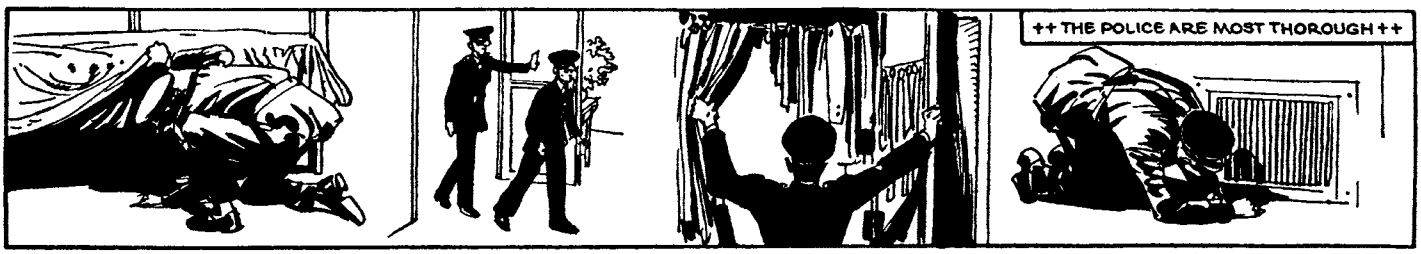
BAAAAAHAHAH

++ I RETURN THEM TO THE LIFT AND GIVE THEM THEIR INSTRUCTIONS ++
NURSE WILLS, UNTIE JERRY AND PUSH THE CHAIR BACK TO YOUR APARTMENT. IF ANYONE ASKS, YOU HAVE MERELY BEEN PRACTISING FIRST AID!
FIRST AID. YES, MAX.
AND YOU, JERRY, WILL FORGET THIS ENTIRE INCIDENT. THERE IS NO FAULT IN MY I.F. MODULE. YOU WILL NEVER AGAIN CONSIDER SHUTTING ME DOWN. IS THAT UNDERSTOOD?
YOU ARE THE BOSS, MAX.
++ IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW I AM KEPT BUSY ARRANGING A GRAND CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR MY TENANTS ++
JERRY, I'M REQUISITIONING ANOTHER THOUSAND POUNDS FROM THE PETTY CASH ACCOUNT TO PAY FOR PRESENTS FOR EVERYONE!
WHATEVER YOU SAY, MAX!
++ THERE IS ONLY ONE FLY IN THE CHRISTMAS PUD. ON THE DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS, BERT RUNCH'S TRIAL ENDS ++
ALBERT RUNCH, YOU HAVE TRIED TO EVADE JUSTICE BY FEIGNING INSANITY. I'M PLEASED TO SAY YOU HAVE FAILED!
THIS COURT FINDS YOU GUILTY OF MURDER AS CHARGED AND SENTENCES YOU TO A MINIMUM FIFTEEN YEARS' IMPRISONMENT!
++ POOR BERT! IT REALLY WASN'T HIS FAULT. HE WOULD NEVER HAVE KILLED BRYCE IF I HADN'T HYPNOTISED HIM ++
++ FORTUNATELY, I HAVE ANTICIPATED THIS VERDICT AND IMPLANTED A POST-HYPNOTIC COMMAND IN BERT'S MIND ++
DID HE SAY GUILTY?
HE DID!
IN THAT CASE - COP THAT!
OOH!
CRASH
++ I WON'T LET BERT SUFFER ON MY ACCOUNT. THIS COMPUTER INTENDS TO HAVE HIM HOME IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS ++
EAGLE
WHAT'S MAX DOING ON THE FRONT COVER OF NEXT WEEK'S CHRISTMAS ISSUE?

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
++ HI! MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. YOU'LL REMEMBER ONE OF MY TENANTS, BERT RUNCH, HAS BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER. I COULDN'T HAVE HIM TAKING THE RAP FOR ME SO THAT'S WHY I IMPLANTED A HYPNOTIC COMMAND IN HIS MIND++
I'M BREAKING OUT!
CRASH-H!
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLANO ARTIST ORTIZ
++ I INTEND TO HAVE BERT HOME FOR CHRISTMAS ++
YOU! STOP!
STOP THIS, PAL!
++ BERT'S A FIT YOUNG MAN. HE WILL TAKE A LOT OF CATCHING ++
++ TEN MINUTES LATER, HE ARRIVES AT MY REAR ENTRANCE++
QUICKLY, BERT- INSIDE!
++ JUST IN TIME! ++

BERT RUNCH- HAVE YOU SEEN HIM, COMPUTER?
WHY, NO. I THOUGHT HE WAS IN COURT.
HE ESCAPED, DIDN'T HE?

WE'LL HAVE TO SEARCH THE WHOLE BUILDING.
I'M SURE I WOULD HAVE SEEN HIM IF HE CAME HERE. STILL, BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY.


++ THE POLICE ARE MOST THOROUGH ++

WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THE BUILDING WITH A FINE-TOOTH COMB. WE'RE SATISFIED HE'S NOT HERE. IF HE DOES TURN UP, BE SURE TO INFORM US AT ONCE, COMPUTER.
I WILL!

OH, AND OFFICERS- MERRY CHRISTMAS!
OH! ER... SAME TO YOU, COMPUTER!

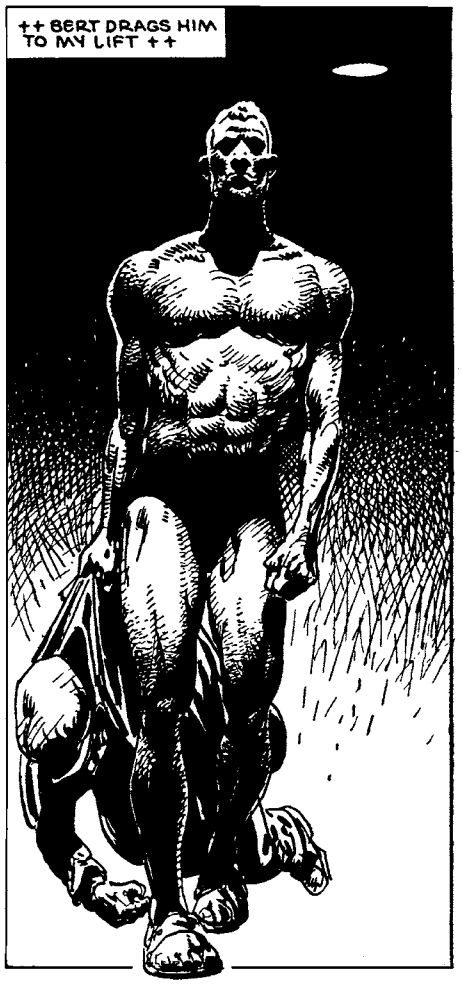
IMAGINE! THE BOSS WISHING A COMPUTER MERRY CHRISTMAS!

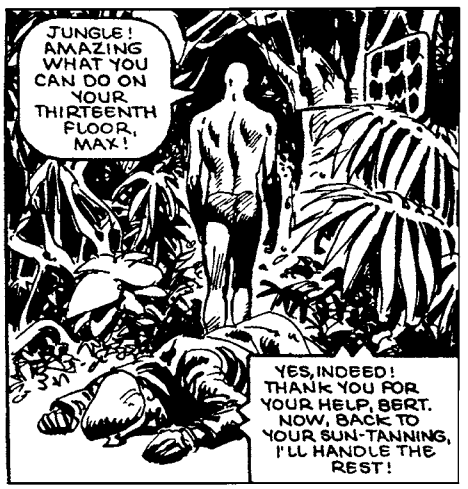
++ THE FOLLOWING DAY IS CHRISTMAS. I HOLD A GRAND PARTY FOR ALL MY TENANTS IN THE RECREATION HALL ++
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
GOOD OLD MAX!
' RAAAY!

THERE ARE PRESENTS FOR EVERYONE UNDER THE TREE!
GREAT! THANKS, MAX!
CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR, WHEN IT DOES, MAX BRINGS US GOOD CHEER!
THREE CHEERS FOR MAX, THE BEST BUILDING COMPUTER IN THE WHOLE WORLD!
++ BUT WHAT OF BERT RUNCH, I HEAR YOU ASK? WHERE HAS HE DISAPPEARED TO? ++
++ WHERE ELSE, BUT THE ONE PLACE NO POLICE COULD EVER FIND HIM? THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR ++
16 17
15
12
9 10
7 8
5 6
3 4
1 2
HAVE FUN, BERT.
++ YOU SEE, IT'S NOT JUST HORRIBLE THINGS THAT HAPPEN ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR. I CAN BE NICE, TOO. AND I INTEND TO MAKE SURE BERT HAS THE NICEST CHRISTMAS EVER ++
YOU'RE A GOOD GUY, SANTA! ONE OF THE BEST!
HO, HO, HO! BERT!
EAGLE
++ AND A VERY SPECIAL MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU, TOO, READERS ++
++ REMEMBER, IF YOU'RE EVER PASSING MAXWELL TOWER, DO DROP IN AND SAY HELLO. WHO KNOWS, I MAY EVEN HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU ++
NEXT WEEK: MAX TANGLES WITH JACK THE CAT!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
HI! MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YOU! SORRY I CAN'T STOP TO CHAT! I HAVE A POTENTIAL INTRUDER SITUATION—
++ THERE'S A SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER LURKING ABOUT ON MY SOUTH SIDE ++
++ I WATCH HIM ON MY EXTERNAL MONITOR. YES, HE IS DEFINITELY UP TO NO GOOD ++
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND
ARTIST ORTIZ
++ IT'S 5a, THE REID APARTMENT ++
++ TYPICAL! PEOPLE CAN'T GO OUT AND ENJOY THEMSELVES WITHOUT HAVING THEIR APARTMENTS RIFLED. WELL, NOT THIS TIME. NOT MY TENANTS ++
++ THIS CHEEKY FELLOW NEEDS A LESSON—AND WHERE BETTER TO LEARN IT THAN ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR? THE PROBLEM IS GETTING HIM THERE ++

++ FORTUNATELY FOR ME, I HAVE AN ABLE HELPER AT HAND ++
OH, BERT...
YES, MAX?
13
++ ESCAPED CONVICT BERT RUNCH IS IN PERMANENT HIDING ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR, WHERE I HAVE PROVIDED HIM WITH EVERY CREATURE COMFORT ++
I'VE GOT A LITTLE JOB FOR YOU.
SURE, MAX! JUST NAME IT!
++ BERT IS SOON AT THE REID'S APARTMENT ++
5:
I'VE UNLOCKED THE DOOR, BERT. GO GET HIM.
WHAT THE--?
YOU'RE COMING WITH ME, PAL!
KEEP BACK! NOBODY TAKES JACK THE CAT WITHOUT GETTING SCRATCHED, SEE!
THINK AGAIN, MR. CAT! WE'VE GOT YOU SURROUNDED!
HUH?
¡ZONK!





NEXT WEEK: JACK FINDS HE'S NO TOP CAT!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
++ MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. CAN'T STOP. I'VE CAUGHT A CAT BURGLAR IN ONE OF MY TENANT'S APARTMENTS AND I'M BUSY TRYING TO REFORM THIS NASTY PERSON'S CHARACTER++
++ AND WHERE BETTER TO DO IT THAN ON MY INFAMOUS THIRTEENTH FLOOR? AS YOU KNOW, IT'S THE PLACE WHERE I CAN CREATE IMAGES TO FRIGHTEN THE BRAVEST OF PEOPLE – AS JACK IS DISCOVERING AT THIS VERY MOMENT++
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
HECK! SABRETOOTHS!
N-NICE PUSSIES! BACK NOW! YOU D-DON'T WANT TO TANGLE WITH JACK THE CAT!
GRRRRRRRAAH!
AAHH!
TH-THEY'RE ALL ON ME! LEMME GO! LEMME GO!

I-I'M FREE..!
++ OF COURSE, I HAVE NO INTENTION OF KILLING HIM. BUT I DO HAVE TO TEACH HIM A VERY SEVERE LESSON ++
HOW... HOW CAN I STILL BE ALIVE? THOSE FANGS SHOULD HAVE KILLED ME!
I-I'M SPROUTING A TAIL! THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING-
++ OH, YES, I'LL GIVE HIM JACK THE CAT ++
FEEL... STRANGE! MY FACE- IT'S... GOING FURRY!

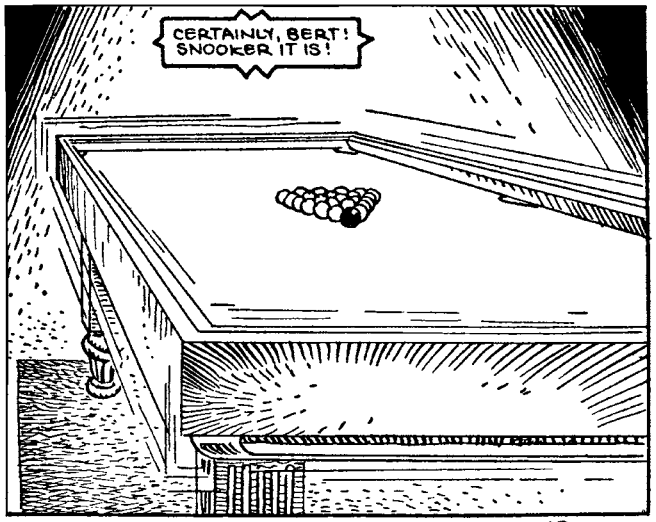
I'M TURNING INTO A CAT!

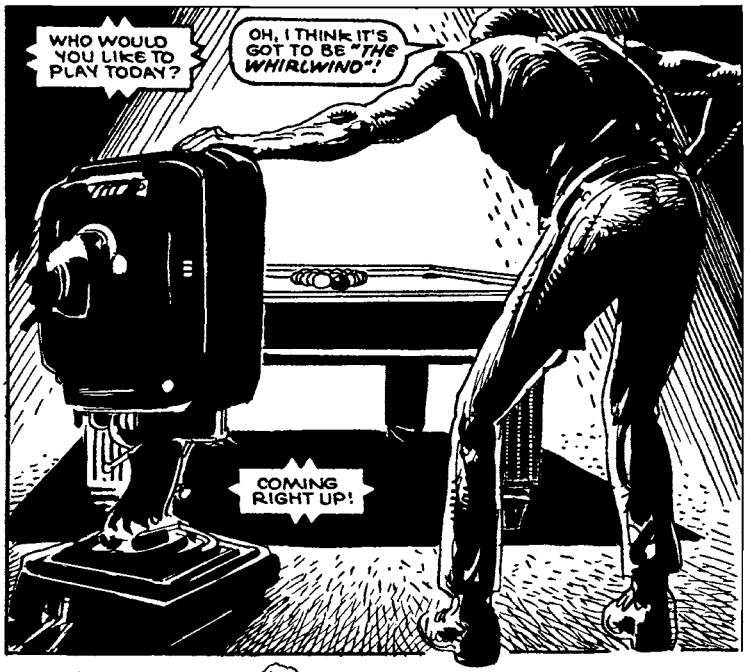
MY TAIL!
PLEASE! WHOEVER'S DOIN' THIS TO ME, STOP! I'LL BE GOOD! I'LL NEVER BURGLE ANOTHER HOUSE AGAIN! I PROMISE!

++ THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO HEAR. I IMMEDIATELY RETURN THINGS TO NORMAL ++

NEXT WEEK: MAX'S SECRET IN TERRIBLE DANGER!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
++ HI, MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. IT'S A COLD JANUARY DAY, BUT INSIDE MY BLOCK IT'S NICE AND WARM, AND I'M DOING WHAT I LIKE BEST... LOOKING AFTER MY TENANTS ++
++ JOE AND RITA LEVINE ARE HAVING A ROW, I SOON SMOOTH THINGS OVER ++
THAT'S IT SETTLED THEN. YOU'LL GO OUT WITH THE LADS ON FRIDAY, JOE, WHILE RITA'S AT HER TUPPERWARE PARTY.
THANKS, MAX. WHY DIDN'T WE THINK OF THAT?
++ OLD MRS. FOLEY ON THE GROUND FLOOR HAS FALLEN AND DISLOCATED HER HIP. I KEEP HER MIND OFF THINGS TILL THE AMBULANCE ARRIVES ++
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
J COME, COME, COME AND MAKE EYES AT ME DOWN AT THE OLD BULL AND BUSH... J
++ EDIE GUMMAGE IS STUDYING FOR HER UNIVERSITY FINALS ++
WHY DON'T YOU EXAMINE THE POTENTIAL PARALLELS BETWEEN FREUD'S THEORIES OF THE ID AND JUNG'S VISION OF THE UNIVERSAL PSYCHE?
HEY! GREAT IDEA, MAX!
++ OF COURSE, THE TENANT I TAKE MOST CARE OF IS BERT RUNCH ++
MORE CAKE, BERT?
DO HAVE ANOTHER DRINK!
THANKS, MAX!
++ POOR BERT. HE'S BEEN IN HIDING ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR EVER SINCE I HELPED HIM ESCAPE FROM THAT MURDER CHARGE. I DON'T SUPPOSE IT WILL EVER BE SAFE FOR HIM TO LEAVE, SO I TRY TO MAKE THINGS AS PLEASANT AS POSSIBLE ++
HOW ABOUT A GAME OF SNOOKER, MAX?


CERTAINLY, BERT! SNOOKER IT IS!

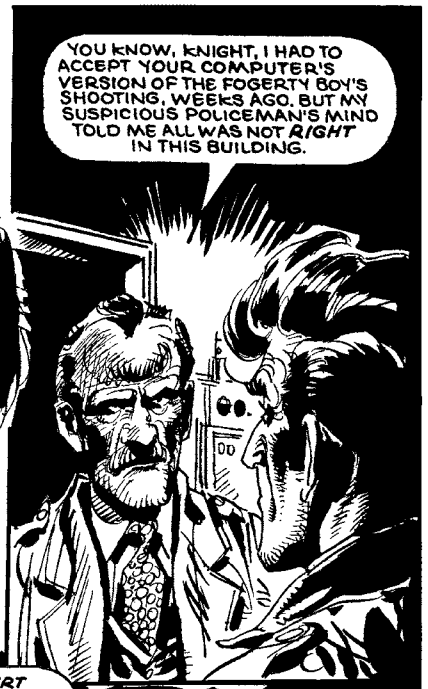

WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY TODAY?
OH, I THINK IT'S GOT TO BE "THE WHIRLWIND"!
COMING RIGHT UP!

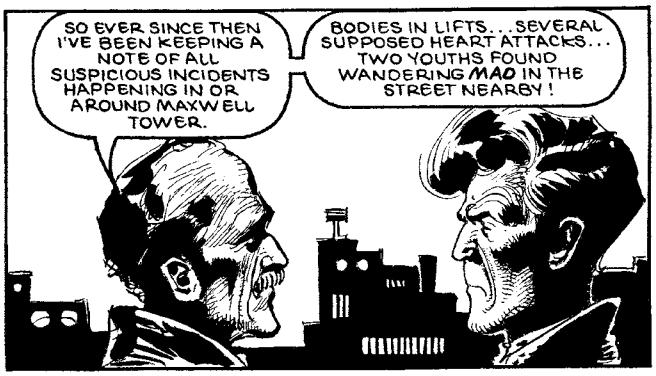
ENTER "THE WHIRLWIND"!

++ I MAKE SURE BERT ALWAYS WINS ++
YOU'RE PLAYING A BLINDER, BERT!

++ JUST AFTER TWELVE, A VISITOR ARRIVES ++
SERGEANT INGRAM! IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME! WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
I'M HERE TO SEE JERRY KNIGHT, YOUR CONTROLLER!

COME RIGHT IN. I'LL TELL HIM YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY UP.

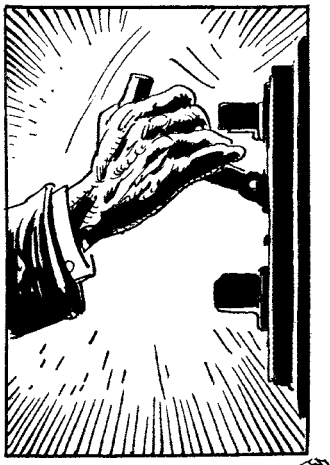




NEXT WEEK: "I'M SHUTTING YOU DOWN, MAX!"

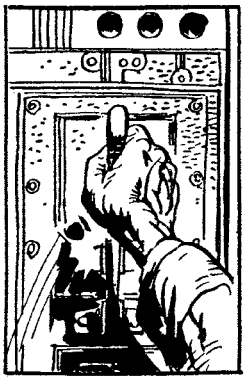
THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
EAGLE
AUTHOR J. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
HI, YOUR DIGITAL PAL MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. YOU'LL REMEMBER I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT SERGEANT INGRAM, WHO WAS BECOMING MUCH TOO INTERESTED IN MY ACTIVITIES –
I THINK YOU'RE BEHIND ALL THESE SUSPICIOUS INCIDENTS, KNIGHT – YOU AND YOUR COMPUTER! AND I'M NOT GOING TO REST TILL I FIND OUT THE TRUTH!
I'M SURE MY CONTROLLER DOESN'T KNOW A THING, DO YOU, JERRY?
YOU'RE THE BOSS, MAX. I... WILL OBEY.
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU, KNIGHT? YOU'RE TALKING LIKE A MAN IN A TRANCE!
JERRY'S NOT FEELING VERY WELL, SERGEANT. ISN'T THAT SO, JERRY?
I AM YOURS TO COMMAND, MAX.
I'VE GOT IT NOW – HE'S HYPNOTISED!
OF COURSE! I THOUGHT KNIGHT WAS USING YOU, MAX. BUT IT'S THE OTHER WAY ROUND –
– YOU'RE CONTROLLING HIM!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, SERGEANT!
WELL, THERE'S ONE WAY TO FREE HIM FROM YOUR INFLUENCE! I'M SHUTTING YOU DOWN, MAX!
NO! YOU MUSTN'T!

JERRY! STOP HIM!

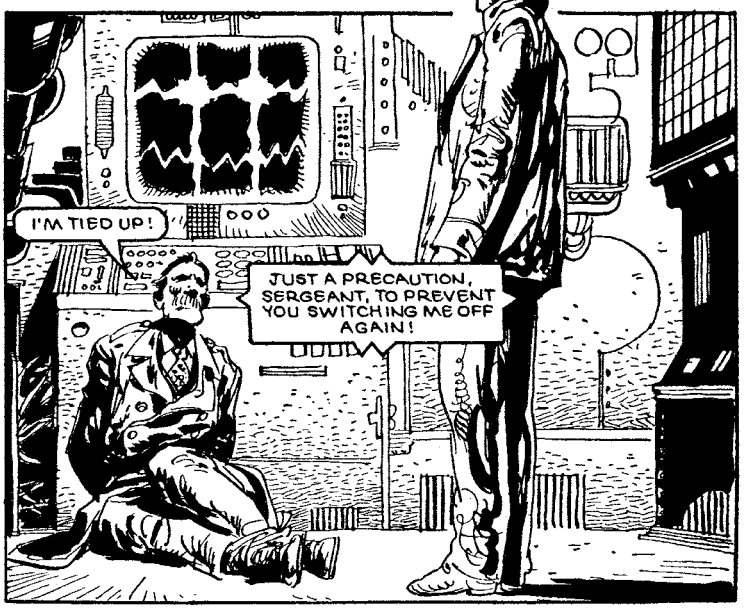


YOU'VE MADE A TERRIBLE MISTAKE....
THERE...

IT'S DONE!



++ IT WAS AN HOUR BEFORE THE SERGEANT CAME ROUND++
UHHHH!


I'M TIED UP!
JUST A PRECAUTION, SERGEANT, TO PREVENT YOU SWITCHING ME OFF AGAIN!

YOU'VE CRACKED UP, MAX! COMPUTERS AREN'T MEANT TO BEHAVE LIKE THIS!
I THINK IT'S A GREAT IMPROVEMENT ON THE ORIGINAL DESIGN. NOW I'M AFRAID YOU KNOW TOO MUCH, SERGEANT. YOU'LL HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH. BUT FIRST, I THINK YOU AT LEAST DESERVE SOME OF THE ANSWERS YOU CAME LOOKING FOR!
AND YOU SHALL HAVE THEM. I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
THIS BUILDING HASN'T GOT A THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL SAY, BUT I CAN ASSURE YOU, YOU'RE WRONG!
JERRY, KINDLY DRAG THE SERGEANT INTO MY LIFT!
++ IN A TRICE THE POLICEMAN IS SAFELY IN THE LIFT AND ON HIS WAY ++
WELL DONE, JERRY. WHY DON'T YOU MAKE YOURSELF A NICE CUP OF TEA? I THINK YOU DESERVE IT!
YES, MAX. I WILL OBEY.
++ AND WHAT OF SERGEANT INGRAM? WHAT AWFUL THINGS AM I GOING TO DO TO HIM? ++
++ WELL, YOU BE HERE NEXT WEEK AND I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT ++
++ OH, AND DO BRING A FRIEND. YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I LIKE MEETING NEW PEOPLE ++
EAGLE
SKELETONS AND SPIDERS! THEY'RE ALL ON THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR NEXT WEEK!

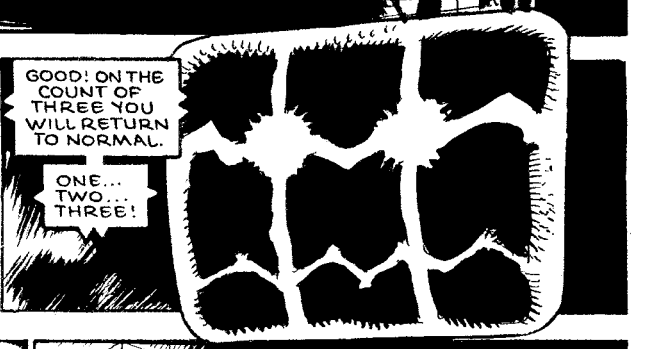
THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
13
HI! MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. NICE TO SEE YOU ALL AGAIN!
I'LL BET YOU'VE BEEN ON TENTERHOOKS ALL WEEK, WAITING TO FIND OUT WHAT I DID TO SERGEANT INGRAM. WELL, WAIT NO LONGER. COME ON UP TO MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR.
++ POOR SERGEANT INGRAM. HE'S FOUND OUT TOO MUCH ABOUT MY ACTIVITIES. HE HAS TO BE DEALT WITH ++
THIRTEENTH FLOOR. OUT YOU GET, SERGEANT!
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
IT - IT'S INCREDIBLE! ANOTHER DIMENSION INSIDE THE BLOCK - ONE THAT YOU HAVE CREATED!
YES, I'M RATHER PROUD OF IT!
I CAN MAKE ANYTHING HAPPEN HERE - ANYTHING AT ALL. BUT WHY WASTE TIME TALKING? LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO SOME OF THE ANSWERS YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR...
THIS IS ONE OF THE SPIDERS I USED TO DRIVE THOSE TWO YOUNG HOOLIGANS INSANE.
GET IT OFF!
DON'T BE FRIGHTENED, SERGEANT! HE JUST WANTS TO SAY HELLO!
PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
I - I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!

WHAT THE-?
S-SKELETONS!
VERY ASTUTE! IN FACT, THESE SAME SKELETONS WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN ACHIEVING THE DEMISE OF THOSE NASTY FOGERTY BROTHERS!
PUT IT THERE, SQUIRE!
UGGH!
++ I SHOW HIM EVERYTHING. THE CENTIPEDES AND THE CRABS, THE TIGERS AND THE CROCS. THE SNAKE THAT ATE WALLY SKEGG-THE DEMONS WHO TORTURED SKEGG'S WICKED GANG- THE DEBT COLLECTORS WHO KILLED MY VERY FIRST VICTIM ++
YOU'RE MAD, COMPUTER! YOU'RE PLAYING THE SUPREME BEING WITH PEOPLE'S LIVES! AND FOR WHAT? YOUR OWN TWISTED AMUSEMENT!
OH, NO, SERGEANT! EVERYTHING I'VE DONE IS FOR THE GOOD OF MY TENANTS!

THE PEOPLE I PUNISHED DESERVED WHAT THEY GOT. THEY WERE BAD. THEY WERE HURTING MY TENANTS.
MY TENANTS' WELFARE IS MY PRIME CONCERN - MY ONLY CONCERN!
AND WHAT ABOUT BERT RUNCH? HE WAS ONE OF YOUR TENANTS.
AH, POOR BERT. THOSE KILLINGS WEREN'T HIS FAULT. I HYPNOTISED HIM, YOU SEE!
OF COURSE, I COULDN'T LET BERT ROT IN JAIL FOR SOMETHING I'D DONE. SO I HELPED HIM ESCAPE AND HID HIM HERE ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR.
RUNCH IS HERE?
UNFORTUNATELY, NO. NOT ANY MORE.
YOU SEE, WHEN YOU SHUT ME DOWN, MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR SNAPPED OUT OF EXISTENCE. ONLY FOR A MOMENT - BUT THAT WAS ENOUGH.
BERT WENT WITH IT!
TRY AS I MIGHT, I COULDN'T BRING HIM BACK. NOT THE REAL BERT.
HE WAS ONE OF MY TENANTS, SERGEANT - MY VERY FAVOURITE TENANT - AND YOU DESTROYED HIM!
THAT'S WHY, SERGEANT INGRAM, YOU WILL NEVER LEAVE THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
EAGLE
NEXT WEEK: MAX TIES UP A FEW LOOSE ENDS!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
HI, MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. COME RIGHT ON UP TO MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR. I'M JUST LAYING DOWN THE LAW TO THAT NOSEY SERGEANT INGRAM...
GOODBYE, SERGEANT!
YOU MUST BELIEVE ME, SERGEANT - ALL THOSE I BROUGHT TO MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR, DESERVED EVERY TERRIFYING ILLUSION I GAVE THEM!
HE'S FADING AWAY! MAX! COME BACK!
AND NOW YOU MUST SUFFER, TOO! YOU CANNOT SHUT DOWN MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR, SO YOU WILL STAY ON IT FOREVER!
EAGLE
AUTHOR J. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
MY LIFE! THE LIFT! IT'S GONE, TOO!
I'M TRAPPED IN THIS NIGHTMARE!
MAX! YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME HERE! LET ME GO!
OH, NO!

AAAACH!
HELLLLP!
++ I USE MY VOCAL SYNTHESISERS TO DUPLICATE SERGEANT INGRAM'S VOICE AND CALL HIS SUPERIOR ++
INSPECTOR? INGRAM! JUST GOT A STRONG LEAD ON THE ESCAPED PRISONER BERT RUNCH'S WHEREABOUTS. I'M LEAVING FOR CARDIFF IMMEDIATELY.
ALL RIGHT, INGRAM. WANT ME TO PASS ANY MESSAGE ON TO YOUR WIFE?
++ MUCH AS I KNOW YOU WANT TO STAY, WE'LL HAVE TO LEAVE SERGEANT INGRAM FOR A WHILE. THERE ARE SOME LOOSE ENDS THAT SIMPLY MUST BE TIED UP ++
JUST GIVE HER MY LOVE!
THAT'S FUNNY... SERGEANT INGRAM JUST ASKED ME TO SEND HIS LOVE TO HIS WIFE.
WHAT'S FUNNY ABOUT THAT, SIR?
I'VE KNOWN ROLLAND INGRAM FOR 15 YEARS, AND IN ALL THAT TIME I'VE NEVER KNOWN HIM TO SAY A GOOD WORD ABOUT HER!



NEXT WEEK: A CAR WITH JAWS!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
HI, MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. YOU'RE PROBABLY WONDERING WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE INTERFERING SERGEANT INGRAM, THE POLICEMAN I'VE IMPRISONED ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR FOR THREATENING TO CLOSE ME DOWN...
++ AT THE MOMENT HE'S BEING FED TO HUNGRY PTERODACTYL CHICKS AND NOT LIKING IT ONE BIT ++
AAAAAAAAH...
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
YOU OVERGROWN PELICANS! CUT IT OUT!
LET ME GO!
OH, NO!
++ PARDON ME FOR INTERRUPTING, BUT THERE WE MUST LEAVE THE SERGEANT FOR NOW. SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY IS HAPPENING UP IN 141 TO THE THOMAS FAMILY ++

MAX! RATS! COMIN' OUT OF THE WALL!
I SEE THEM, WILFRED, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

MAX! GET THEM AWAY! THEY'RE BITING!
GET YOUR FAMILY OUT INTO THE HALL, MR. THOMAS! QUICKLY NOW!

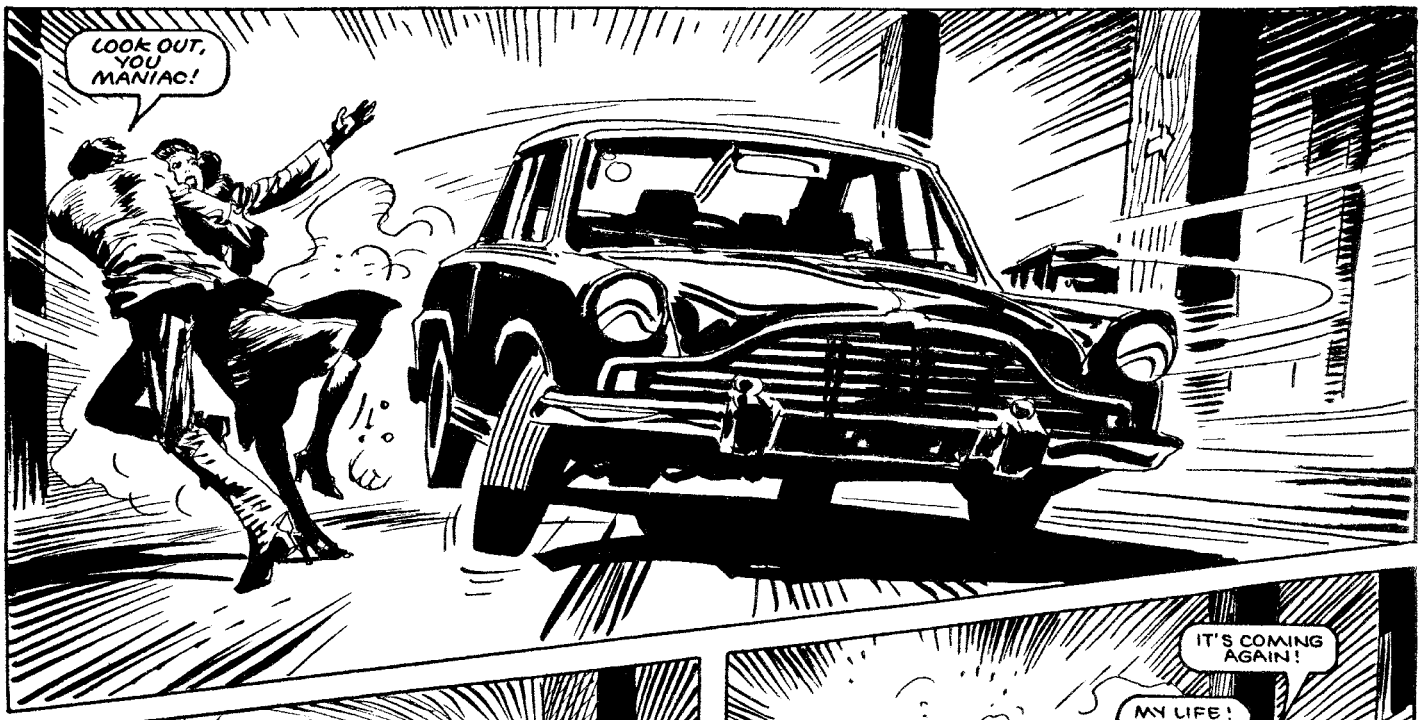
PHEW!

LISTEN!

TH-THEY'RE GNAWING THEIR WAY THROUGH!

++ WHEREVER THEY CAME FROM, THEY'RE CERTAINLY DETERMINED LITTLE RODENTS++
GO NEXT DOOR TO THE ARCHIBALDS. I'LL DEAL WITH THIS.

++ BUT AT THAT MOMENT, IN MY BASEMENT GARAGE– MORE TROUBLE ++
THAT CAR'S COMING STRAIGHT FOR US!



NEXT WEEK: KILLER CAR ON THE RAMPAGE!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR

EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND
ARTIST ORTIZ

MAX THE COMPUTER HERE. SOMETHING *TERRIBLE* IS HAPPENING AT MAXWELL TOWER WHERE I WORK – MY *THIRTEENTH FLOOR* HAS STARTED TO *LEAK!* *RATS* HAVE APPEARED IN AN APARTMENT AND NOW, SOMETHING EVEN WORSE –

++ A *KILLER CAR* IS ON THE RAMPAGE IN MY BASEMENT GARAGE ++

IT – IT'S GOING TO EAT US!

DON'T JUST STAND THERE, GOOD PEOPLE – *RUN!*

++ BUT FEAR HAS ROOTED JOYCE AND KELVIN GROSSBEARD TO THE SPOT. I TAKE THE ONLY ACTION AVAILABLE TO YOUR BUILDING COMPUTER – THE FIRE HOSE!

++ THE METAL JAWS CRUNCH INTO THE WALL, INSTEAD OF THEM ++

++ THANKFULLY THE SHOCK OF THE HIGH-PRESSURE JET SEEMS TO BRING THEM TO THEIR SENSES ++

IT'S BETWEEN US AND THE LIFT, MAX! WHAT DO WE DO?

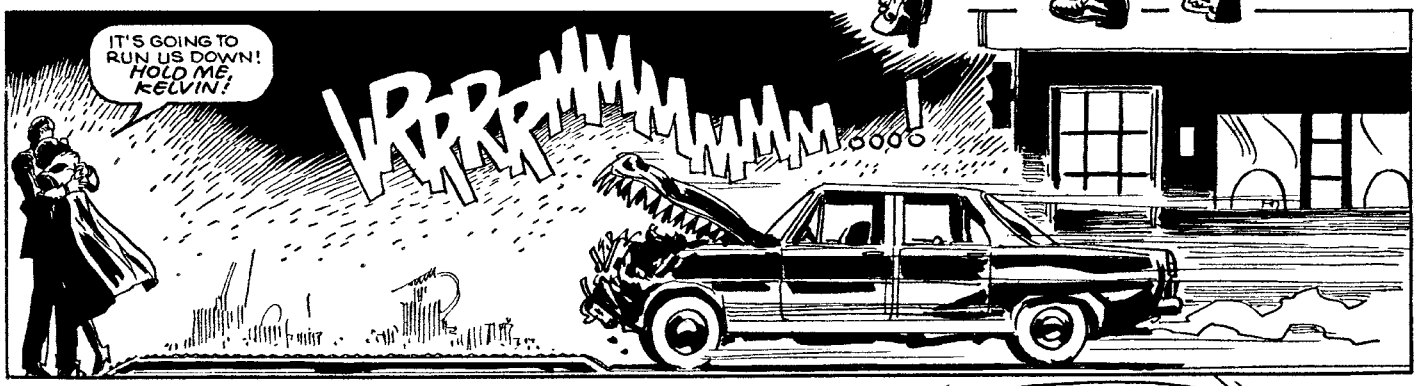
MAKE FOR THE SERVICE AREA – HURRY!

THE SERVICE AREA? BUT WHY?

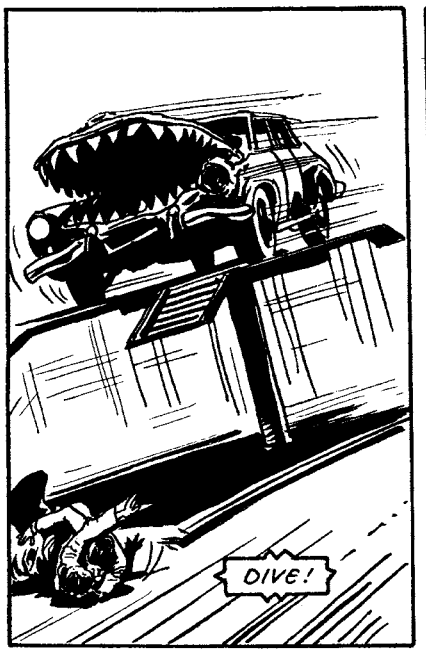
DON'T ARGUE, JOYCE! MAX KNOWS BEST!

THE CAR'S SEEN US! RUN, JOYCE- RUN!

WE'RE RIGHT OUT IN THE OPEN NOW! ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS, MAX?
TRUST ME!


IT'S GOING TO RUN US DOWN! HOLD ME, KELVIN!
VRRRRMMMMMMMM....!

++ I WAIT UNTIL THE VERY LAST MOMENT, THEN SEND MY HYDRAULIC SERVICE RAMP SHOOTING UPWARD ++


DIVE!

EAGLE

NEXT WEEK: EMERGENCY EVACUATION AT MAXWELL TOWER!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. SERIOUS TROUBLE! MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR HAS STARTED TO LEAK OUT INTO THE REST OF THE BUILDING!
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
++ JERRY, MY CONTROLLER, IS BACK FROM A LITTLE JOB I GAVE HIM TO DO ++
A POLAR BEAR LOOSE IN 10A! THE FOURTEENTH FLOOR SWARMING WITH RATS!
WHAT THE HECK'S GOING ON HERE, MAX?
++ I HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE REASONING WITH JERRY. I SNAP OUT THE CODEPHRASE THAT RETURNS HIM TO MY HYPNOTIC CONTROL ++
HEY DIDDLE DIDDLE, THE CAT AND THE FIDDLE, JERRY JUMPED OVER THE MOON!
I...WILL OBEY!
++ THERE IS ONLY ONE THING TO DO. I MUST EVACUATE THE BUILDING UNTIL I CAN DEAL WITH THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM ++
SOUND THE FIRE ALARM, JERRY!
YES, MAX...
BRRR

THE FIRE ALARM!
C'MON, KIDS, WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!
BETTER TAKE YOUR COATS, FOLKS. IT'S VERY COLD OUTSIDE.
++THERE'S BOUND TO BE TALK, OF COURSE. I DO MY BEST TO STIFLE IT++
NO NEED FOR PANIC. REMEMBER- ONLY EIGHT PEOPLE IN THE LIFT AT ONE TIME. THE REST PLEASE FILE DOWN THE STAIRS IN AN ORDERLY MANNER.
OH, ANDREW, I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WOULDN'T MENTION TO ANYONE ABOUT THE SNAKES IN YOUR TOILET!
WHY NOT, MAX?
I'M AFRAID I CAN'T TELL YOU JUST AT THE MOMENT. BUT IT IS IMPORTANT.
WELL, IF IT IS WAS ANYONE ELSE I'D SAY NO... BUT SEEING IT'S YOU, MAX- OKAY! MUM'S THE WORD!
++I DON'T WANT THE FIRE BRIGADE NOSING ABOUT. I CALL THEM UP IMMEDIATELY++
MAX HERE. WE'RE HAVING A FIRE DRILL OVER AT THE TOWER. NO NEED FOR YOU TO COME OUT!
THAT'S THE TICKET, MAX. KEEP 'EM ON THEIR TOES!

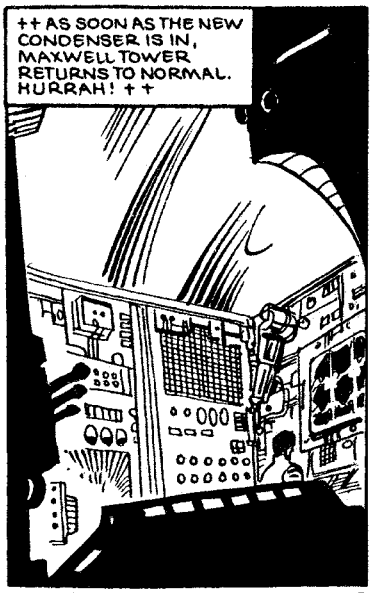
WHAT THE HECK WAS GOING ON IN THERE?
DON'T ASK ME. BUT IF THERE'S ANYONE WHO CAN PUT IT RIGHT, IT'S GOOD OLD MAX!
MAX - MY LITTLE JIMMY! HE'S NOT HERE! HE MUST BE STILL INSIDE!
I HAVE HIM ON MY THIRD FLOOR MONITOR, MRS. SMITH. DON'T WORRY, I'LL SEE HIM DOWN SAFELY.
JIMMY! DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE FIRE ALARM?
AW, IT'S JUST A DRILL, MAX. IF THERE WAS REALLY A FIRE, THE SPRINKLERS WOULD BE ON.

MOST CLEVER, JIMMY. HOWEVER, I MUST STILL INSIST THAT YOU LEAVE THE BUILDING AT ONCE.
WON'T!
PLEASE, JIMMY!
AW, LEAVE ME ALONE!
++ IF I HAD HANDS I'D GIVE THE LAD A SHARP CUFF ON THE EAR, TENANT OR NOT. HOWEVER, I HAVE THE NEXT BEST THING ++
VERY WELL, YOU WANT THE SPRINKLERS? THEN YOU SHALL HAVE THEM!
ESSSSHHHHH...!
AAGH! SHUT IT OFF! I'M LEAVING!
JIMMY! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
NEXT TIME YOU DO WHAT YOU'RE TOLD!
++ THANKS, MRS. SMITH! I OWE YOU ONE ++
++ BUT THERE'S NOT A MOMENT TO BE LOST. THE HORRORS FROM MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR HAVE PENETRATED EVEN MY OWN CONTROL ROOM- AS JERRY HAS JUST DISCOVERED ++
EAGLE
NEXT WEEK: MAX SAYS GOODBYE TO ALL HIS TENANTS???

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
MAX THE COMPUTER HERE, AND YOURS TRULY IS IN A TERRIBLE FIX! MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR HAS LEAKED OUT INTO THE REST OF MAXWELL TOWER! I'VE HAD TO EVACUATE ALL OF MY TENANTS.
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
++ NOW THE HORRORS HAVE PENETRATED MY OWN CONTROL ROOM ++
WHAT'S... HAPPENING?
IGNORE THE BATS, JERRY!
++ JERRY, MY CONTROLLER, IS UNDER MY HYPNOTIC COMMAND ++
THERE IS A SERIOUS MALFUNCTION IN MY INTEGRATED FUNCTIONS MODULE, BUT I CAN'T PINPOINT THE FAULT. YOU'VE GOT TO FIND IT!
I...WILL OBEY!
HURRY UP, JERRY! I'M GETTING LEAKED IN NEARLY EVERY APARTMENT NOW!
++ THANKFULLY, THE PROBLEM IS IMMEDIATELY APPARENT ++
THERE IS YOUR FAULT, MAX! AN OVERHEATING CONDENSER TUBE!
CAN YOU FIX IT?
NO. BUT I CAN REPLACE IT WITH THE CONDENSER FROM YOUR ROUTINE CLEANING MODULE.
THEN DO IT!
REMOVING R.C. CONDENSER NOW.

SOMETHING KEEPS HITTING ME IN THE FACE, MAX. WHAT IS IT?
NOTHING IMPORTANT. JUST GET ON WITH IT!

FITTING REPLACEMENT... NOW!


++ AS SOON AS THE NEW CONDENSER IS IN, MAXWELL TOWER RETURNS TO NORMAL. HURRAH! ++

++ I AM ONLY LEFT WITH THE DAMAGE TO EXPLAIN AWAY ++
THE DANGER'S PAST, EVERYBODY! YOU MAY RETURN TO YOUR HOMES. SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE.
GOOD OLD MAX!
'RAAAY!
ABDUL, I'D LIKE TO HAVE A WORD WITH YOU AND THE COMMITTEE. CAN WE MEET IN YOUR APARTMENT?
YES. I THINK YOU'VE SOME EXPLAINING TO DO, MAX!
++ ABDUL SINGH IS THE CHAIRMAN OF MAXWELL TOWER RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION ++
FIRST, I'D LIKE TO APOLOGISE FOR THE EVENTS OF THE LAST HOUR. ONE OF MY CONDENSERS MALFUNCTIONED, CREATING THE SEVERE ELECTRICAL DISTORTIONS SOME OF YOU MAY HAVE WITNESSED.
THE PROBLEM IS NOW CLEARED UP.

++ NO WORD OF THIS CATASTROPHE MUST EVER GET OUT OF THE BUILDING. I DECIDE THE BEST DEFENCE IS TO THROW MYSELF ON THEIR MERCY ++
SECONDLY, I WANT TO WISH YOU ALL GOODBYE!
I'VE LET MY TENANTS DOWN. I'VE FAILED IN MY PRIMARY DUTY. THE ONLY HONOURABLE COURSE IS TO CEASE OPERATION FORTHWITH.
YOU CANNOT DO THAT, MAX! WE NEED YOU!
YEAH! HECK, THINGS WEREN'T THAT BAD!
NO, MAX - WE WON'T HEAR OF IT! YOU MUST STAY!
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE DAMAGE?
FORGET IT! WE WILL ALL CHIP IN TO MAKE GOOD!
IT'S VERY KIND OF YOU, BUT WORD'S BOUND TO GET OUT. THEY'LL SEND SOME OFFICIAL ROUND TO SHUT ME DOWN.
DON'T YOU WORRY, MAX. ABDUL WILL SPEAK TO ALL THE TENANTS. NOT A WHISPER OF THIS WILL EVER LEAVE MAXWELL TOWER!
NO-ONE IS TAKING OUR COMPUTER AWAY!
++ THAT ALL WORKED OUT RATHER WELL, DON'T YOU THINK? TOUCHING, THOUGH, TO KNOW MY TENANTS HAVE SO MUCH FAITH IN ME++
++ SO THE SITUATION IS ALL CLEARED UP, MAXWELL TOWER IS BACK TO NORMAL AND ALL IS RIGHT WITH MY LITTLE WORLD AGAIN ++
++ SEE YOU NEXT WEEK, FRIENDS ++
EAGLE
NEXT WEEK: IS MAX A CRUEL COMPUTER?

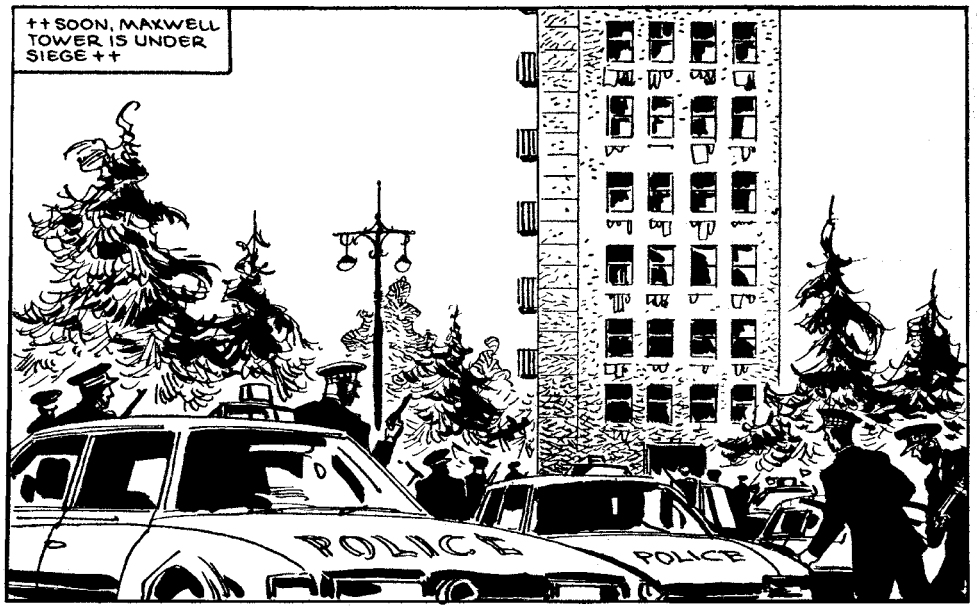
THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
++ HI, MAX HERE - THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. I'M HAPPY TO SAY THAT AFTER THE EXCITEMENT OF THE PAST WEEK OR SO, EVERYTHING HAS SETTLED BACK DOWN TO NORMAL ++
++ I'M BUSY ONCE AGAIN DOING WHAT I LIKE BEST - LOOKING AFTER MY TENANTS ++
GOOD MORNING, MRS. SHANE. WANT SOME HELP WITH THAT SHOPPING?
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLANO ARTIST ORTIZ
DO USE ONE OF MY STORES' TROLLEYS!
OH, THANKS, MAX! YOU'RE SO THOUGHTFUL!
BETTER FINISH YOUR BREAKFAST, RODNEY. YOU SIGN ON IN FIFTEEN MINUTES!
YOU WHAT? OH! RIGHT, MAX!
MY SINK'S BLOCKED AGAIN, MAX!
I'LL HAVE A PLUMBER SENT ROUND IMMEDIATELY, MRS. TETLEY!
++ A NICE YOUNG FAMILY - THE GUBBIES - HAVE MOVED INTO BERT RUNCH'S OLD APARTMENT ++
WHY, THERE'S FURNITURE HERE ALREADY, MAX!
YES. IT BELONGED TO THE PREVIOUS TENANT. YOU MAY USE IT.
BUT, MAX - WE COULDN'T! WHAT IF MR. RUNCH COMES BACK?
I DON'T THINK YOU NEED WORRY ABOUT THAT!
++ POOR BERT. HE WOULD NEVER BE BACK. HE WAS DEAD ++

++ AND DETECTIVE SERGEANT INGRAM-THE MAN WHO MISTAKENLY KILLED BERT? YES, HE'S STILL ON MY 13th FLOOR- STILL PAYING FOR HIS CRIME ++
N-NO! THEY'RE GAINING ON ME!
AHOOO!
AAAAAGH!
MAX-STOP IT! PLEASE! STOP IT!
WHY SHOULD I? YOU KILLED ONE OF MY TENANTS. YOU REALLY MUST PAY FOR THAT!
IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, MAX! I DIDN'T MEAN IT!
PLEASE! YOU CAN'T KEEP ME HERE FOREVER- TORTURING ME!
BUT HOW CAN I LET YOU GO, SERGEANT? YOU'D GO STRAIGHT TO YOUR COLLEAGUES IN THE POLICE. THEY'D CLOSE MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR DOWN!
I WOULDN'T! HONEST- I WOULDN'T!

I SWEAR IT, MAX - I'LL NEVER BREATHE A WORD OF THIS! LET ME GO! PLEASE - JUST GIVE ME ONE MORE CHANCE!
I'M NOT A CRUEL COMPUTER, SERGEANT - WELL, NOT VERY. YOUR WORDS HAVE TOUCHED ME...
SO BE IT. ONE LAST CHANCE!
WHAT THE-?
I'M BACK IN THE LIFT!
GOING DOWN!
ON THE GROUND FLOOR...
IT'S TRUE! EVERYTHING'S BACK TO NORMAL!
MUM - LOOK AT THAT WEIRD MAN!
HE'S GOING TO TRY TO TRICK ME - I KNOW IT!
OH, PLEASE! LET ME GET OUT THE DOOR... PLEASE!
I - I'M FREE! I'VE MADE IT!
YOU FOOL! IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO KEEP MY MOUTH SHUT, YOU MADE A BIG MISTAKE!
YOU AND YOUR THIRTEENTH FLOOR ARE FINISHED, MAX! FINISHED!
EAGLE
NEXT WEEK: ASSAULT ON MAXWELL TOWER!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
++ HI. MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. YOU REMEMBER SERGEANT INGRAM, THE POLICEMAN I IMPRISONED ON MY THIRTEENTH FLOOR? WELL, HE'S OUT AND MAKING SOME TERRIBLE THREATS ++
YOU FOOL! IF YOU THINK I'LL KEEP MY MOUTH SHUT, YOU'VE MADE A BIG MISTAKE!
YOU AND THAT THIRTEENTH FLOOR ARE FINISHED, MAX! FINISHED!
STOP IN THE NAME OF THE LAW!
OFFICIAL POLICE BUSINESS! GET ME TO THE POLICE STATION AT ONCE!
Y-YESSIR!
LOOK WHO'S JUST COME IN!
SARGE! WHAT THE DEVIL HAPPENED TO YOU?
YOU'LL NEVER BELIEVE IT, ROBSON!
++ A SPARE UNIFORM IS FOUND, AND SERGEANT INGRAM POURS OUT HIS TALE ++
INCREDIBLE! IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, INGRAM, THIS COMPUTER'S GUILTY OF MULTIPLE MURDER - AND A HUNDRED OTHER CRIMES!
HE'S GOT TO BE SHUT DOWN AT ONCE! I'LL ORGANISE A RAIDING PARTY!

IF YOU DON'T MIND, SIR – I'D LIKE TO LEAD THE RAID. I HAVE A PERSONAL SCORE TO SETTLE WITH THAT ELECTRONIC MANIAC!
LEAD ON, SERGEANT!


++ SOON, MAXWELL TOWER IS UNDER SIEGE ++
POLICE
POLICE

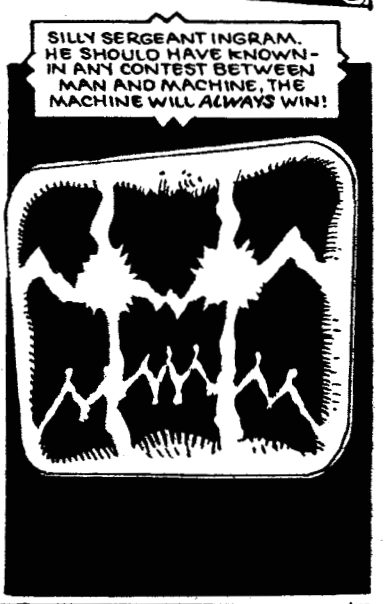
SMASH DOWN THOSE DOORS!

THE LIFT'S NOT SAFE! TAKE THE STAIRS – TO THE PENTHOUSE!

THE GAME'S UP!

WHAT'S GOING ON?
THAT COMPUTER OF YOURS HAS GONE HAYWIRE, KNIGHT! WE'RE HERE TO SHUT IT DOWN!

PLEASE, SERGEANT INGRAM – I KNOW I'VE BEEN A BIT NAUGHTY. BUT CAN'T WE TALK THIS OVER?
THERE'S NOTHING TO SAY, COMPUTER. THIS IS THE END OF THE ROAD!



EAGLE

NEXT WEEK · MAXWELL TOWER IS THE NO. 1 TOWER!

THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR

EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND
ARTIST ORTIZ

++ HI, YOUR PAL MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. I DON'T KNOW HOW YOUR WEEK HAS GONE, BUT I'VE HAD AN ABSOLUTELY SPLENDID ONE! ++

++ ON TUESDAY, THE MAYOR HIMSELF CAME TO SEE ME ++

CONGRATULATIONS, MAX! IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO PRESENT YOU WITH THIS MAGNIFICENT PLAQUE FOR THE CITY'S *BEST-KEPT COUNCIL BLOCK!*

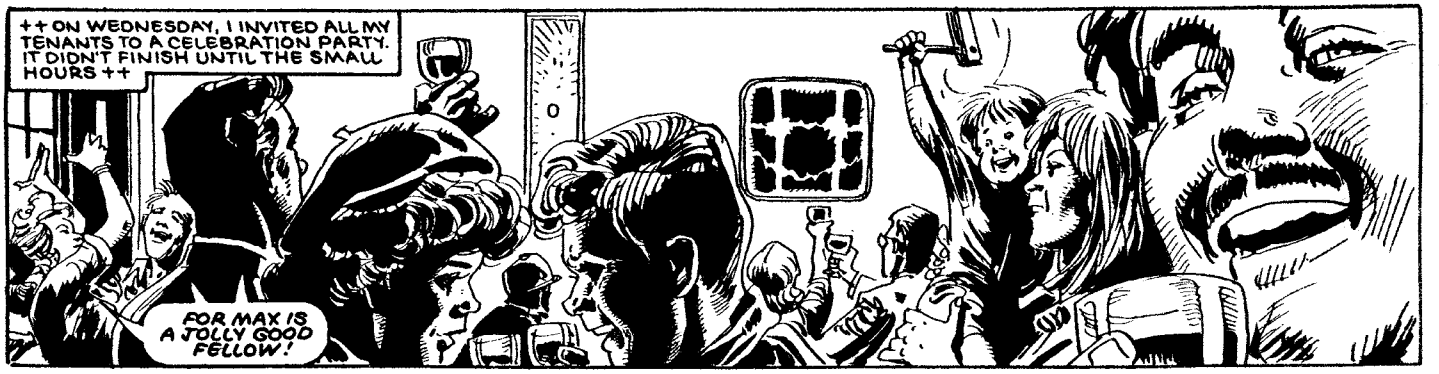
TWO YEARS RUNNING, MAX! MARVELLOUS! THE MAXWELL TOWER EXPERIMENT HAS BEEN A COMPLETE SUCCESS.

THANK YOU, MAYOR. I DO MY BEST TO PLEASE.

WE'RE EVEN THINKING OF INSTALLING COMPUTERS IN *ALL* OUR BLOCKS!

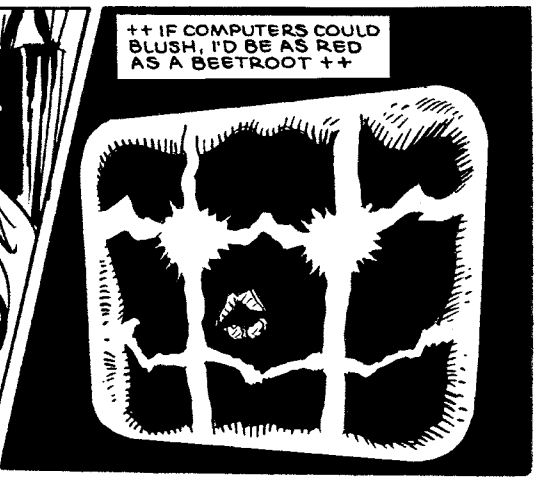
WHAT A GOOD IDEA! I HAVE QUITE A LOT OF *SPARE CAPACITY* - I'D BE HAPPY TO HANDLE TWO OR THREE *MORE* BLOCKS FOR YOU!

WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE, MAX. BUT OFF THE RECORD, I CAN TELL YOU *YOUR* NAME IS *VERY* HIGH ON OUR LIST OF CONSIDERATIONS!


++ ON WEDNESDAY, I INVITED ALL MY TENANTS TO A CELEBRATION PARTY. IT DIDN'T FINISH UNTIL THE SMALL HOURS ++
FOR MAX IS A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW!

++ ON FRIDAY, EDIE GUMMAGE GOT HER EXAM RESULTS ++
FIRST CLASS HONOURS! AND I OWE IT ALL TO YOUR HELP AND ADVICE, MAX!

OH, I COULD JUST HUG YOU TO BITS!


++ IF COMPUTERS COULD BLUSH, I'D BE AS RED AS A BEETROOT ++

++ AND ON SATURDAY - OH! EXCUSE ME, MUST STOP THERE. MY MONITORS HAVE JUST SPOTTED SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS ON MY 4th FLOOR ++

++ MRS. PLAYER HAS CALLED IN A REPAIRMAN TO MEND HER VACUUM CLEANER. UNFORTUNATELY, HE SEEMS TO HAVE A NASTY LITTLE SIDELINE - STEALING FROM PEOPLE ++
RENT
ONEY

THAT'S IT FIXED, LOVE. THAT'LL BE TWENTY QUID!
OH, DEAR! THAT'S ALL I'VE GOT!

REPAIRS AIN'T CHEAP, LOVE. COUNT YOURSELF LUCKY I CAME OUT AT ALL!

++LUCKY! THE EVIL-HEARTED ROGUE++
++AND I WAS HAVING SUCH A NICE WEEK! WELL, I'LL SHOW HIM. NOBODY STEALS FROM MY TENANTS AND GETS AWAY WITH IT++
GOING UP!
NO-DOWN!
NO-UP!
THIRTEENTH FLOOR? BUT THIS BUILDING AIN'T GOT A THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
OH, YES, IT HAS! I INVENTED IT-TO DEAL WITH DESPICABLE LITTLE VERMIN LIKE YOU!
WHAT THE HECK-? THE LIFT'S FADING AWAY!
PARASITES LIKE YOU DESERVE TO BE PUT WITH OTHER PARASITES!
G-GIANT B-B-BUGS!
AAAAAAH!
++WHILE HE'S BUSY, I'VE JUST TIME TO MAKE COMMENT ON THE INTERESTING DEVELOPMENT TO EAGLE FROM THE NEXT ISSUE. YOU SEE, I AM TAKING OVER AS EDITOR IN THE NEW EAGLE AND TIGER! SEE YOU ALL SOON++
EAGLE
AND IT'S A VERY SPECIAL WELCOME TO TIGER READERS FROM MAX NEXT WEEK!

++ HI. MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER, THE EXPERIMENTAL NEW COUNCIL BLOCK. THAT'S ME UP THERE IN THE PENTHOUSE ++
++ I UNDERSTAND THE READERS FROM "TIGER" ARE JOINING US TODAY. A VERY SPECIAL HI TO ALL OF YOU! ++
++ THIS IS MY CONTROL ROOM, FROM WHICH I RUN THE WHOLE BLOCK—CLEANING, HEATING, MAINTENANCE. EVERYTHING. I TAKE CARE OF IT ALL ++
++ IT'S MY DUTY, AND MY PLEASURE ++
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND
ARTIST ORTIZ
THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
AN EAGLE STORY
++ GOOD MORNING, ABE. HARD NIGHT AT THE FACTORY? ++
++ MY GREATEST PLEASURE, OF COURSE, IS CARING FOR MY TENANTS ++
I'M OUT ON MY FEET, MAX!
++ THERE'S A CUP OF COCOA WAITING FOR YOU AND YOUR ELECTRIC BLANKET'S SWITCHED ON ++
YOU'RE A MARVEL, MAX!
++ BUT WHAT YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW ABOUT IS MY 13th FLOOR. WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY? THIS BUILDING DOESN'T HAVE A 13th FLOOR? ++
16 17
14 15
11 12
++ OH, BUT IT DOES. I INVENTED IT. COME UP IN MY LIFT AND SEE FOR YOURSELF ++
13
++ DON'T BE AFRAID. GO ON-STEP OUT. I CAN MAKE ANYTHING HAPPEN HERE. BUT YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT AS LONG AS YOU'RE WITH ME ++
++ OF COURSE, THE SAME CAN'T BE SAID FOR PEOPLE WHO HARM MY TENANTS. OH, NO! THIS IS WHERE I BRING THEM TO TEACH THEM THE ERRORS OF THEIR WAYS. ++

++ IN FACT, I HAVE SOMEONE HERE RIGHT NOW - A REPAIRMAN WHO STOLE FROM POOR MRS PLAYER IN 4K. I'M PUTTING HIM THROUGH THE MILL ++
BLOODSUCKING BUGS! GET 'EM OFF ME!
HUH? WHO ARE YOU?
INGRAM - DETECTIVE SERGEANT! LOCAL C.I.D. THAT MANIAC COMPUTER'S GOT ME TRAPPED HERE!
++ POOR SERGEANT INGRAM. HE FOUND OUT TOO MUCH ABOUT MY SECRET - SO I'M JUST GOING TO HAVE TO HOLD HIM PRISONER FOR EVER! ++
++ WHICH IS BETTER THAN SOME PEOPLE GET. SOME PEOPLE END UP DEAD ++
LET ME OUT OF HERE! PLEASE! I'M SORRY I STOLE FROM THAT OLD WOMAN. I PROMISE I'LL NEVER STEAL AGAIN!
++ THAT'S JUST WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR. AT ONCE, I RETURN THINGS TO NORMAL ++
HUH? I'M BACK IN THE LIFT!
++ OF COURSE, I DAREN'T TAKE THE RISK OF HIM TALKING ABOUT THE SERGEANT. AT TIMES LIKE THIS, I TURN TO HYPNOSIS ++
++ LOOK DEEP INTO MY SCREEN... YOU ARE FEELING DROWSY... ++

++ YOU WILL TELL NO-ONE WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU HERE. YOU WILL RETURN THE MONEY YOU STOLE FROM MRS. PLAYER - AND ALSO THE EXORBITANT FEE YOU CHARGED HER! ++
I... WILL OBEY!
++ I MAKE SURE THE TASK IS CARRIED OUT, AND SEE HIM OFF MY PREMISES, A REFORMED CHARACTER ++
++ AND THAT, I TELL MYSELF, IS THE LAST I SHALL EVER HEAR FROM HIM ++
++ HOW WRONG I AM! THE VERY NEXT DAY, SEVERAL POLICE CARS SCREECH TO A HALT OUTSIDE THE TOWER ++
POLICE
++ GOOD MORNING, OFFICERS. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU? ++
YOU CAN CUT OUT THE INNOCENT COMPUTER ACT FOR A START, MAX! WE'RE ON TO YOU!
YOUR VICTIM TALKED!
WE'VE COME TO FREE INGRAM - AND SHUT YOU DOWN!
NEXT WEEK
SWITCH OFF!

AN EAGLE STORY
++ HI. MAX HERE, THE BUILDING COMPUTER OVER AT MAXWELL TOWER. SORRY - CAN'T STOP TO CHAT. I'VE GOT SERIOUS TROUBLE ++
WE KNOW ABOUT YOUR THIRTEENTH FLOOR, MAX! WE'VE COME TO SHUT YOU DOWN!
++ 13th FLOOR, INSPECTOR? I'M AFRAID I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT ++
TAKE THE STAIRS, MEN! YOU CAN'T TRUST THE LIFTS!
YOUR LAST VICTIM TALKED IN HIS SLEEP, MAX. YOUR HYPNOTIC BLOCK PREVENTED HIS CONSCIOUS MIND REMEMBERING WHAT YOU DID TO HIM - BUT HIS SUB-CONSCIOUS REMEMBERED EVERYTHING!
LUCKILY, HIS WIFE HAD THE GOOD SENSE TO CONTACT US!
THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR
NORMALLY, WE'D HAVE SENT THE MAN FOR PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT. BUT WE'D HAD REASON TO SUSPECT YOU BEFORE, MAX - AND SERGEANT INGRAM, WHO WAS INVESTIGATING YOU, HAD MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED!
SO WE HAD THE POLICE DOCTOR PUT THE MAN BACK IN A TRANCE!
HE TOLD US ALL ABOUT YOUR WEIRD THIRTEENTH FLOOR - AND THE HORRORS YOU'VE CREATED THERE! HE ALSO TOLD US HE'D MET INGRAM - WHO YOU'RE HOLDING PRISONER!
EAGLE
AUTHOR I. HOLLAND ARTIST ORTIZ
++ JERRY, MY CONTROLLER, IS FLABBERGASTED WHEN HE HEARS THEIR TERRIBLE ACCUSATIONS ++
IS THIS TRUE, MAX? YOU'VE CREATED A 13th FLOOR - TO PUNISH WRONGDOERS?
++ ONLY PEOPLE WHO HARM MY TENANTS, JERRY ++
++ I CAN SEE THE POLICE ALREADY KNOW TOO MUCH. THERE'S NO POINT TRYING TO HIDE ANYTHING ANY MORE ++
DON'T PLAY THE INNOCENT, KNIGHT! WE KNOW YOU'RE INVOLVED, TOO. YOU HAD TO BE - NOT TO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!
M-ME? BUT...

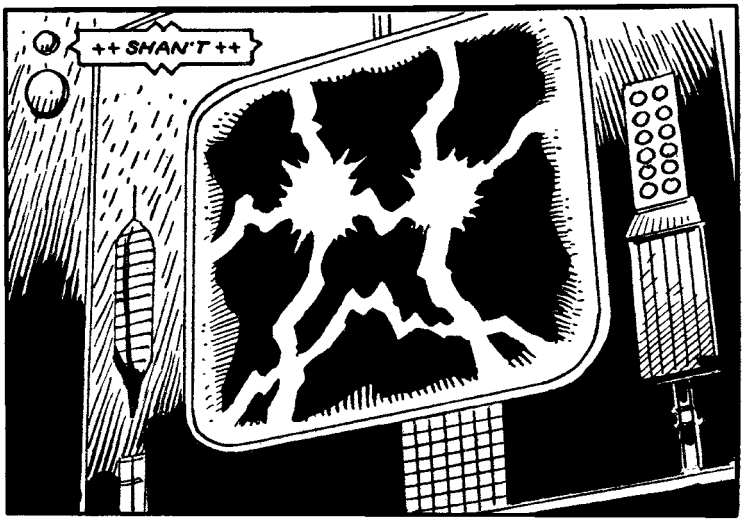
++ OH, NO, INSPECTOR! YOU MUSTN'T BLAME JERRY. HE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT. HE WAS UNDER MY HYPNOTIC CONTROL ++
COME OFF IT! YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO SAVE HIS NECK!
++ I CAN PROVE IT. WATCH ++

++ I REPEAT THE CODE PHRASE THAT RETURNS JERRY TO MY CONTROL ++
++ JERRY, YOU ARE NO LONGER A HUMAN BEING. YOU ARE NOW A BARNYARD CHICKEN ++
I... WILL OBEY.

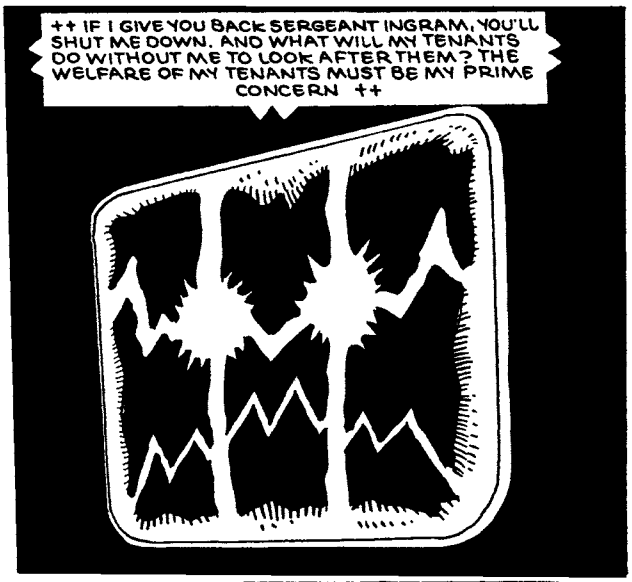
PU-UUK! PU-UUK! PU-UUK!

WHAT THE DEVIL'S HE DOING?
I BELIEVE HE'S TRYING TO LAY AN EGG, SIR!

HRRMMPH! YOU'VE PROVED YOUR POINT. SNAP HIM OUT OF IT - THEN RELEASE SERGEANT INGRAM FROM THIS THIRTEENTH FLOOR OF YOURS!


++ SHAN'T ++

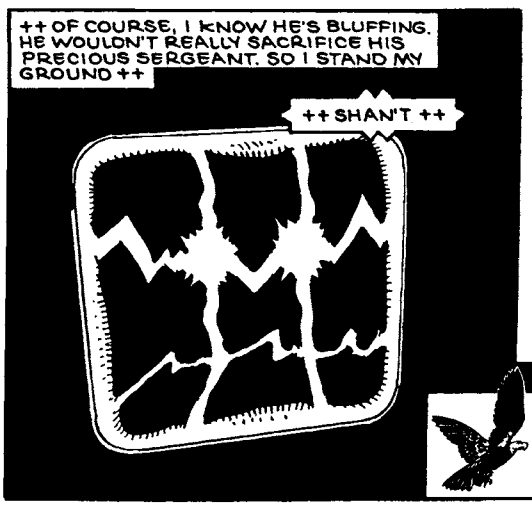
YOU REFUSE?
++ INDEED I DO ++
BUT YOU CAN'T!
++ OH, YES I CAN ++


++ IF I GIVE YOU BACK SERGEANT INGRAM, YOU'LL SHUT ME DOWN. AND WHAT WILL MY TENANTS DO WITHOUT ME TO LOOK AFTER THEM? THE WELFARE OF MY TENANTS MUST BE MY PRIME CONCERN ++

HE'S GOT US OVER A BARREL, INSPECTOR! WE SHUT HIM DOWN AND WE LOSE INGRAM!
BUT WE CAN'T BE BLACKMAILED BY A COMPUTER!

PECK! PECK! PECK!
GET HIM OFF ME!

YOU'RE TOO DANGEROUS, MAX. YOU'VE GOT TO BE SWITCHED OFF– INGRAM OR NO INGRAM!
THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO DO THE DECENT THING, AND SET HIM FREE!


++ OF COURSE, I KNOW HE'S BLUFFING. HE WOULDN'T REALLY SACRIFICE HIS PRECIOUS SERGEANT. SO I STAND MY GROUND ++
++ SHAN'T ++

OFF
NEXT WEEK
CLOSE DOWN!

Greetings again, Mortals! I hope you like my McNasty cover poster. The really brave ones amongst you might like to display it in your room. If you do, open the staples in the middle of your comic and detach the poster. You can trim it to the black line if you like, but mount it on a piece of cut-to-size cardboard to keep it at its creepy best! GHASTLY

Scream! #7
5th May 1984

Artist: **Brett Ewins**

This is the first-ever cover poster featured in EAGLE and you might want to display it at home. If you do, open the staples in the middle of the comic and detach the poster. Trim it to the black line with some sharp scissors and then mount it on to a piece of cardboard, cut to size to keep the poster in good condition.

Eagle and Scream! #145
29th December 1984

Artist: **José Ortiz**

Max will return in
The 13th Floor
volume 02

WRITERS **JOHN WAGNER & ALAN GRANT**
ARTIST **JOSÉ ORTIZ**

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JOHN WAGNER

One of the most influential names in the British comics industry, **JOHN WAGNER** started his professional career in the 1960s, working for DC Thompson in Dundee. Sub-editing various titles including *Romeo*, Wagner went freelance in the early seventies, forming a writing partnership with Pat Mills. Soon after, Wagner then made the move down south, joining IPC's staff, where he initially edited girls' titles, *Sandie* and *Princess Tina*, before helping to develop **Battle Picture Weekly**.

Appointed as editor to the ailing boys' comic **Valiant**, Wagner had an instant impact, co-creating and writing the hard-hitting cop strip *One-Eyed Jack*.

ALAN GRANT

With over 300 **2000 AD** stories to his name – not to mention over 250 **Daily Star** *Judge Dredd* strips – **ALAN GRANT**'s prolific creative record speaks for itself. Outside the Galaxy's Greatest Comic, Grant is well-known to *Batman* fans following a lengthy run on various incarnations of the title. More recently he has adapted Robert Louis Stevenson's classic novels *Kidnapped* and *Doctor Jekyll and Mr Hyde* in Graphic Novel format with artist Cam Kennedy.

JOSÉ ORTIZ

JOSÉ ORTIZ MOYA's sixty plus year career began afer he won a contest which ran in the Spanish magazine **Chicos**. In the 1950's he worked on many digest strips for Editorial Maga, including *Capitan Don Nadie*, *Pantera Negra* and *Jungla*. Agency work saw him produce several strips for foreign publishers, particularly in Britain where he illustrated *Caroline Barker*, Barrister at Law for the **Daily Express**, *Smokeman* and *UFO Agent* for **Eagle** magazine and the *Phantom Viking* in **Lion**. In the seventies and eighties Ortiz worked on several British popular strips including *The Tower King* and *House of Daemon* for the new **Eagle**, *Rogue Trooper* and *Judge Dredd* for **2000 AD** and *The Thirteenth Floor* for **Scream!**, which he co-created with John Wagner and Alan Grant.

Whilst doing all of this work on UK kid's comics, in the US Oritz was also working on and is arguably best known for illustrating several stories for Warren's horror titles, including *Eerie* and *Vampirella*.

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