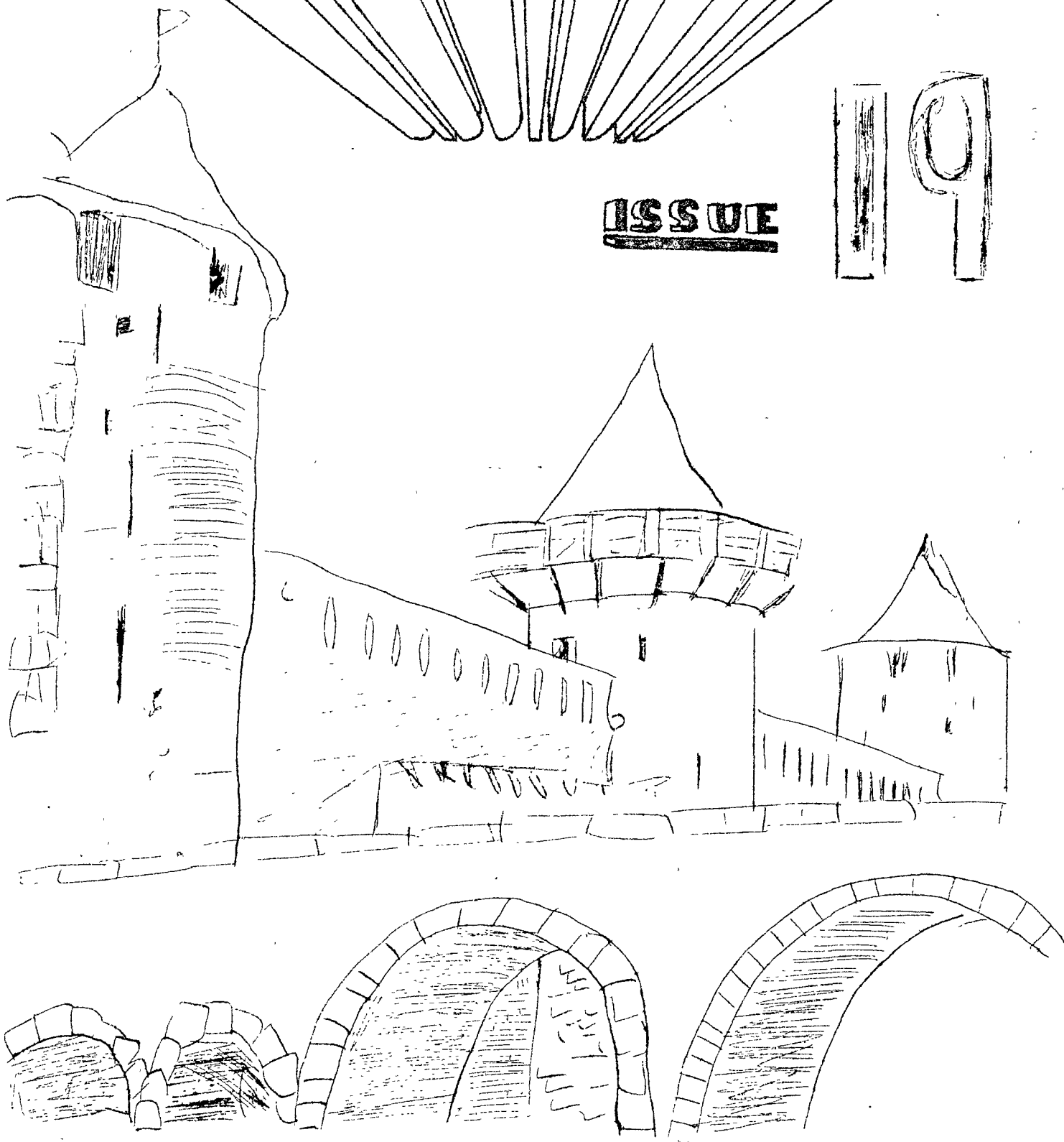


DIB DIB DIB

ISSUE

19



AND TO GO WITH OUR COVER, TWO JOKES
"I FORT WE'D KEEP IT SIMPLE
OR
"CAST" GIVE A DOUBLE DEADLINE

Welcome. You are about to wend your way through absolutely tons of paper, that will probably be Dib's only bumper issue. One in the eye for Pete Mearns and Colin Bruce - they were forever searching for the magical, mythical, bumper issue. BUT I'VE DONE IT! This is issue 19 of Dib Dib Dib. Still only costing you 1p per sheet (not page!) + postage, and comes to you from the nimble eleven fingers of Tom Tweedy, living at: 29 Stanley Hill Avenue, Amersham, Bucks, HP7 9BD. Tel. 02403 4513

EDITORIAL

As you will gather (those that are perceptive enough) this issue of Dib has turned out rather large. Strange to say but I'm a little embarrassed about it - I mean, the way it's come about just before the Zine Poll. What with everyone saying: "Oh yeah, Zine Poll time - editors will be going out of their rag now..." ... know what I mean? I do like to give subscribers a little of what they want, but I do that for every issue. This issue is large merely because of the extra articles and letters you good people sent in.....HONEST! Ah, what's the point, no-one will believe me anyway.....

It's now Saturday the 8th May. This issue went together like a dream (I just wish the spelling had). all I've left to do is this editorial, the Jotto and the back page - not too bad for a large issue, eh? Yes, well there's just one problem, because the zine has run to 32 sides, I've a feeling my stapling machine won't punch the staples through that amount of paper. This being so, we've rung around a few places to try and get a bigger stapler..... but they seem to be few and far between. According to one shop, the earliest I could get one is on Tuesday. Great eh? Get the zine finished, and now I'm to be held up by a stapler - typical! Still, I'll try the one I have - I might get lucky with some. Actually, the next size stapler will cost me £25!! (I wonder if I can persuade readers that loose pages in a zine are the height of intellectual attainment?)

I was disappointed to learn the other day, from Rob Chapman, that The Acolyte/Pete Tamlyn won't be using the Ace rules as used by Dib, Hopscotch and Putty Rippo. I was hoping the game could be very much an inter-zine thing, with players playing in several zines using the same maps and rules, etc (making it easy for players of the game to 'flit' from zine to zine). It was good to see other zines taking the pressure from Dib's waiting list by way of starting games up, it meant at last I could play a game myself. But, I also want my fair crack at Acedom, so I want all my points to count. Pete has made things different. Even though I said I'd supply him with all the maps and rules he needed, in the end he decided to produce his own very different map. I couldn't really see the point of it myself.

Rob and I decided therefore that we're not going to be cheated out of our ace points (not that Rob needs to worry about hitting anything anyway - ho ho ho), we're going to make sure that Iain Singer gets the points of anyone that wants to be counted. So, if you want a game of Sopwith in Acolyte, please remember that the maps and rules are a little different, and to make sure your points are getting to Iain Singer.

Blackmail is another zine that has a Sopwith waiting list (£1 gamefee), but it's editor (Mike Woodhouse) is another that hasn't asked for the maps and rules. So perhaps Mike wishes to go it alone as well.... However, Mike, the offer is there!! Mike Woodhouse, 45 Rectory Lane, Sidcup, Kent.

Two zines that have asked to see the rules and maps we're using are: Zine to be Believed (Nick Kinzett and Sharn Derrick) and Stick the Knife in (Nigal McCabe). They haven't decided yet - but if any readers want to play in a game they could try contacting the editors concerned:-

Nick Kinzett, 11 Daleway Road, Green Lane, Coventry, CV3 6JF.
Nigal McCabe, 314 Rushcliffe Hall, Lockwood, Huddersfield, HD1 3ND.

Players must be careful not to get too carried away with the Sopwith Ratings List. Take for instance Dib's players this issue: Iain sent me the list early so I typed them up - that was before I'd adjudicated this issue's games. It's only meant to be a reasonably rough guide as to who's where - it's up to you to work out exactly

what's what if you need the information quickly. In other words, the list is correct for all games leading up to, and including issue 13. I haven't had time to work out the list including this issue yet, so if anyone has become an ace, don't forget to let the GM's know for the other games you're playing in.

On to a more casual note. I see in Last Stand 17 that Peter Northcott nominated Dib and myself for no less than four categories in the Gladys Awards! The categories were:- Best Zine; Best Diplomacy GM (personally I can't see anyone beating Richard Hucknall in this one); Best Letter Column; and Best New Zine. All high praise indeed -- I can see Peter has exceptionally good taste. How much of a chance do I stand? Your guess is as good as mine -- I might do okay with three of them.... but I ask you, what chance do I stand in regards to the Best Letter Column with undesirables like Mike Close, Sandy Peters, George North and Martin Allen within my column?! It's getting difficult disguising their missives -- I fear others may have noticed them already. *Sigh*

JOTTO Turn 8



Nicholas Clifton: 8th (2,1,0,2,2,1)	William Fisk: 8th (4,1,3,3,2,3)
Martin Allen: 7th (:- missed -)	Sandy Peters: 7th (2,0,1,3,2,4)
8th (:- missed -)	8th (3,2,2,0,1,3)
John Miller: 8th (2,4,3,0,1,0)	Richard Bass: 8th (2,2,2,1,3,2)
David Huson: 8th (2,0,2,2,2,5)	John Lee: 8th (:- missed -)
George Davies: 8th (3,2,2,1,2,1)	Keith Loveys: 8th (3,2,2,1,1,1)
John Field: 8th (2,0,1,3,2,2)	George North: 8th (1,2,1,1,1,1)

A good turnout -- but nobody taking any guesses yet. I was told Keith Loveys normally wins these games....but we're not going to take that lying down, are we? Mind you, I have heard a couple of wives are helping their husbands out on this (heh heh), typical, eh? I can see I'll just have to start up Ludo...

CGS LISTS FOR REGULAR AND F(ROM) DIPLOMACY

The lists slowed down for a while, now they're starting to pick up again. I've just sent Regular games off to Match Abandoned and Home of the Brave. Next on my list (because he's an eligible new zine), taking precedence over Walamalasia Gazette, is Stick the Knife in. I think I've the full seven players so I should be sending that off as soon as I finish the zine. On the Regular list I have: Stick the Knife in, Walamalasia Gazette, Ode, and Fall of Eagles. A couple of other zines have mentioned that they'd like to be included on the list at a later date. Good job as well as the list is getting kinda small....

I'm getting some feedback now from Simon Billenness' "Regular/F(Rom) Diplomacy" form, with a F(Rom) game almost filled (they've only just started arriving). So it looks likely I'll be sending that game off in the near future. The only two zines I have on the F(Rom) List are: Shellshock and The Acolyte.

It seems as though Simon's work is paying off. For those that don't know, Simon took over Compendium (a listing of all zines and how much they cost, etc) from Paul Simpkins, and has now put out his first issue. He's re-named the zine -- he now calls it Twenty Years On. Simon says at the moment he has more trades than subbers -- which can be bad for the bank balance. If you want a complete listing of who does what zine, and where you can get it, then write to:-

Simon Billenness, 20 Winfred Road, Coulsdon, Surrey, CR3 3JA. Costs 30p for a single ~~£~~ issue and £1 for 4 quarterly issues.

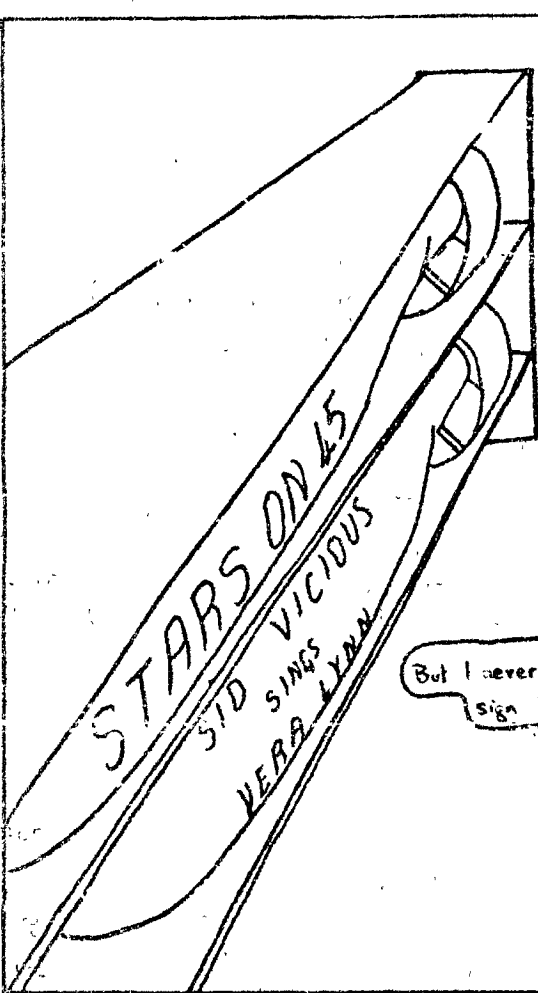
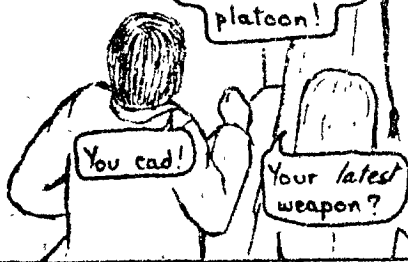
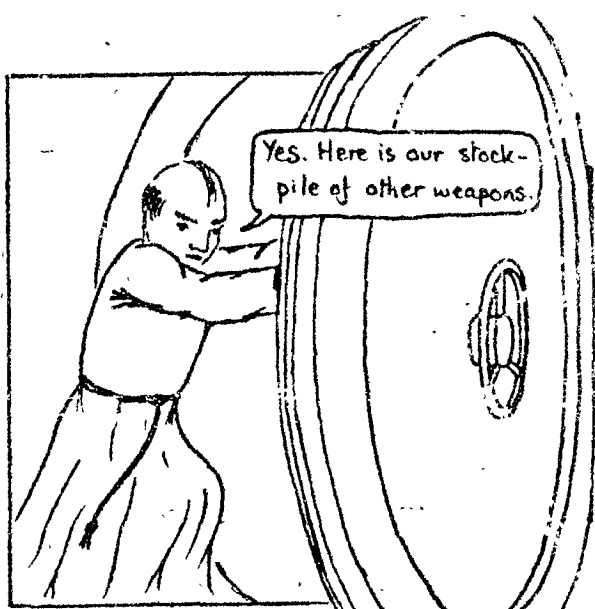
And just room to answer a quick query: ** POSTAL MONOPOLY ** is being run in Chimaera GM'd by Charles Burrows. I don't know what the game is like, but if interested write to:- Clive Booth, 71 Clara Mount Road, Langley, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE7 7HS.

ANGEL

by Chris Sandow & Mark Newman

Episode 6:

In which the authors run out of episode-titles.

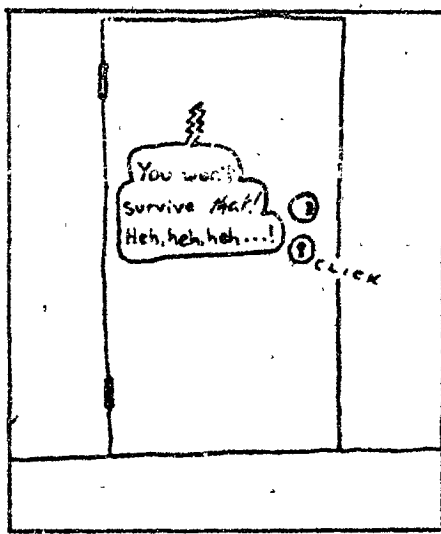
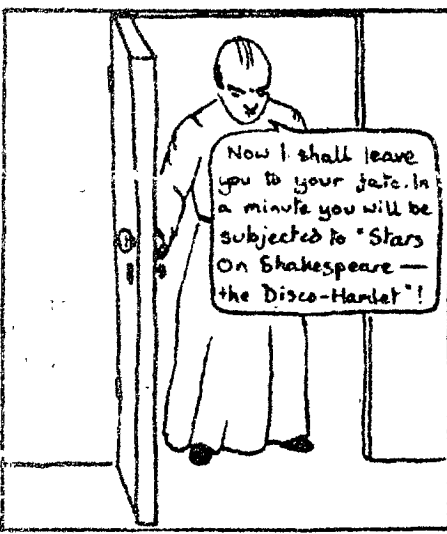
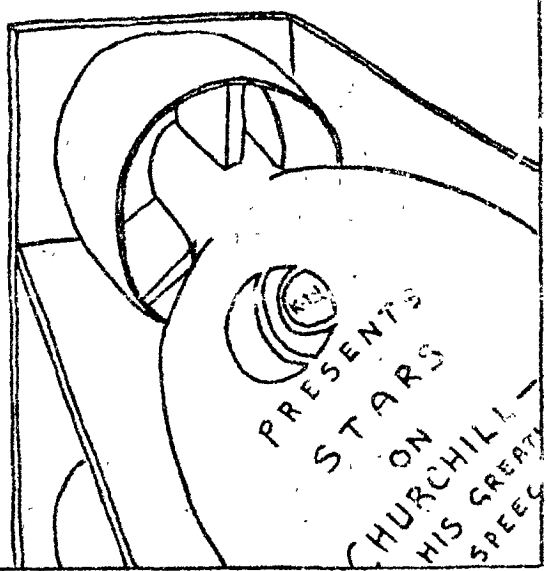
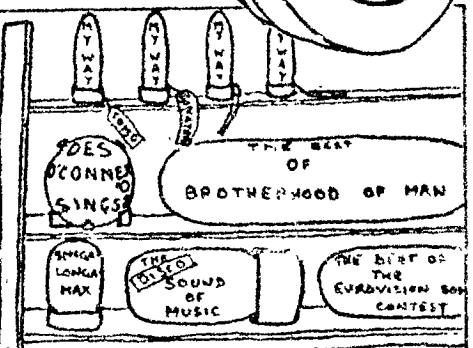


The what?

Viennese International Negotiations for the Elimination of Grossly Awful Records.

But I never agreed to sign it.

You must have shares in K-tel.



Is this the end for Angel and Tom?

Have the script-writers finally written themselves into a corner?

Don't miss the next ~~appatting~~ enthralling episode of

ANGEL

** SOPWITH RATINGS **

Seeing as I have the first list from Iain Singer on hand, I thought it would be a good idea to print it to keep things up to date. It's still only Dib's subscribers on the list I'm afraid, but, even though it's early days the ball has started rolling. Thanks for the list, Iain.

H = Hits; K = Kills; S = Status; G = Games Played; P = Position

<u>P</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>G</u>
1. Richard Morris	74	2	ACE	2	=13. Nick Hoyle	6	7	7	1
2. Sandy Peters	31	/	/	2	=13. Tim Sharrock	6	/	/	1
3. Frank Dunn	29	1	/	2	=13. Alec Winton	6	/	/	1
4. Rob Chapman	28	1	/	1	16. Colin Bruce	5	/	/	1
5. Mike Allaway	28	/	/	1	17. Paul Simpkins	4	/	/	1
6. Alan Sharples	15	/	/	2	=18. Karl Piper	3	/	/	1
=7. Clive Booth	14	/	/	1	=18. Iain Singer	3	/	/	1
=7. John Miller	14	/	/	1	20. Chris Sandow	1	/	/	1
=9. Nicholas Clifton	13	/	/	1	=21. Richard Bass	/	/	/	1
=9. George North	13	/	/	2	=21. Peter Davies	/	/	/	1
=9. Dave Tant	13	/	/	2	=21. John Jones	2	/	/	1
12. Keith Loveys	10	/	/	3	=21. Ian Tillson	/	/	/	1

That's it then. Could players please check their Hit Points to see if they are correct. I make some of the scores out to be different from Iain's. As I've said before, once the tally is correct it'll be easy keeping it that way. The reason it's difficult at the moment is because we have to re-read back issues of Dib.

Also, because the zines that run Sopwith games are published at different times, it has been suggested - and I think it's a good idea - that players should be responsible for their own Ace status. I mean, if a zine like Putty Riffo is about to come out, and has all its games adjudicated, there's no way that Rob Chapman could re-adjudicate a game when a Ratings list arrives from Iain Singer saying that one of his players has become an ace in another zine. When a player becomes an ace in one zine, it's up to him to let the other zines he's playing in know. Any questions about Hits, Kills, Status etc in the Ratings table should be sent to Iain Singer. His address is on the back page.

Other zines that run Sopwith are: The Acolyte, Putty Riffo, Hopscotch, Blackmail, and I hear Stick the Knife In is thinking of starting it up.

Once again, despite all the scorn heaped upon him, we have Dib's own war correspondent turning up like a bad penny. Can ~~nothing~~ nothing destroy this man...

THE WOODEN HORSE
by George North

On behalf of all Dib. Dib Dib, I made my way along to the Sopwith offices and showed the doorman my credentials. There was much to report, for the Diplomaniacs were out in full strength and spreading throughout the land of Dib, Dib, like a prairie fire. I knocked on a huge oak door marked 'Head Office' and as it opened so I showed them my shirt outside my trousers and gave the two fingers salute as laid down. "Dib, Dib, Dib" they greeted me. "Gob, gob, gob" I replied.

Inside the office were several grim faced men, Sopwith born and bred, and each with a worried frown, for the Diplomaniacs were running wild and taking over the land. I threaded my way across the foot high pile and stopped before a huge mahogany desk. Behind a fat cigar and a glass of port sat the Sopwith boss himself - Tweedy. And to the left stood henchman Parr and to the right was Ace Morris. Tweedy flicked his fat cigar and ashtrays appeared as if by magic. There were five subordinates ready and eager to do his slightest bidding. Tweedy sat like a giant spider in his web, issuing out orders right, left and centre, and everybody rushing hither and thither to carry out the boss' merest whim.

Not that I reached the desk by my own efforts, for Parr and Morris stepped forward and grabbed me by the scruff and before you could say "I love Tamlyn" it was all