

ANGUILLA INVADED

THIS LAST WEEK has seen a most unhappy blot upon the history of Britain, and of the British Caribbean. Using the pretext of Mafia and criminal elements in Anguilla, and urged on by a desperate Bradshaw, the British Government invaded Anguilla. Thus we heard of a full scale landing of troops and para-troopers against Anguillans who put up no resistance whatsoever.

The Caribbean Governments seem highly embarrassed by the British action especially in the light of widespread protest. Indeed, Dr. Williams has completely condemned the forceful intervention. The only Government which has been shameless enough to congratulate England has been the St. Kitts Government. But what has the St. Kitts Government achieved? They have certainly lost Anguilla, because England is now saying that they will not return Anguilla to Bradshaw.

Our Government should be forever criticised for calling upon a white country to use gun-boat politics against our own brethren. They have laid the basis for racial discord and tensions especially when one considers the position in Rhodesia. They have shown themselves to be mere lackeys of the Imperialists and not fit to go down in history as West Indians.

We hope that the British Government will try to undo much of that which was distasteful because of the bad methods used to deal with the problem which existed. We hope that they will negotiate with Mr. Webster without coercion. Or, in the alternative, have an election now since the results would surely give the lie to the propaganda preached by the St. Kitts Government that Webster was controlling by intimidation.

PAM NOTICE

A day of Prayer

THE PEOPLES ACTION MOVEMENT calls for a Day of Prayer on Sunday, 23rd, March, 1969 for Anguilla.

All Members and Friends to assemble at Pall Mall Square at 7.30 a.m. and thence to The Roman Catholic Church.

Dreschfield is Anguilla's Magistrate

Mr. R. L. Bradshaw, Premier, announced at the House of Assembly meeting on Wednesday morning that units of Her Majesty's Forces had landed that morning on Anguilla "for the purpose of installing a British Commissioner and restoring law and order on the island". The man named by the British Government to fill the post of Commissioner is Mr. Tony Lee, who administered Anguilla jointly with the Anguilla Council for one year during the interim period.

As a result of Britain's move, the Premier said, lawful authority is being exercised in Anguilla for the first time since 30 May, 1967.

He added that the forces' task includes the gathering of arms and ammunition and the identification and removal of foreign gangster elements known to be in Anguilla.

He announced that the Commissioner was accompanied to Anguilla on Tuesday by a magistrate, who was appointed by the Public Service Commission to serve in that island.

Deep Sympathy

We of The Democrat would like to place on record our deep sympathy to Messrs A. M. Losada Ltd on the total loss sustained on the unfortunate fire which occurred over last weekend. This loss will be keenly felt by the entire community.

We also extend sincere sympathy to all employees of the said firm who because of the fire are now out of work.

Our sympathy goes also to Messrs J.W. Thurston & Co Ltd who suffered considerable loss.

Beacon closed down

The Anguilla "Beacon" has been out of circulation from last week. We therefore publish items of news from the other Anguilla weekly, "Observer", which is published on Thursdays (See page 2).

The magistrate is Mr. R. L. Dreschfield, Q.C., C.M.G. Born in England, Mr. Dreschfield served in Uganda as Solicitor General and Attorney General from 1951-62.

It is understood that he was specially selected by the British Government to fill the post of magistrate for Anguilla and was appointed in accordance with Section 83 of the Constitution of St.

Kitts Nevis Anguilla.

Prior to Mr. Dreschfield's appointment, Anguilla (Mr. Raphael Lake, Scout Commissioner and Social Welfare Officer served as magistrate from late 1967, on appointment of the Anguilla Council. Before that time Mr. Peter Adams, Anguilla's elected representative at the 1966 General Elections, filled the post.

Bank of America reception

Officers of the local branch of the Bank of America were hosts last Saturday evening at a Reception held at "Fair View Inn", some three miles outside of Basseterre.

The purpose of the reception was to give the public an opportunity to meet the Bank's officers among whom

were Mr. and Mrs. H. Brawner of San Francisco in the U.S.A., who ended a 3-day visit here last Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Brawner has been Vice President for about 5 years of the Bank of America and is in charge of the North American and Caribbean Division.

It's Supper Time

-At-

PAM INTERNATIONAL

-On-

Thursday, March 27 from 6.30 p.m.

Delicious West Indian Dishes on sale

Prices to suit all pockets

Among the officers present were Mr. O'Neal, Manager of the Barbados Branch and Caribbean Co-ordinator of the Bank of America; Mr. R. S. Lupioacci, Manager of the St. Kitts Branch and Mrs. Lupioacci; Mr. Roy Nias and Mr. Seymour Morton.

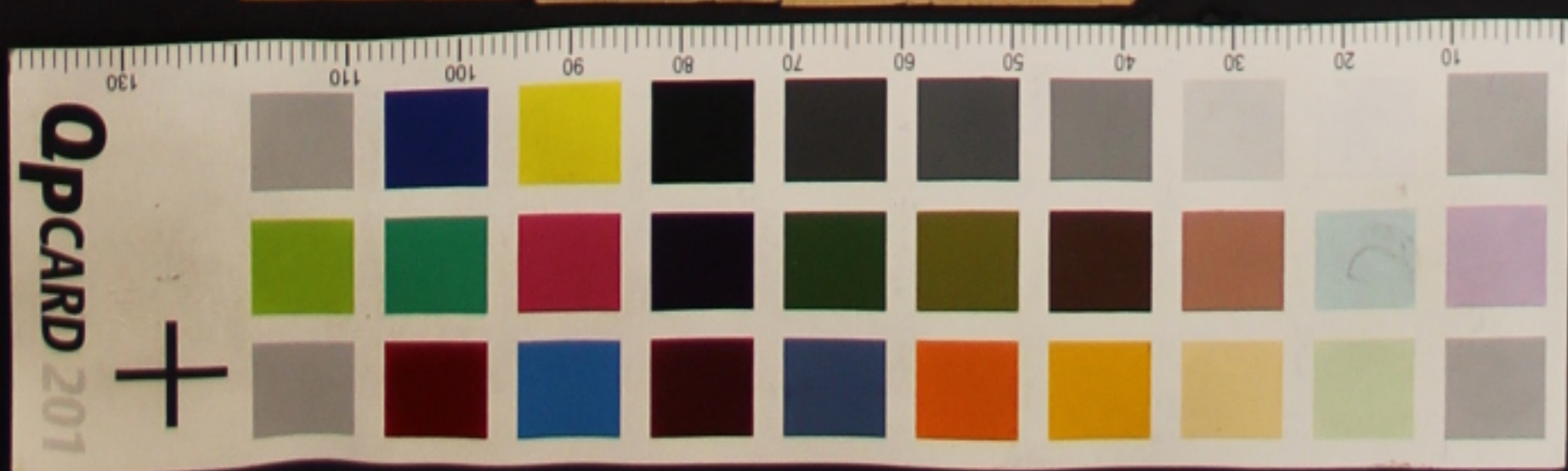
During the reception some of the invitees toured the Inn and its beautiful and spacious grounds.

Afterwards Bank of America Rebel Orchestra entertained the guests with music.

THURSTONS SAY THANKS

The Directors of J. W. THURSTON & CO. LTD. through this medium beg to thank the public generally for all the expressions of sympathy extended to our firm on our losses by the fire of Saturday/Sunday 15th and 16th March.

We also take this opportunity to congratulate and thank the Fire services, the Police, our own Staff and all the willing helpers for their magnificent efforts in containing the fire.



Anguillans reject Whitlock and Party

(Extracts from Anguilla "OBSERVER" March 13, 1969)

As Mr. Whitlock and his party disembarked the school children sang the British National Anthem and waved their placards.

Mr. Whitlock was met by M. Ronald Webster whom he completely ignored and walked to the terminal building to make a prepared declaration. Mr. Webster however with some difficulty managed to say a few words of welcome before Mr. Whitlock was able to make his declaration.

After the declaration was read by Mr. Whitlock, printed pamphlets with the declaration were thrown to the crowd by Mr. Whitlock's secretary and then Mr. Tony Lee who, according to the declaration was supposed to take over and run the island took Mr. Whitlock away leaving Mr. Webster, president of the Republic of Anguilla, and the car which he had brought to take Mr. Whitlock from the airport, standing there.

This action caused great resentment among a number of the people present and immediately some people felt that Mr. Whitlock had insulted their leader and had come with one intention "To take over the island". Because of this they felt that he

should be asked to leave the island.

At about 2.30 p.m. the Government of Anguilla decided that Mr. Whitlock had insulted the people of Anguilla by his general attitude and declaration of "take over" of the island and should therefore be asked to leave before night fall.

Mr. Whitlock and his party were rounded up and asked to leave the island and the Government of Anguilla headed by The Hon Ronald Webster, President of the Republic chartered two planes of the Valley Air Service to take them to St. Maarten. At 6.30 p.m. Mr. Whitlock and his entire party including Tony Lee were sent to St. Maarten.

Some members of Mr. Whitlock's party claimed that shots were fired in the area of Sandy Hill where they were staying, this however was denied by the Government of Anguilla.

Mr. Whitlock and party left St. Maarten at 8.30 p.m. for Antigua by LIAT.

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EDITORIAL
BIG SILENCE BROKEN
The Big Silence has been

finally broken. Mr. Whitlock has, at long last, paid a visit to Anguilla. We are forced to conclude that British Diplomacy has gravitated to an all time low President elect. Mr. Ronald Webster, was treated like a nonentity by the British Delegation upon his arrival at the airport. He was scarcely acknowledged as anything more than a bystander blocking the way of the self-styled British Conquerors. Mr. Webster had to fight to deliver his welcoming speech. If this was planned embarrassment it certainly backfired. The tense crowd, some with withering pro British placards in hand looked on incredulously as Whitlock literally threw his pamphlets at the crowd as a farmer might throw corn to fowl, and then stomp off ignoring the cars provided for the party by the Government. Before the spectators realized what had happened the Britishers were whisked off by Mr. Tony Lee, who had bulldogged his way into Anguilla two days before.

There were some Anguillans who had gone to the airport as staunch supporters of Britain who left in bitter disillusionment. Mr. Whitlock had offered nothing more than a long term reshuffle of the interim period under Mr. Bradshaw's much hated constitution. More than this, Mr. Tony

Lee, of all people was to be the Commissioner.

To the man on the street this did not hurt as much as the rough treatment of the British team. Had it acted even the least bit like negotiators employing even a trace of ordinary protocol, much diplomatic ground could have been covered.

The forcible eviction of the Britishers was simply the result of their crude, uncouth actions. Had Ronald Webster planned with the British to concoct a scheme to enhance the Anguillan leaders international stature in the eyes of the world, it could not have been brought off better. To the very end Ronald was the quiet gentleman that he always is. Today Mr. Webster stands before the world as a quiet accomplished leader of his people. Today Great Britain has, once more, displayed its inadequacy to cope with political issues as evidenced by the raw egotistical approach, not unlike the old familiar tactics used by Hitler.

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An Appeal To My People

Be calm and do not despair, as God is with us through these troubled times. As your leader I will not let

you down or be misled by tricks and flowery words.

Mr. Whitlock, the British Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs has brought his offer to Anguilla, but we are not so easily fooled as some may think. He has given us the bait like a fish not realizing we have long been fishermen ourselves. I will explain.

We are offered a Commissioner, Mr. Tony Lee, under the authority of St. Kitts (West Indies Act of 1967) and a Magistrate under the same authority. He might just as well have said Mr. Bradshaw, since that is what it means. He says we have a "present difficult situation" what has brought us this, of which he speaks?

We had our peaceful pursuit of Constitution before Mr. Lee and Mr. Perkins arrived. There was no trouble

(Continued on Page 12)

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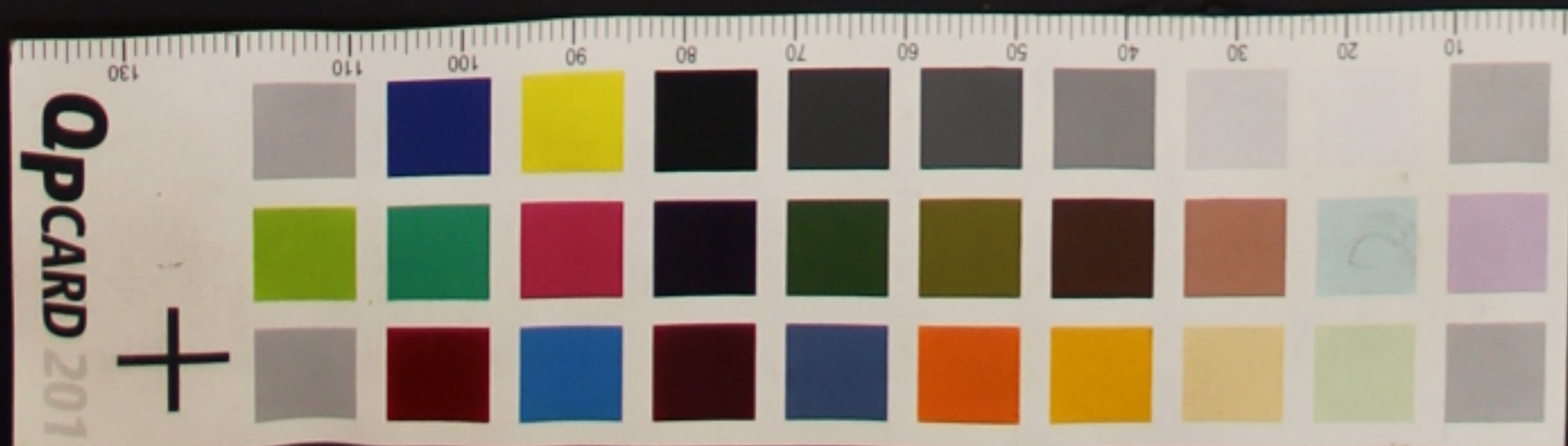
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AGENTS/DISTRIBUTORS



Anguilla seeking an Inquiry by U.N.

THE DEMOCRAT Saturday March 22 1969 Page 11

Extracts from the NEW YORK TIMES

Disputes Briton's charge of Control by Gangsters

By KATHLEEN TELTSCH
Special to The New York Times

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 14—Anguilla invited the United Nations today to investigate charges by a British official that the tiny Caribbean island was "completely dominated by a gangster-type element."

The written invitation to Secretary General Thant was carried here by Jeremiah Gumbs, who denied the allegations. The message was signed by Ronald Webster, who was named President in 1967 when Anguilla declared its independence from the British-sponsored federation linking it with St. Kitts and Nevis.

Mr. Gumbs said that as a witness, he challenged an account given by William Whitlock, British Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, of how he had been driven off the island Tuesday by gunfire.

Mr. Whitlock charged in London yesterday that Mafia-type elements controlled Anguilla and that the 6,000 islanders feared they sought to set up gambling casinos on the 35 square-mile island 150 miles east of Puerto Rico.

Coup Attempt Charged

Mr. Gumbs charged that Mr. Whitlock and a few associates had sought to take over control of the island and install Anthony Lee as a resident commissioner.

"It was a coup that failed," he said.

Mr. Gumbs urged that the United Nations send a fact-finding mission to the island. "The Anguillians are a Christian, church going people who do not want gambling casinos," he added.

Mr. Gumbs disputed the British official's report that he had been warmly welcomed to Anguilla and his proposals

cheered but that he was driven out.

In Mr. Gumbs's account, Mr. Whitlock was warmly received at the airport because Mr. Lee arrived two days earlier and promised that a new proposal coming from London would mean economic help and "all good things."

The Anguillians' mood turned to disappointment and anger. Mr. Gumbs said, when Mr. Whitlock read his "empty" message with the announcement of Mr. Lee's

appointment.

Mr. Gumbs, a native of Anguilla but a United States citizen, lives in Edison, N. J., and distributes fuel oil.

Retort in London

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, March 14 — A British informant, apprised of what Mr. Gumbs had said, answered: "The facts have already clearly been set out in the statement which Mr. Whitlock made yesterday. This story sounds like an attempt by the small minority who dominate the island to justify their action."

In the West Indies Associated States Supreme Court

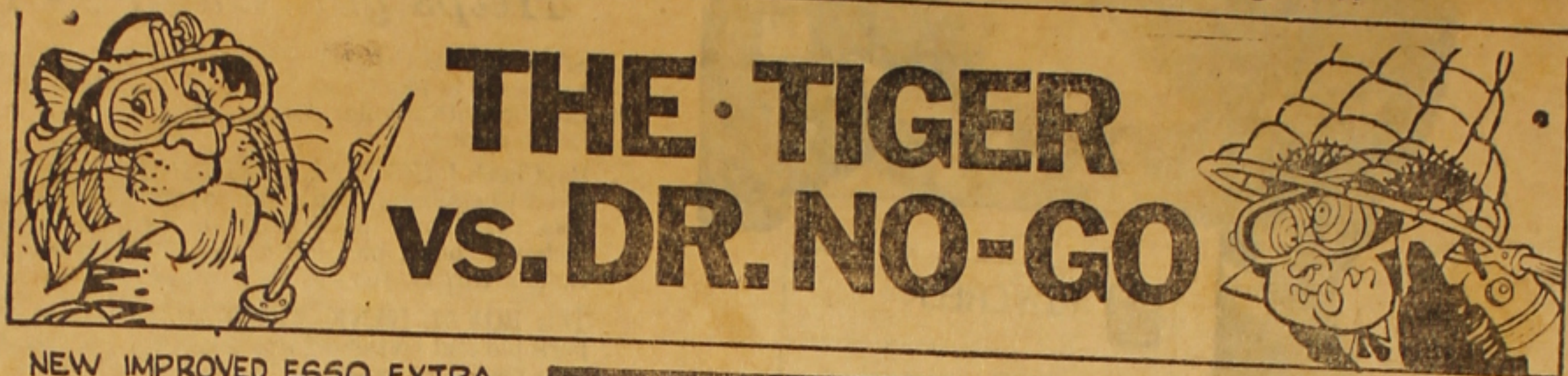
NEVIS CIRCUIT

A.D. 1969

NOTICE is hereby given that the Honourable the Resident Plesne Judge has appointed the day of the month on which the High Court will sit in the NEVIS CIRCUIT for the trial of CRIMINAL and CIVIL Causes and the disposal of the general business of the Court, as follows:— that is to say, WEDNESDAY the 9th day of APRIL, 1969 at 9.30 o'clock in the forenoon.

DATED the 14th day of March, 1969.

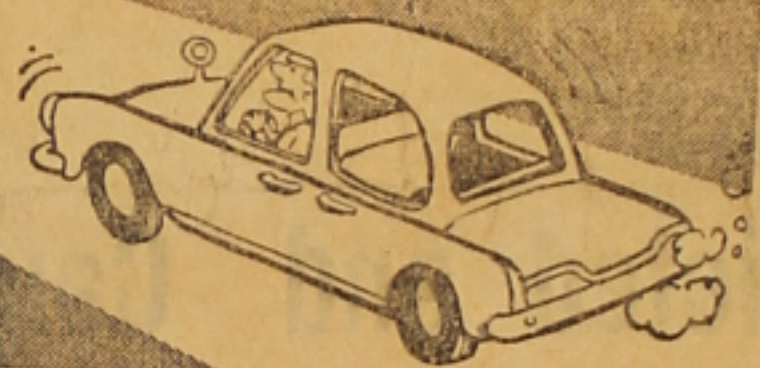
(Sd.) S. DANIEL
Ag. Registrar:



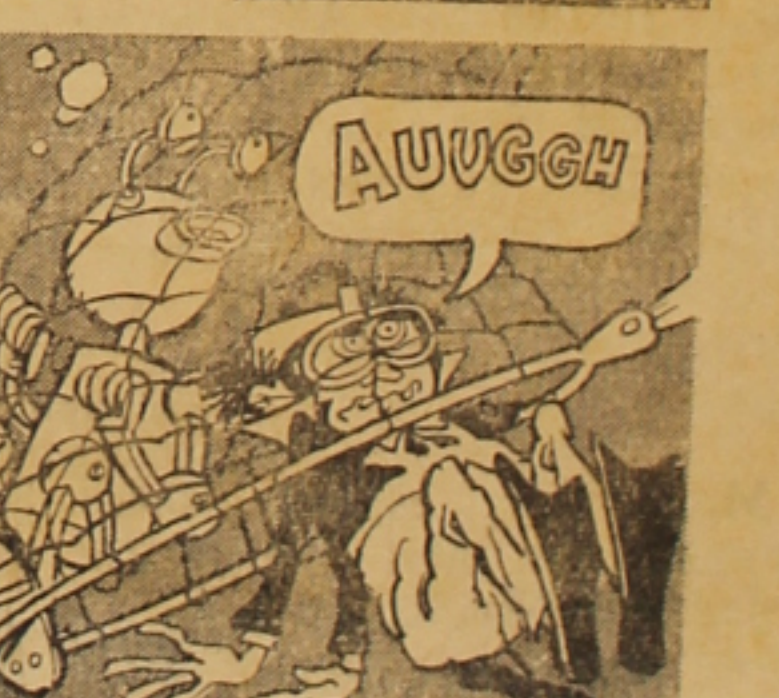
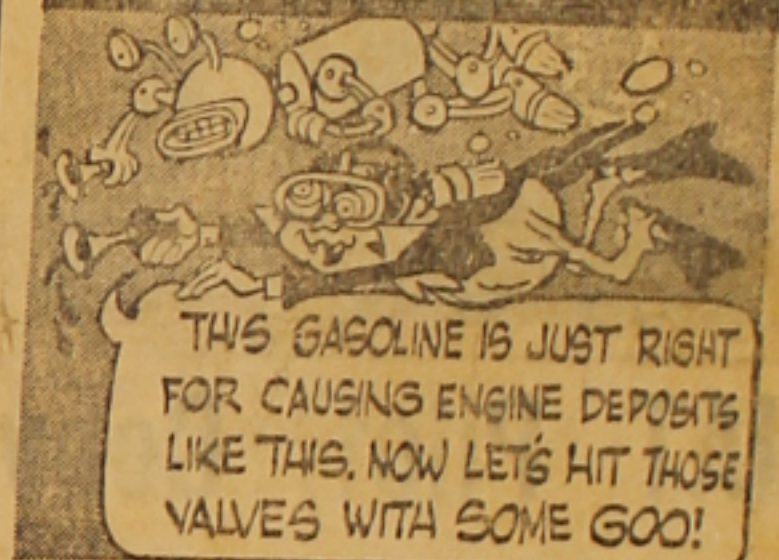
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