

THE IRON SKULL

by Sam Gilman



THE U.S. MERCHANTMAN, VALIANT, SAILS CALMLY ALONG THE ATLANTIC... CARRYING A VALUABLE CARGO TO THE ALLIES...



SUDDENLY, WITHOUT A WORD OF WARNING, HER NOSE DIVES AND SHE DISAPPEARS INTO THE SEA





NO TIME TO LOSE!
I MUST GET TO
THE NAVY
OFFICE!

FLYING HIGH ABOVE THE CITY, THE
SKULL RACES TO THE NAVY DEPARTMENT



SKULL! ~ I'M
GLAD YOU
CAME!

THESE SINKINGS,
ADMIRAL...
WHAT DO THEY
MEAN?



IT MEANS THAT THE
SHIPMENTS SENT TO
OUR ALLIES ARE BEING
SUNK! WHAT'S MORE ~
THERE'S NOT A CLUE
AS TO HOW THE SHIPS
ARE SUNK... NO TRACE
OF CREW OR CARGO
HAS BEEN FOUND!



WHEN DOES THE
NEXT SHIP LEAVE--
AND WHERE IS
IT DOCKED?

TONITE AT
NINE-THIRTY
FROM PIER
TWELVE!



AN ENEMY SUB HAS JUST BEEN
CAPTURED IN OUR WATERS!...
IN CUSTODY OF COAST-
GUARD AT PIER SEVEN!

WHAT'S THAT
YOU SAY?



GREAT! ~ ORDER A
SPECIAL DETAIL
READY TO LEAVE
AT ONCE!



THIS MAY BE
THE ANSWER TO
OUR MYSTERY!
COME! ~ LET US
GO AT ONCE!

WAIT-ADMIRAL-
I MUST ASK A
SPECIAL FAVOR
OF YOU...



LET ME VISIT THAT
SUB ~ ALONE!

AT PIER SEVEN, COAST-GUARDSMEN
STAND GUARD OVER THE CAPTURED SUB.



HALT AND PRESENT
YOUR CREDENTIALS!



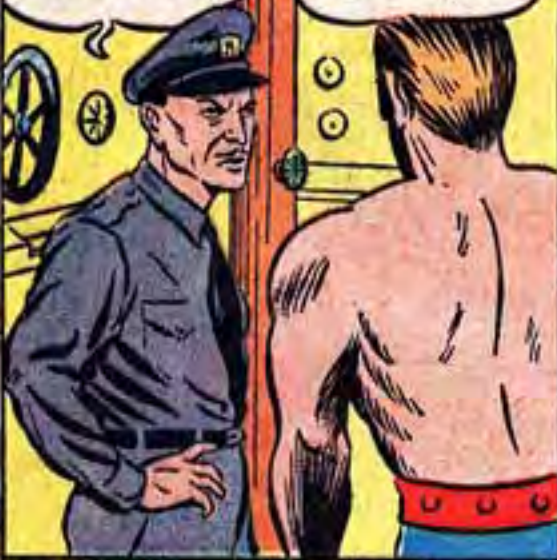
HIS CREDENTIALS IN ORDER,
THE SKULL IS PERMITTED
TO ENTER THE SUB, ALONE--



HE GOES IMMEDIATELY BELOW
TO MEET THE ENEMY CAPTAIN.

WHAT IS IT YOU
WANT OF ME?
I WILL GIVE
YOU NO
INFORMATION!

I HAVE
ONLY A FEW
QUESTIONS
I SHOULD
LIKE TO ASK



MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER SECTION OF THE CAPTURED SUB -
THE PRISONERS TURN, SUDDENLY, ON THE COAST-GUARDSMEN!

DUMMKOPF - VE
ARE TAKING
OVER, NOW

JA! - HERE IS A
TASTE OF
BLITZKRIEG!



THE VICIOUS SURPRISE ATTACK TURNS THE TABLES!!

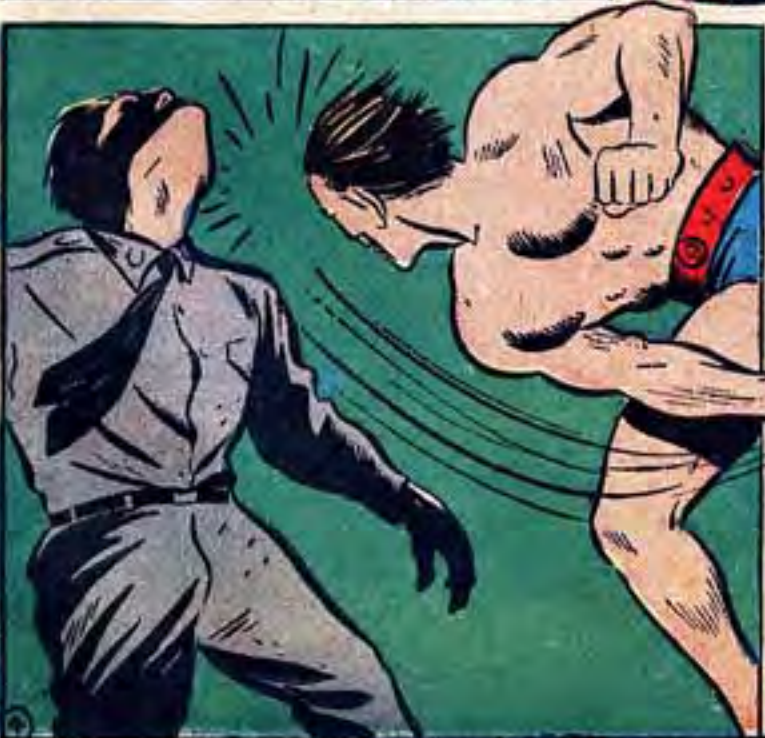
QUICK!
START THE
ENGINES!



HO-HO-HO...
HA! HA!

WHAT ARE YOU
LAUGHING AT?!







MUCH TO THEIR AMAZEMENT, THE CREW FINDS THE SKULL MORE THAN A MATCH FOR THEM!

UPSY DAISSY! - OVER THE TOP!

HIMMEL! VE CANNOT HURT HIM!

ACHHHHHH



AND MIGHT I ADD - ACH!

ACH!



ABOUT TO DASH THE SAILOR DOWN, HE GETS AN IDEA.

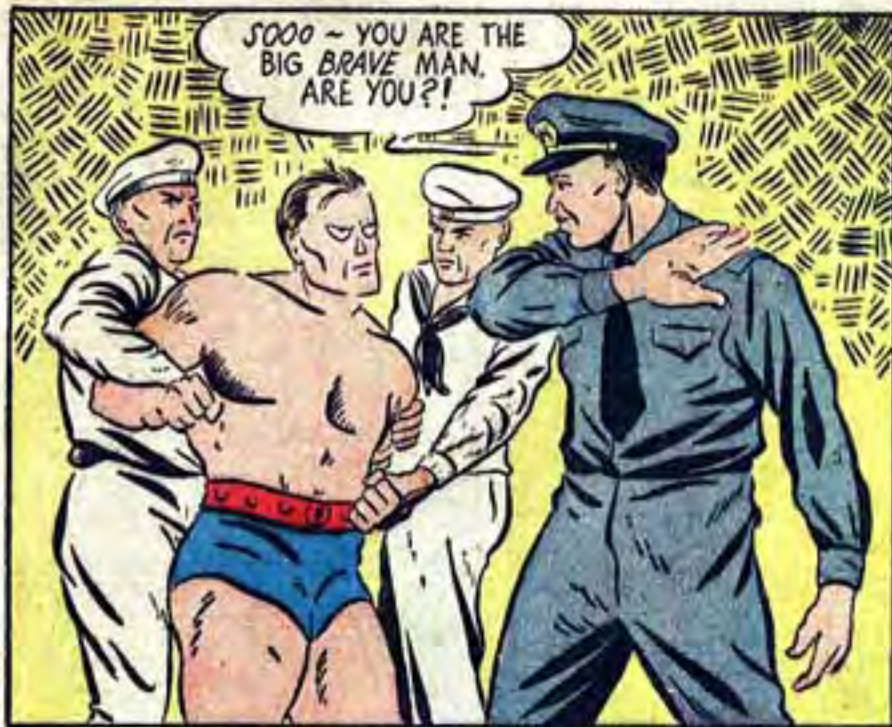


PERHAPS IF I LET THEM THINK I'M THEIR PRISONER, THEY'LL LEAD ME TO THE SOURCE OF TROUBLE...



ACH! - WE GOT HIM!

THEY'RE FALLING FOR IT!



NO SOONER DOES HE HIT THE WATER, WHEN THE SKULL FEELS A TREMENDOUS FORCE PULLING HIM DOWNWARDS!



WITH A TERRIFIC IMPACT, THE SKULL SMASHES INTO A HUGE, DOME-LIKE MAGNETIC FORTRESS...

WITH A MIGHTY EFFORT, WHICH STRAINS HIS IRON MUSCLES TO THE UTMOST, THE SKULL TEARS HIS HANDS FROM THE MAGNET!



POUNDING FURIOUSLY AT THE DOME, THE IRON SKULL SUCCEEDS IN CRASHING THE OUTER SHELL...

GOTTA WORK FAST! - CAN'T HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER!



HOW DID HE GET HERE?!

HAVING BROKEN THRU THE OUTER SHELL, THE SKULL ENTERS THRU THE SAFETY HATCH... BUT EXHAUSTED BY HIS SUBMERSION HE IS QUICKLY SEIZED BY TWO OF THE CREW



REGAINING HIS STRENGTH, THE SKULL LOCKS THE TWO SPIES IN A VICE-LIKE GRIP AND CHOKES THEM INTO SUBMISSION...



SO THAT'S HOW OUR SHIP'S BEEN SUNK!

A POWERFULL MAGNETIC FORCE THAT DRAWS THEM DOWN!

LOOKING AROUND, THE SKULL SPIES A PERISCOPE...



LOOKING THRU THE PERISCOPE, THE SKULL SPIES THE ENEMY SUB, AS IT APPROACHES.

LOOKS LIKE THE SAME SUB... AND IT'S COMING THIS WAY!

THE SUBMARINE APPROACHES AND MOORES ONTO THE MAGNETIC FORTRESS



THE NAZI CAPTAIN ENTERS THRU THE SPECIAL TUNNEL



HIMMEL!
CAN IT
BE...

YOU?! - BUT
YOU ARE DEAD!

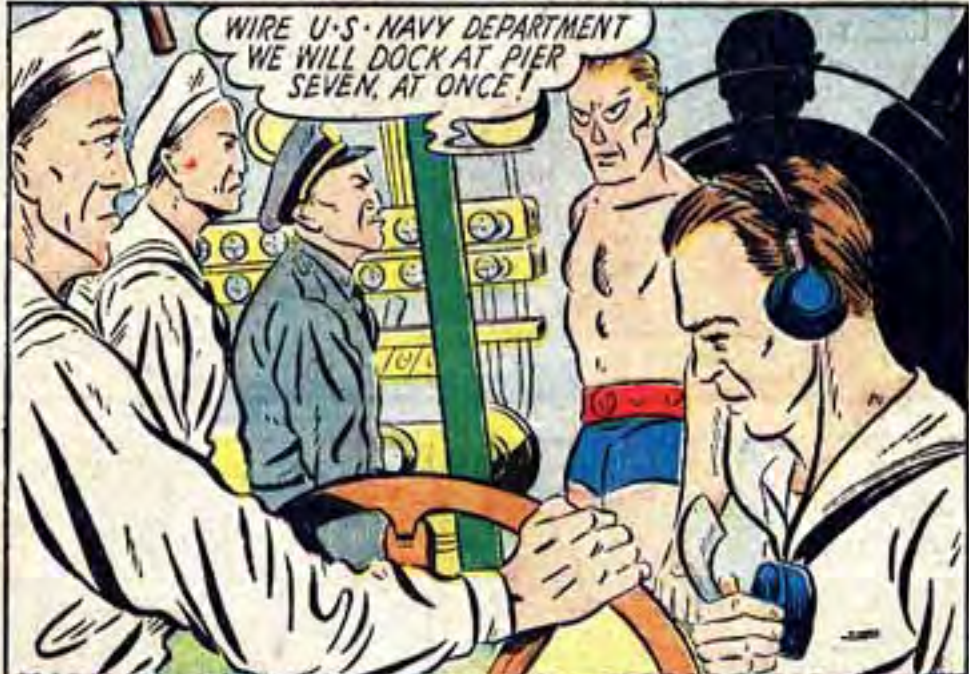


ORDER YOUR MEN BACK
TO THEIR POSTS - WE
START FOR SHORE
IMMEDIATELY!



THE MAN
MUST BE
THE DEVIL!

WIRE U.S. NAVY DEPARTMENT
WE WILL DOCK AT PIER
SEVEN, AT ONCE!



WITH THE SKULL IN COMMAND - THE SUB STARTS FOR SHORE

THERE SHE COMES!
THANKS TO THE
IRON SKULL!



AT PIER SEVEN, CHIEF STEWART WAITS ANXIOUSLY FOR THE SUB.

OUR COUNTRY
IS PROUD
OF YOU,
SKULL

WE'VE ALL GOT
TO DO OUR
PART NOW,
CHIEF!

