

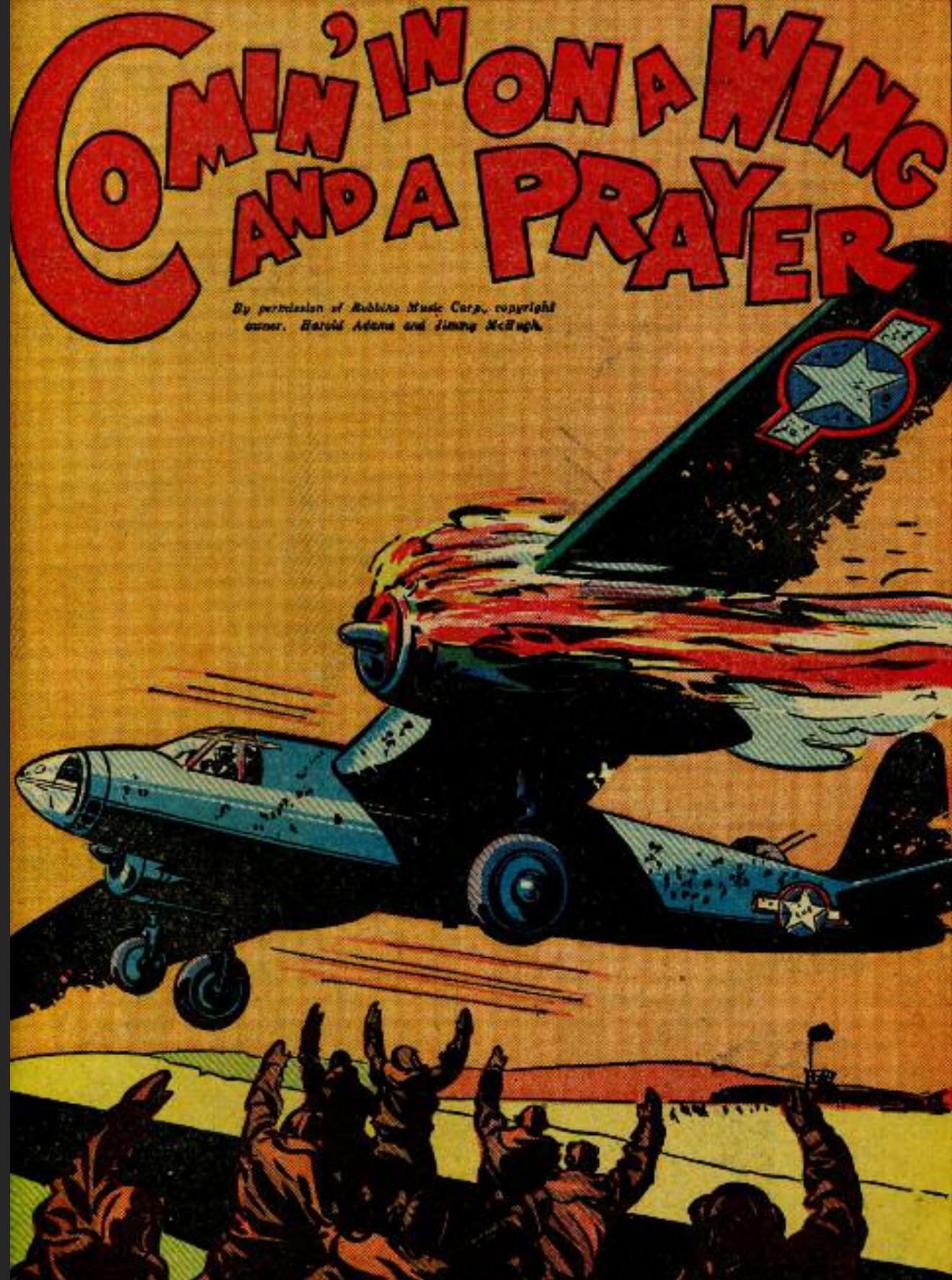
# AMERICA IN WWII

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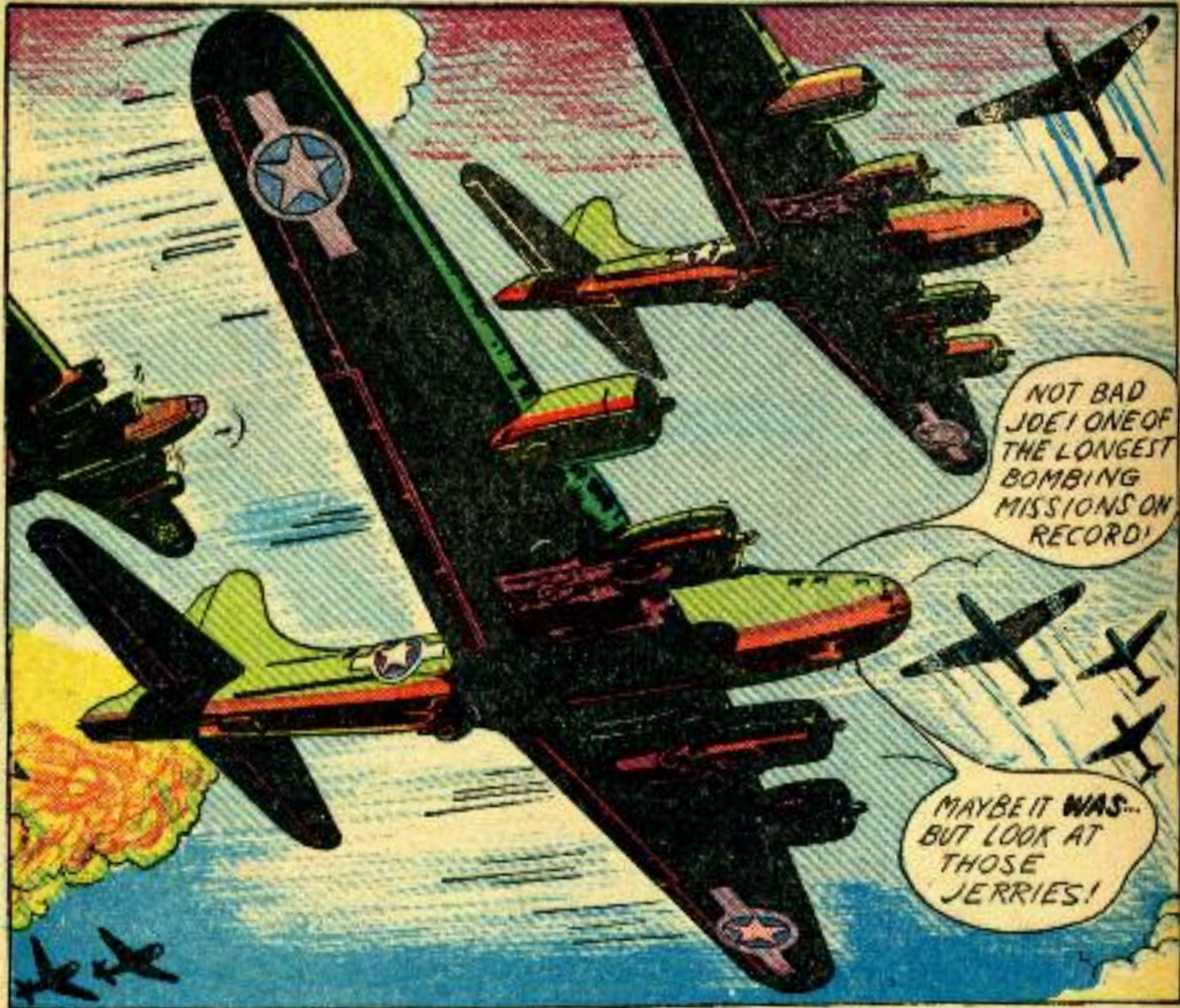
*Proudly Presents*

# COMIN' IN ON A WING AND A PRAYER

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U.S. Petroleum Administration for War  
★ 1943 ★







NOT BAD JOE! ONE OF THE LONGEST BOMBING MISSIONS ON RECORD!

MAYBE IT WAS... BUT LOOK AT THOSE JERRIES!



HOLD ONTO YOUR HATS BOYS... HERE WE GO AGAIN!

HERE COMES OUR GANG, TOO



START DRINKING GAS, THERE, HONEY.. WE'RE GOING UPSTAIRS!



CHOOSE YOUR PARTNERS, GANG!



WELL, LET'S GET BACK AND EAT



LET'S GET THIS CRATE TO BED AND SEE IF THERE'S ANY MAIL FROM HOME



I HAD A HUNCH I'D GET A LETTER TODAY. IT'S FROM DAD. GOSH, IT'S SWELL TO HEAR FROM THE OLD MAN. YOU KNOW, COME TO THINK OF IT...



DAD'S A WELDER. HIS LETTER SAYS HE'S WORKING ON 100-OCTANE PLANTS

AND WHERE DO YOU THINK WE'D BE TODAY WITHOUT 100-OCTANE?... UP THE CREEK!!





100-OCTANE GIVES US LONGER CRUISING RANGE THAT'S WHY WE COULD GO SO FAR

THAT'S WHY WE GOT BACK



IT GIVES US FASTER CLIMB. THAT'S WHY OUR FIGHTERS GOT ON TOP OF THOSE JERRIES



THE ONLY CATCH IS... SUPPOSE WE DID HAVE ALL THOSE THINGS.... WHAT WOULD YOU RUN 'EM ON... TOMATO JUICE?

WELL, NO, BUT...



OF COURSE NOT. THOSE BOMBERS AND FIGHTING PLANES NEED PLENTY OF 100-OCTANE GAS! SAY, HERE COMES BILL O'NEIL OF THE TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT. OH, BILL...



BACK IN HOMEVILLE

ED, YOU KNOW I WISH I COULD BUILD PLANES OR SOMETHING THAT WOULD MAKE ME FEEL AS IF I WAS MAKING WAR TOOLS



YEAH, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, TOM. IF EVERYBODY COULD JUST WORK ON PLANES AND TANKS AND SHIPS AND STUFF LIKE THAT



WHY, PRETTY SOON WE'D HAVE SO MANY OF THEM WE COULD BLOW THE DAY-LIGHTS OUTA HITLER, AND HAVE THE WAR OVER WITH

YEAH. THAT'S WHAT I MEAN, ED...



MR. O'NEIL, I WANT YOU TO MEET MY FRIEND, TOM STRONG. YOU REMEMBER YOU AND I WERE TALKING THE OTHER DAY...



AND YOU WERE TELLING ME HOW MUCH AVIATION GASOLINE THE BOYS IN THE SERVICE HAVE TO HAVE

SURE THING, ED... THEY NEED PLENTY. WHY, JUST FOR COMPARISON...



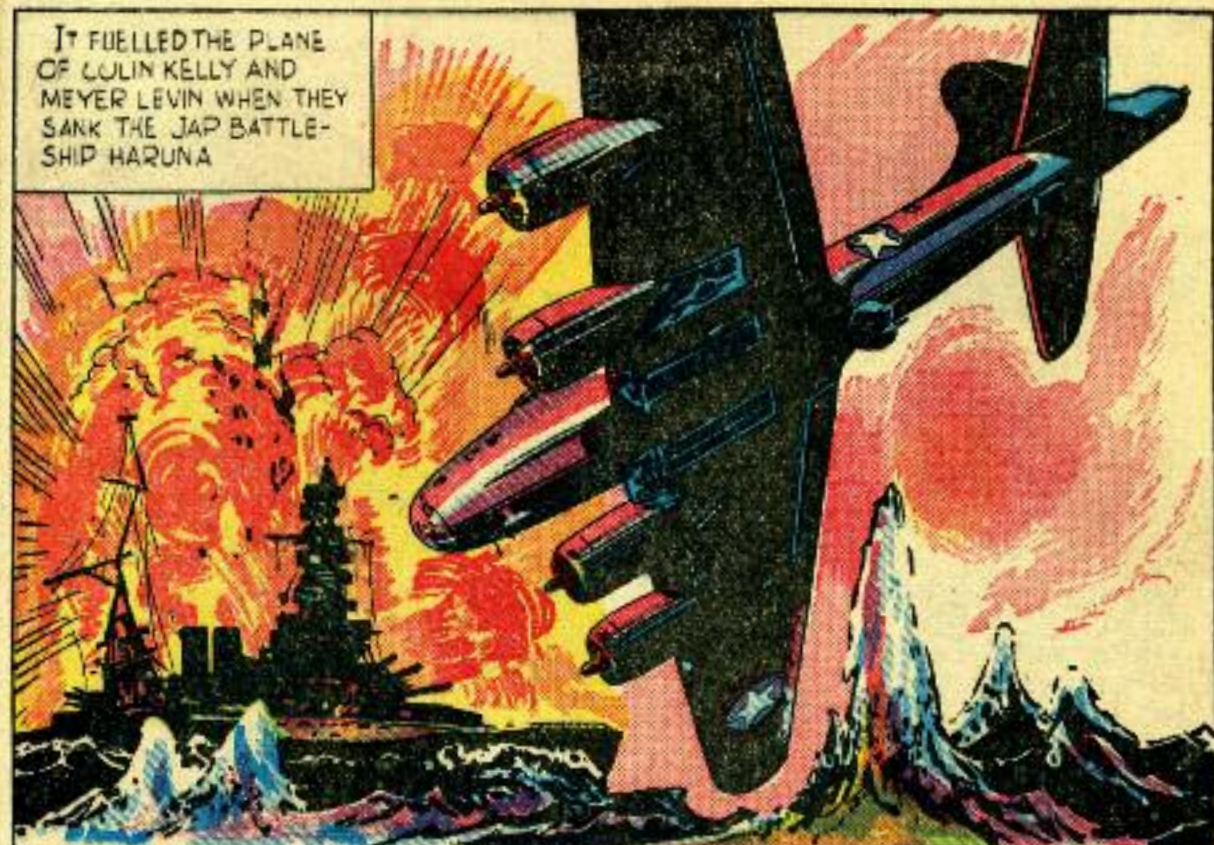


AT 35 MILES AN HOUR, YOUR AUTOMOBILE BURNS ABOUT 2 1/2 GALLONS OF ORDINARY GASOLINE PER HOUR. BUT...



ONE OF OUR FIGHTER PLANES WILL TRAVEL TEN TIMES AS FAR IN AN HOUR AND USES SIXTY GALLONS OF 100-OCTANE

PHEW! THAT'S DRINKING GAS!



IT FUELLED THE PLANE OF COLIN KELLY AND MEYER LEVIN WHEN THEY SANK THE JAP BATTLESHIP HARUNA



SURE IS. BUT THAT'S NOTHING! A BOMBER WILL USE THREE OR FOUR TIMES AS MUCH AS A FIGHTER!



EVERY AIR VICTORY WE'VE WON IN THIS WAR HAS BEEN WON WITH 100-OCTANE



IT CARRIES THE NAVY PLANES ON THEIR SUBMARINE PATROLS



IT POWERS THE GIANT PBYS THAT BOMBED THE JAPS OUT OF KISKA





IT FUELLED THE TANKS OF THE FLYING TIGERS THAT CLAWED THE JAPS ALL OVER CHINA

WHEN THE MARINES WENT TO GUADALCANAL 100-OCTANE WENT WITH 'EM

OVER FRANCE AND GERMANY 100-OCTANE IS MAKING ENGINES ROAR AND MAKING HITLER'S HEAD SWIM



IT IS MAKING ENGINES SING FOR OUR FLYERS AS THEY ATTACK OVER THE MEDITERRANEAN..



AND IT'S KEEPING 'EM FLYING DOWN THERE IN THE PACIFIC, WHERE OUR BOYS ARE TURNING THE TOKIO EXPRESS INTO A DERAILED LOCAL



GOLLY, I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT THAT 100-OCTANE STUFF IS

AND REMEMBER, WE AREN'T JUST WRINGING IT OUT OF A SOCK!

YOU SAID IT, ED. WHEN WE STARTED THIS WAR, WE DIDN'T HAVE ALL THE 100-OCTANE WE WISHED WE HAD



WE'RE JUST BEGINNING TO GET IT NOW AND WE NEED MORE AND MORE EVERY MONTH AND WE **MUST** GET IT. BECAUSE GUYS LIKE YOU AND TOM, AND THESE OTHER FELLOWS HERE ARE PUTTING UP THE PLANTS TO MAKE IT.



WELDERS, PIPE-FITTERS, RIGGERS, LABORERS-ALL OF 'EM- THEY'RE MAKING PLENTY OF HEADACHES FOR ADOLF!

DON'T YOU THINK MAYBE YOU TECHNICAL GUYS OUGHT TO GET SOME OF THE CREDIT?



THERE'S PLENTY OF CREDIT TO GO AROUND, BUT WE DON'T NEED CREDIT... WHAT WE NEED IS **MORE 100-OCTANE** RIGHT NOW!

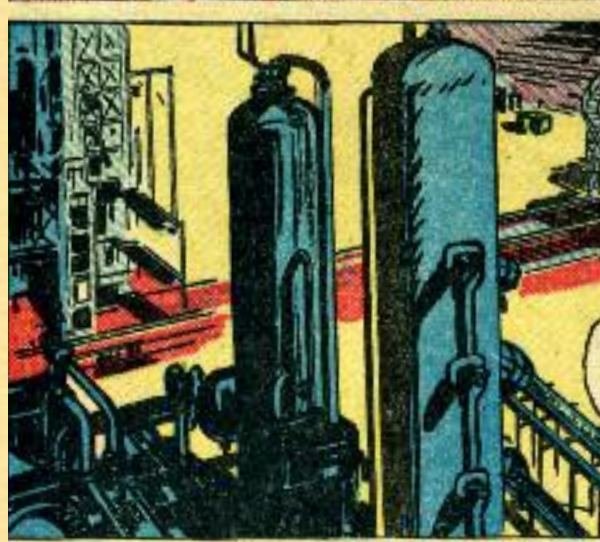


SURE, THAT'S RIGHT SO WHY DON'T WE TURN OUT OCEANS OF IT? WHAT'S SO DIFFERENT ABOUT **100-OCTANE** FROM ANY OTHER GASOLINE?

**PLENTY!** HUNDRED-OCTANE IS VERY SPECIAL STUFF, IT'S NOT JUST **ONE** PRODUCT-IT'S A VERY FANCY BLEND



FIRST, YOU HAVE TO HAVE A BASE STOCK. THAT'S GAS, BUT BETTER GAS THAN YOUR AUTOMOBILE EVER SAW!



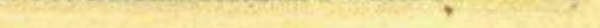
THEN YOU HAVE TO HAVE SOME STEPPER-UPPERS! LIKE **ALKYLATE**. SO THAT'S WHAT BOOSTS THE OCTANE NUMBER--ITS ANTI-KNOCK QUALITY



SOUNDS SIMPLE! BUT, IT SURE ISN'T. ALL THIS TRICK EQUIPMENT THAT YOU FELLOWS ARE BUILDING TEARS THE OIL APART AND TURNS IT UPSIDE DOWN AND JUGGLES IT ALL AROUND 'TIL ITS OWN MOTHER WOULDN'T RECOGNIZE IT!



SO, I GUESS NOBODY NEEDS TO TELL YOU FELLOWS THAT YOU ARE DOING ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT JOBS IN THIS WAR. BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO NEED MORE AND MORE AND **MORE 100-OCTANE** TO WIN!







YOU KNOW, TOM, TALKING LIKE THAT MAKES ME THINK OF MY KID, BERT. HE'S A GUNNER IN THE AIR FORCE, YOU KNOW



HE'S REALLY BEEN IN THERE WHERE IT'S HOT. HE'S BEEN ON A LOT OF BOMBING MISSIONS... WONDER IF HE GOT MY LAST LETTER



SAY, TOM, COME TO THINK OF IT-NOT ONLY DOES BERT'S SHIP FLY ON THIS 100-OCTANE THAT THIS PLANT IS GOING TO MAKE-BUT THE BOMBS THEY DROP ARE FILLED WITH TNT-MADE OUT OF TOLUENE THAT COMES FROM THIS SAME KIND OF PLANT



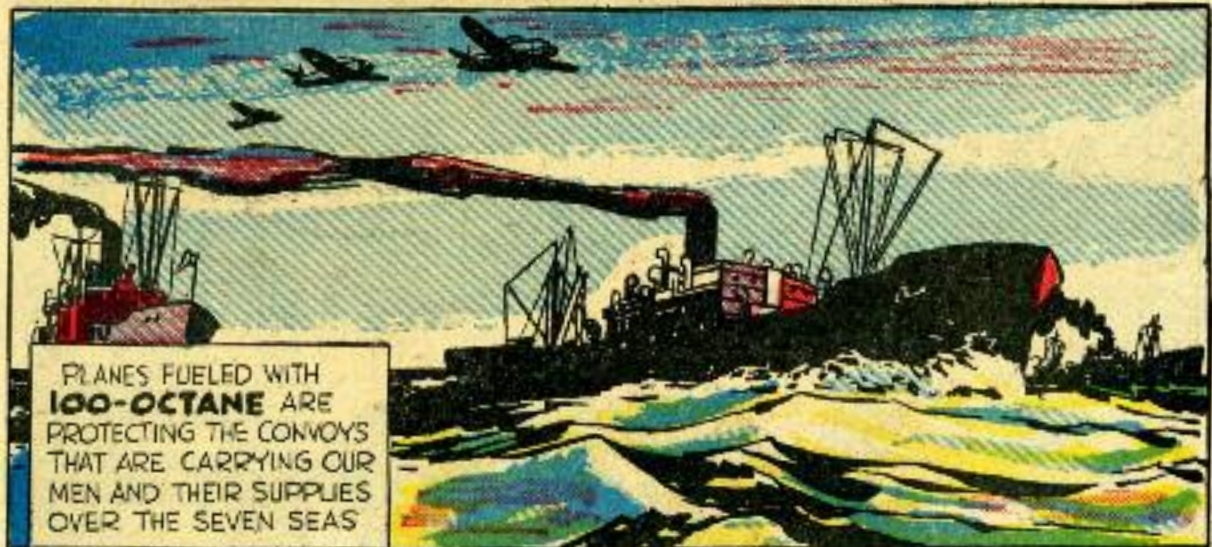
I SUPPOSE THERE'S PLENTY OF YOUNG FELLAS YEAH, FELLAS FROM RIGHT HERE IN TOWN, AND RIGHT ON OUR STREET-THAT ARE LIVING TODAY ON ACCOUNT OF 100-OCTANE



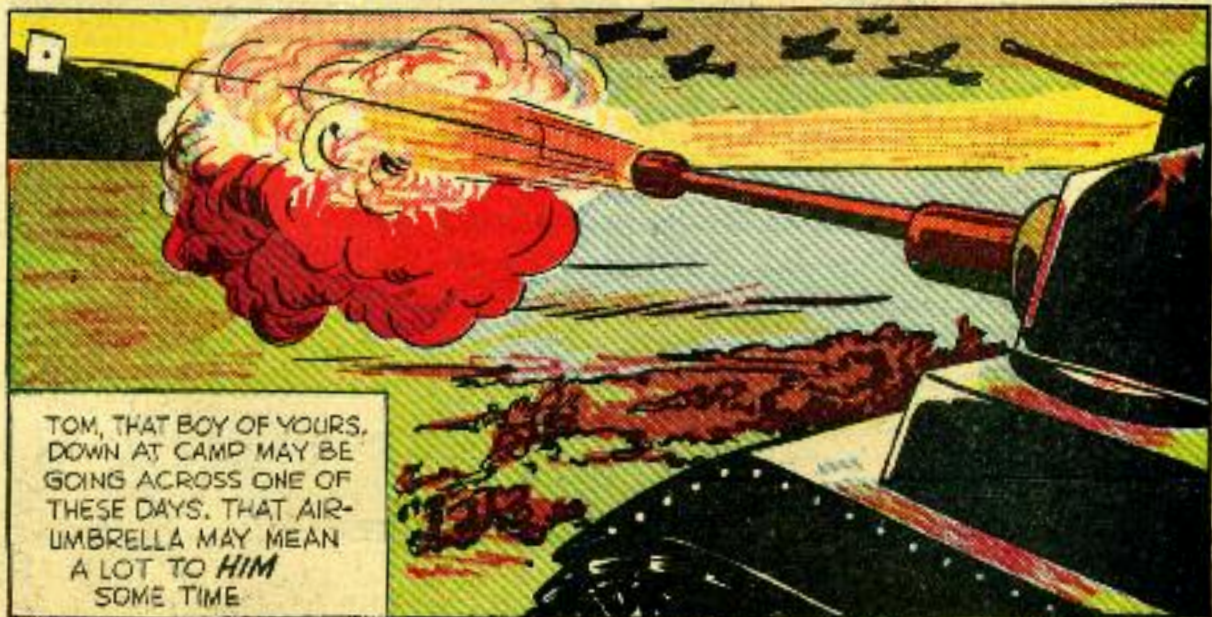
100-OCTANE GASSED THE PLANES THAT BLEW ROMMEL OUT OF TUNISIA AND SAVED THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF DOUGHBOYS



100-OCTANE POWERED THE PLANES THAT SANK THE JAP FLEET THAT TRIED TO SNEAK UP ON MIDWAY ISLAND



PLANES FUELED WITH 100-OCTANE ARE PROTECTING THE CONVOYS THAT ARE CARRYING OUR MEN AND THEIR SUPPLIES OVER THE SEVEN SEAS



TOM, THAT BOY OF YOURS, DOWN AT CAMP MAY BE GOING ACROSS ONE OF THESE DAYS. THAT AIR-UMBRELLA MAY MEAN A LOT TO HIM SOME TIME





I HADN'T REALLY THOUGHT THIS THROUGH BEFORE. BUT YOU KNOW ED, WE ARE DOING A REAL JOB IN THIS WAR



GOOD OLD 100-OCTANE IS MAKING THE ENGINES PURR OVER A LOT OF PLACES RIGHT NOW. I WONDER WHERE THE KID IS?



MEANWHILE, SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND

THERE COMES SOME MORE 100-OCTANE--I SURE HOPE IT KEEPS RIGHT ON COMING!

PUT THAT DOWN FOR ME, TOO! WELL, LET'S GET GOING!



HERE WE GO TO GIVE 'EM SOMETHING MORE TO REMEMBER US BY!

JUST A NEST OF EGGS FOR YOU, SCHICKELGRUBER. AND A MESSAGE FOR YOU, DAD: KEEP THAT 100-OCTANE COMING!

# IT'S UP TO YOU - - - - -



More and more planes — — planes by the thousands — — are rolling out of American factories every month — — more and more planes for more and more bombing and fighting missions.



Bigger, better planes are soon to be rolling from these factories — — planes that will fly further and faster than any man has ever made before — — and that will call for *more* 100-octane gasoline for *each* plane.



Up and *up* and *UP* our 100-octane needs have climbed, and they'll climb more and *more* and *MORE* as the American offensives grow bigger. No matter how much we can make, *we will need every drop of it.*



Forty-seven refineries are now making 100-Octane gasoline or some of its finished components. Still more 100-Octane will be coming out of 26 of these plants as soon as expansions to them are completed.



The plant where *you* are now working is one of 126 which are making 100-Octane or will be when construction is completed. Every one of those plants is going to be necessary to the winning of the war.

**BUT —**

Even when they are completed, we *still* won't have enough. We will have to build more if we are to keep pace with the job that our fighting pilots are doing in the air.

*It's Up to You — — Keep 'em Flying!*

**PETROLEUM ADMINISTRATION FOR WAR**  
Washington, D. C.





## What's the Story Behind This Comic?

To win World War II, America needed war-plane fuel—much more than the country could produce. More high-octane refineries had to be built, and *fast*. But after a year of nonstop effort, refinery construction workers were tired. Morale sagged. So did the pace of construction. How to lift morale and productivity? Why, comic books, of course! The US government's Petroleum Administration for War (PAW) designed



its comic books to inspire refinery construction workers with the huge importance of their work. The first—*Comin' in on a Wing and a Prayer*—appeared in late 1943. It was so popular that PAW quickly followed up with *Under-Cover War*. Did the comic books do the trick? Hard to say—but America did win the war!

For more, see "*Comic Books for Hardhat Heroes*," by Kevin Morrow, in the October 2009 issue of *America in WWII* magazine.

Know someone whose morale needs a boost?

**Share this comic today!**

### About AMERICA IN WWII...

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