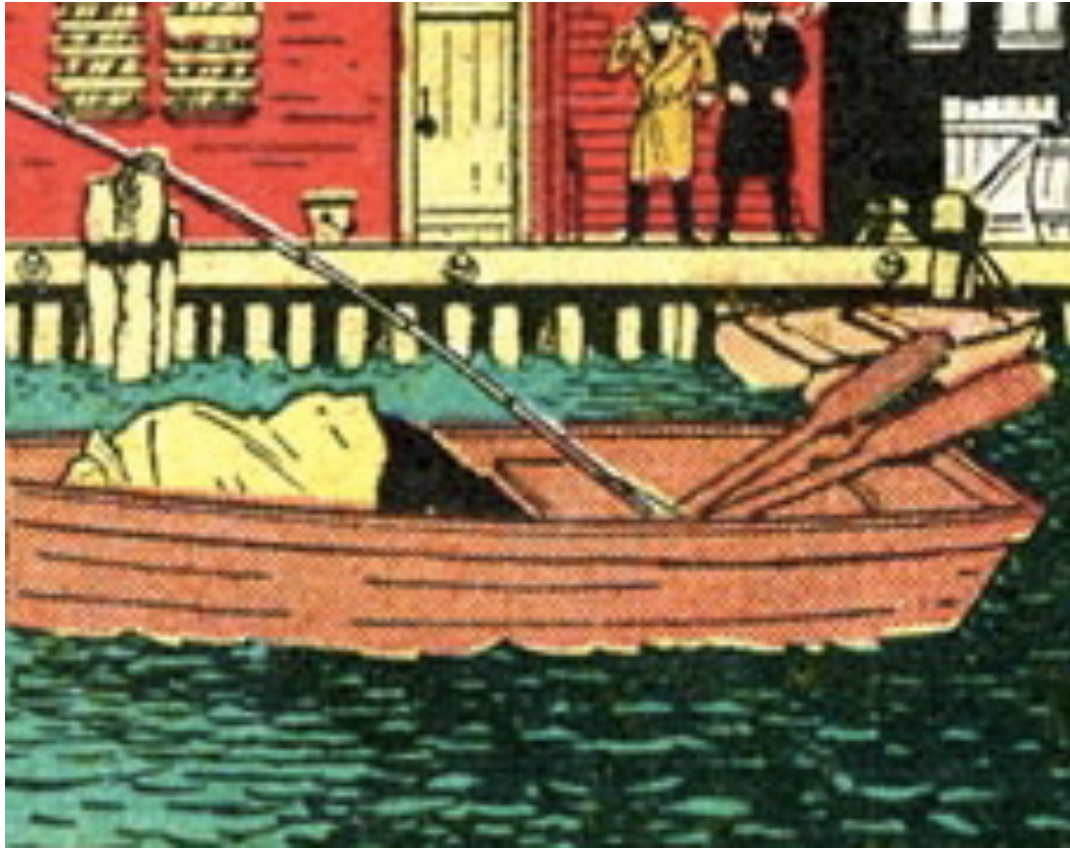


# The Case of the Fisherman's Letter

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Private investigator Brooks and his assistant, Williams, were walking along the city docks early one evening after a long day on the job. As they were discussing one of their recent cases, Brooks pointed to an object in the bay. “Look, Williams,” exclaimed Brooks, “there’s a body in that rowboat!”



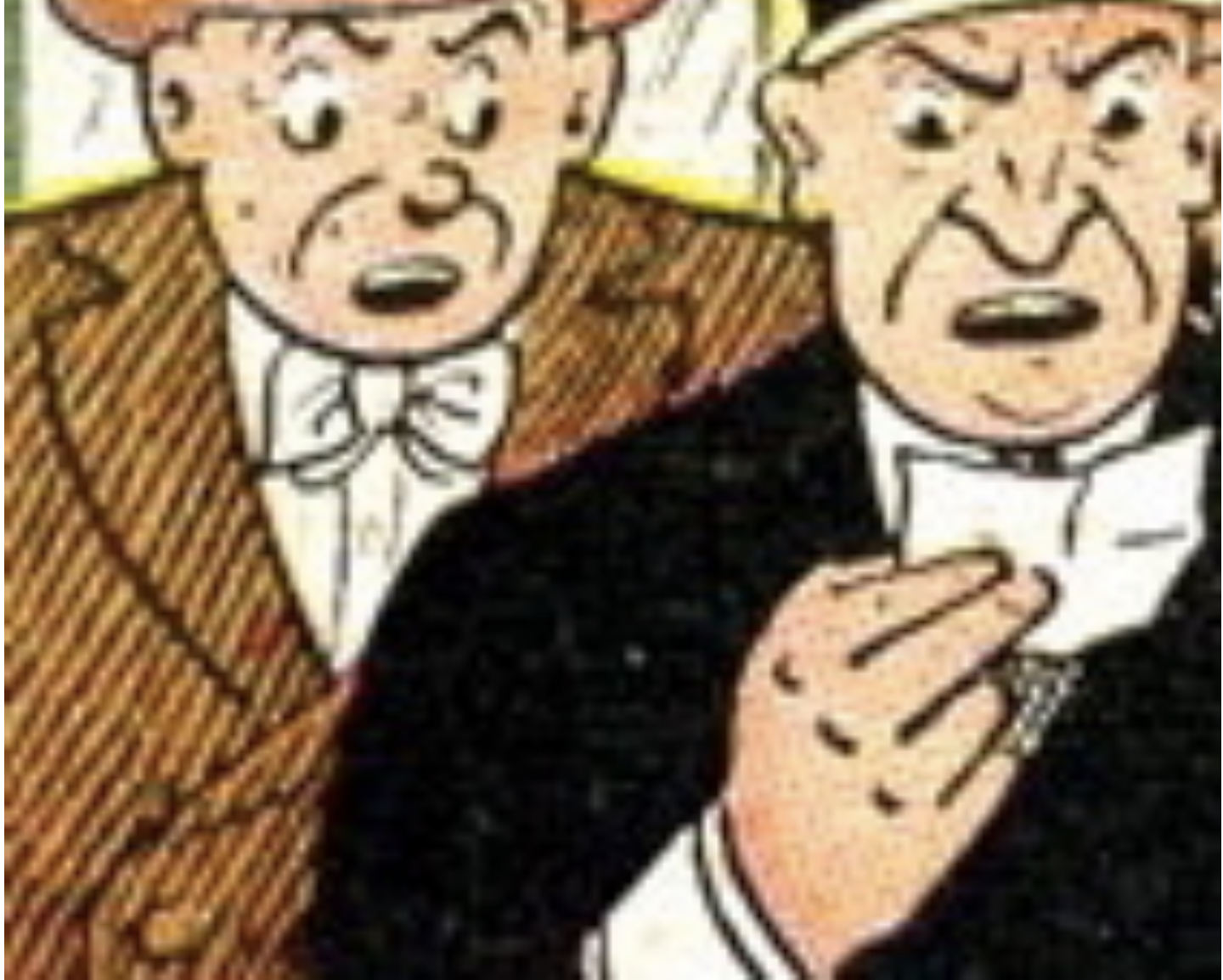
The two men pulled the body of a fisherman out of the boat. He was shot and barely clinging to life. “Quick, Williams,” said Brooks urgently, “call an ambulance.”



The hospital staff made a valiant effort but they were unable to save the life of the fisherman. As the nurses were going through his clothing, searching for some clue to his identity, they came across a mysterious letter in an open envelope and handed it to Brooks.



The letter read: "I threatened to expose the Cobalt gang's plan to blow up City Hall at midnight tonight unless they paid me off. If you are reading this it means that they have succeeded in silencing me." Brooks threw the letter on the floor and dashed off with Williams without a word.



One of the nurses picked up the letter and delivered it to the head of the hospital. He gasped as he quickly read the letter. Looking over his shoulder was his assistant, who was secretly a member of the Cobalt gang.



The assistant dashed to his office and made a desperate phone call. “Boss, they’re on to us,” he shouted breathlessly, “we can’t wait until midnight--blow it up now!”

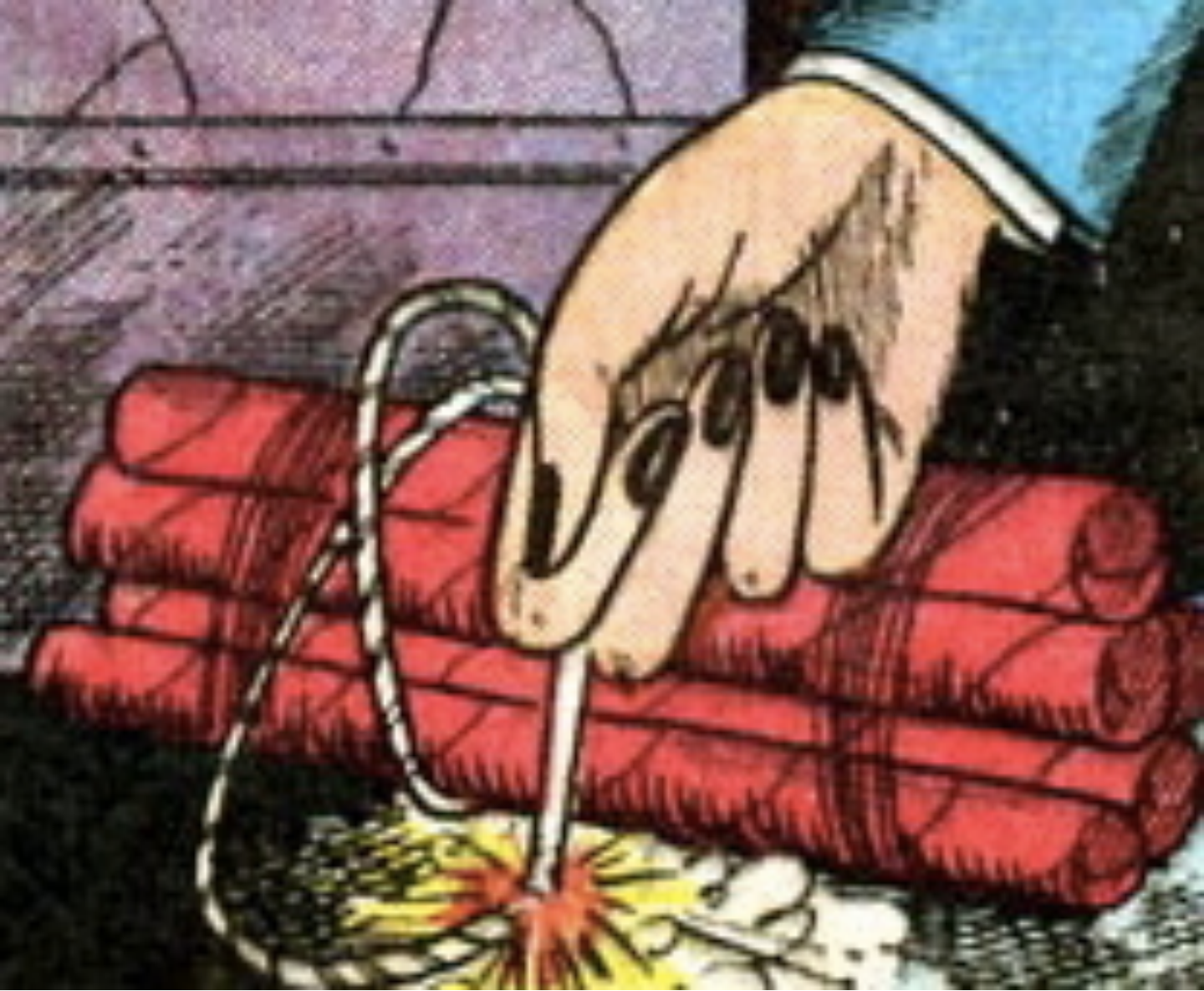


Just at that moment Brooks and Williams arrived at City Hall but the front door was locked. They tried kicking the door in and when that did not work they got out a small amount of plastic explosives.



The explosives detonated with a deafening boom and the door came down with a crash. The gang boss and other gang members were momentarily stunned by the force of the explosion.

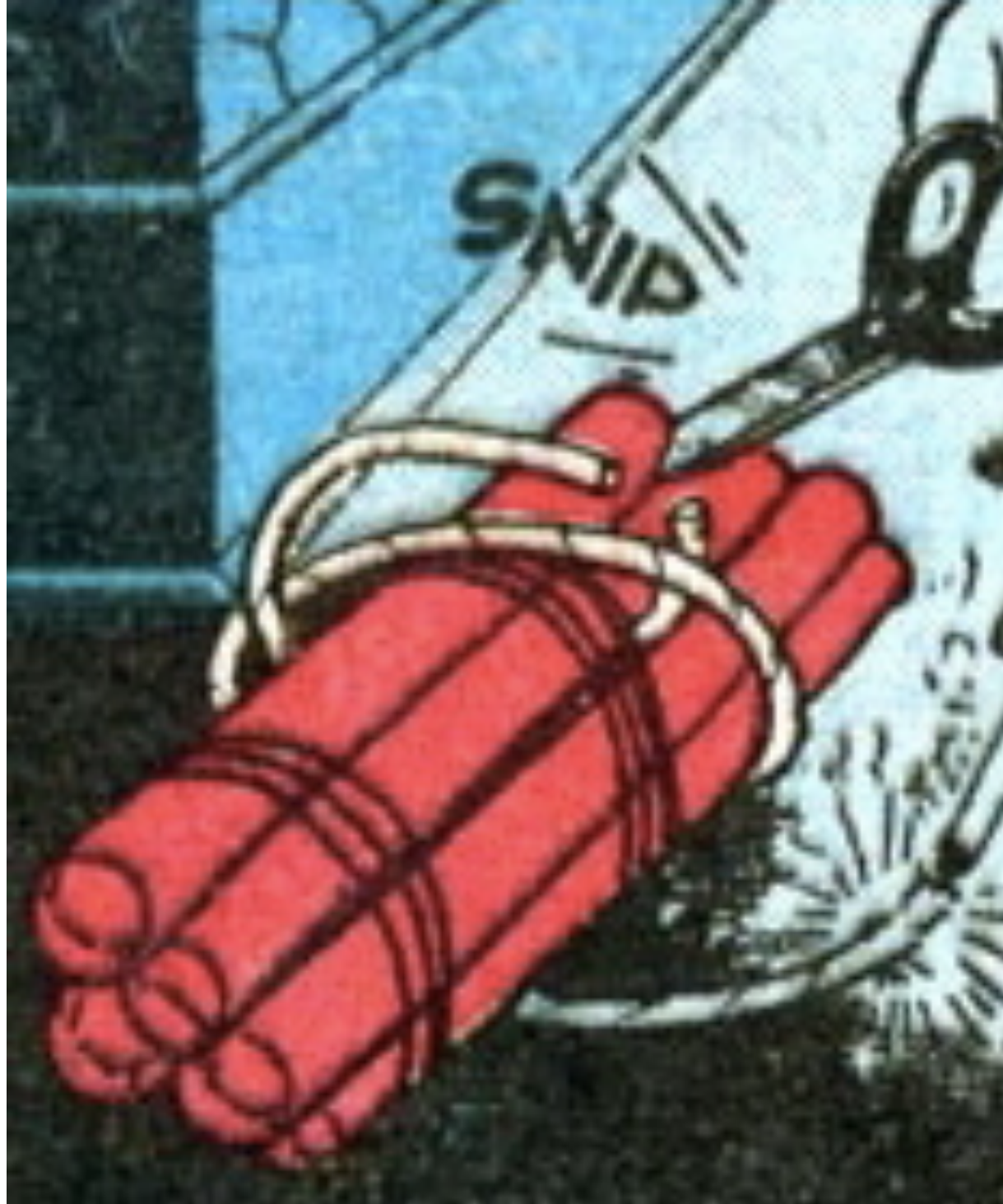




That small pause gave Brooks and Williams time to rush into the building to confront the gang, but not before the gang boss came to his senses and quickly lit the bomb.



Brooks sprang into action, delivering a swift kick to disable the gang boss. Then he and Williams took care of the other men.



Brooks took out his scissors and disabled the bomb just as the fuse was about to burn out. The police arrived and took away all of the gang members.



“That was quite a feat, Brooks,”  
exclaimed the Chief of Police, “our city  
owes you its gratitude.” “And this gives  
us a chance to get a new door for City  
Hall--I never liked the old one anyway.”