



1944... WAR RAGES THROUGHOUT EUROPE AND THE PACIFIC. IN AMERICA, ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDES A RESPIRE FROM THE RELENTLESS NEWS OF KILLING & FIGHTING. THE US GOV'T ACKNOWLEDGES THE CIRCUS AS A SOURCE OF "SUSTAINMENT OF MORALE ON THE HOMEFRONT". BUT THE TWISTS OF TRAGEDY RESPECT NO BOUNDARIES.



THE BIG TOP CANVAS WAS WATERPROOFED WITH 1,800lbs OF PARAFFIN & 6,000gals OF BENZENE



168 PEOPLE ARE KILLED INCLUDING 84 CHILDREN. SIX VICTIMS ARE UNIDENTIFIED.

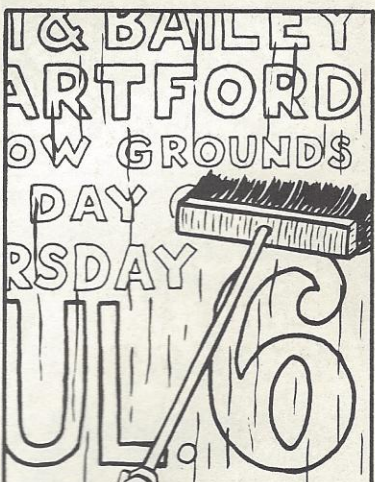
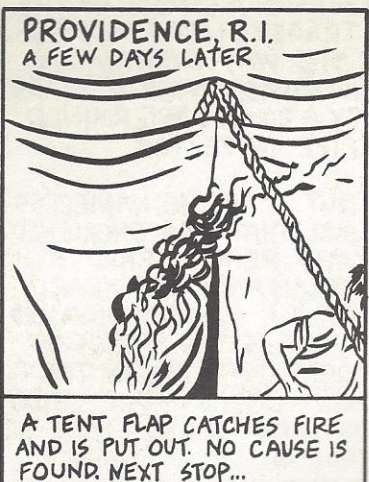
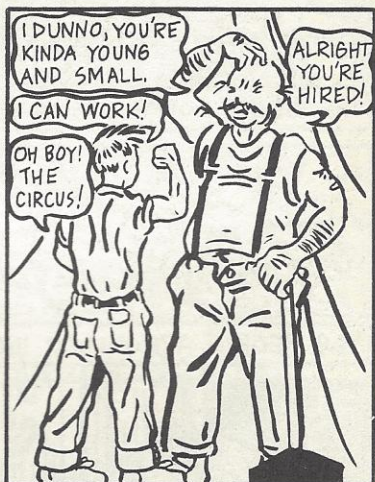
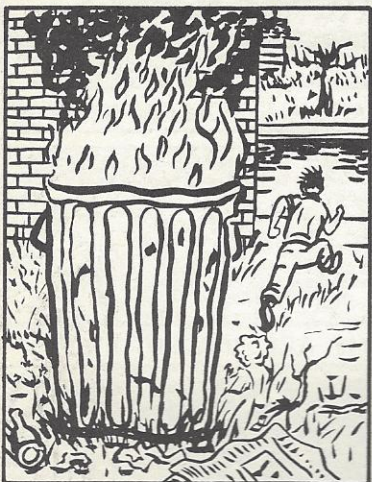


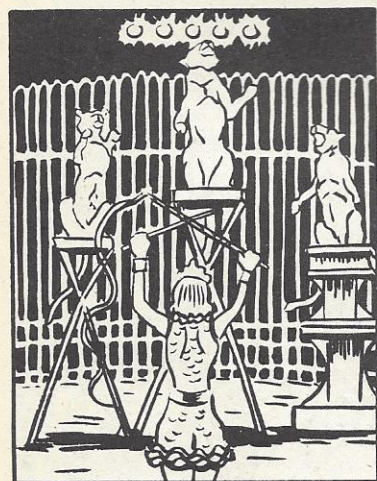
ONE OF THE UNCLAIMED, A YOUNG GIRL BARELY TOUCHED BY THE FLAMES, BECAME A SYMBOL OF THE TRAGEDY, LITTLE MISS 1565. SHE WAS EVENTUALLY IDENTIFIED AFTER 47 YEARS BY A BOUND & DETERMINED FIRE INSPECTOR.

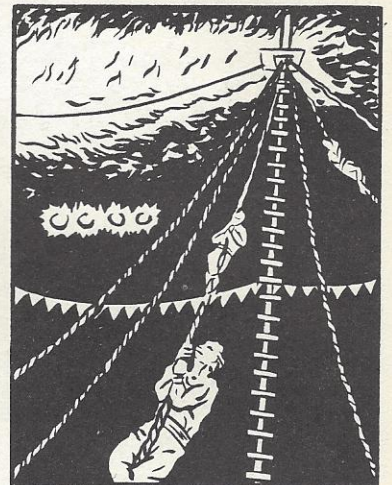


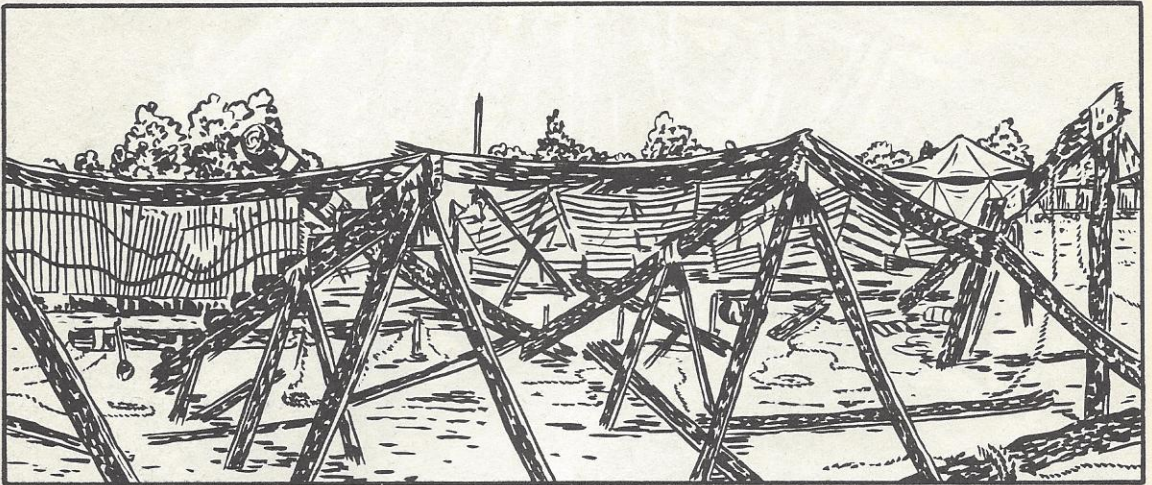
BUT IT IS THE NAMELESS GIRL THAT WAS CHERISHED AND REMEMBERED BY THOUSANDS FOR NEARLY HALF A CENTURY. UNNAMED, SHE IS THE PATHOS OF DEATH, A GUIDE IN THE UNFANTHOMABLE VOID. WITHOUT A NAME, SHE IS OUR BOND IN COMMON.











THE INITIAL BOTCHED INVESTIGATION WAS COVERED UP TO PREVENT ANY SUBSEQUENT POLITICAL OR DEPARTMENTAL BACKLASH FROM THE PUBLIC



DESPITE HIS CRIMINAL RECORD OF ARSON, ROBERT SEGEE WAS NEVER CHARGED WITH THE HARTFORD FIRE. HE LATER RECANTED HIS CONFESSION

THE HUMIDITY READING AT THE TIME OF THE FIRE WAS 42%. STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF A CIGARETTE FIRE STARTING ABOVE 73%



BUT TRAGEDY OR NOT... THE SHOW MUST GO ON!



Murder Can Be Fun[®]

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Triangle Shirtwaist FireGabby Gamboa

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