

of that, the monster,
armored hide, charged
Sir William said later it
be killed in the next inst

But as the rhino charged
a native boy who was armed
a broad bladed, short-hafted s
passed him, the carrier drove hi
left foreleg of the rhino. It hit
soon toppled over dead not very
tended victims. Miracle of mirac
landed in just the right spot.

The hunters sweated over that one,
astounded them was the fact that the
most of whom were mortally afraid of the
tended prey, could produce anyone with the c
age of the native boy who stood in the path of the
charging beast and killed it with a simple spear
when high-powered rifle fire did not even faze it!

When examined later, the rhino proved to be as
huge as described by the carriers. It was found
that it had been hit by eleven rifle bullets, none
of which had penetrated a vital spot and most of
which had not even gone through the two- and
three-inch hide around the head of the animal.

When asked what he would regard as the most
thrilling of all animal combats, Sir William re-
plied that he would give his right arm to see a
battle between a rhinoceros and a maddened bull
elephant. He could imagine nothing more primi-
tively exciting than that. As Lucullus records,
that very event had been seen in the Roman arena.
In some ways, in spite of our civilized manner, it
would be a wonderful sight today.

* * *

AS DUMB AS A FOX

☆ BY JOHN LANE ☆

“ALL right, Corporal, tell your story and
make it clear.” The captain glanced at
Lieutenant Waterson significantly and
then looked back at Corporal Ferson. The orderly
room of the little Alaskan post became quiet and
the half-dozen officers of the small garrison pre-
pared to listen to Ferson's story. It was July
seventeenth, nineteen forty-four, but to judge
from the howling of the wind outside you
wouldn't have known it.

“Well, sir,” the corporal began, “I was huddling
behind the log breastworks where the number
three forty millimeter cannon is mounted. It was
windier than hell, sir, and I was down as low as
I could get. I looked at my watch and it was ten-
thirty. In another half-hour I was supposed to
go off duty and my mind was on a hot cup of
coffee. Boy, that was—”

“Stick to the story, corporal,” Lt. Waterson
interjected.

“Yes sir. Anyway, I was sort of drowsy, but I
was awake. I know that, sir, because I can



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hundred feet away. It
I opened the gun up
positive I hit 'it.'"
when the guard came,
to the captain. "We
there wasn't a single foot-
was a tree that had been
millimeter shells."
on," said the captain, "I'm not
issue of this. You fired the gun.
nervousness and maybe it was
I don't care. You've had a good
it spoil it, but don't let it happen

corporal, dismissed, left the orderly room.
alute he gave the officers had a slight ges-
of defiance in it.

The incident described above actually occurred.
it was never recorded officially, but those men
who knew Ferson swore among themselves that
he must have seen something. The matter was
never pressed to a conclusion and like so many
unusual and almost mystic phenomena, it died a
natural death. The point is, by all the laws of
reason and logic, Ferson fired at something. It
was no animal for it left no tracks. Nor was it a
man for the same reason. The officers had a gay
time laughing at what they termed "Ferson's
poltergeist." But the fact remains he saw some-
thing.

ise
I could
ed to move
yelled for the
did, corporal,"
touched the gun,
ed, and as I yelled I ripped
breath cover off, and I aimed at the thing

THE END

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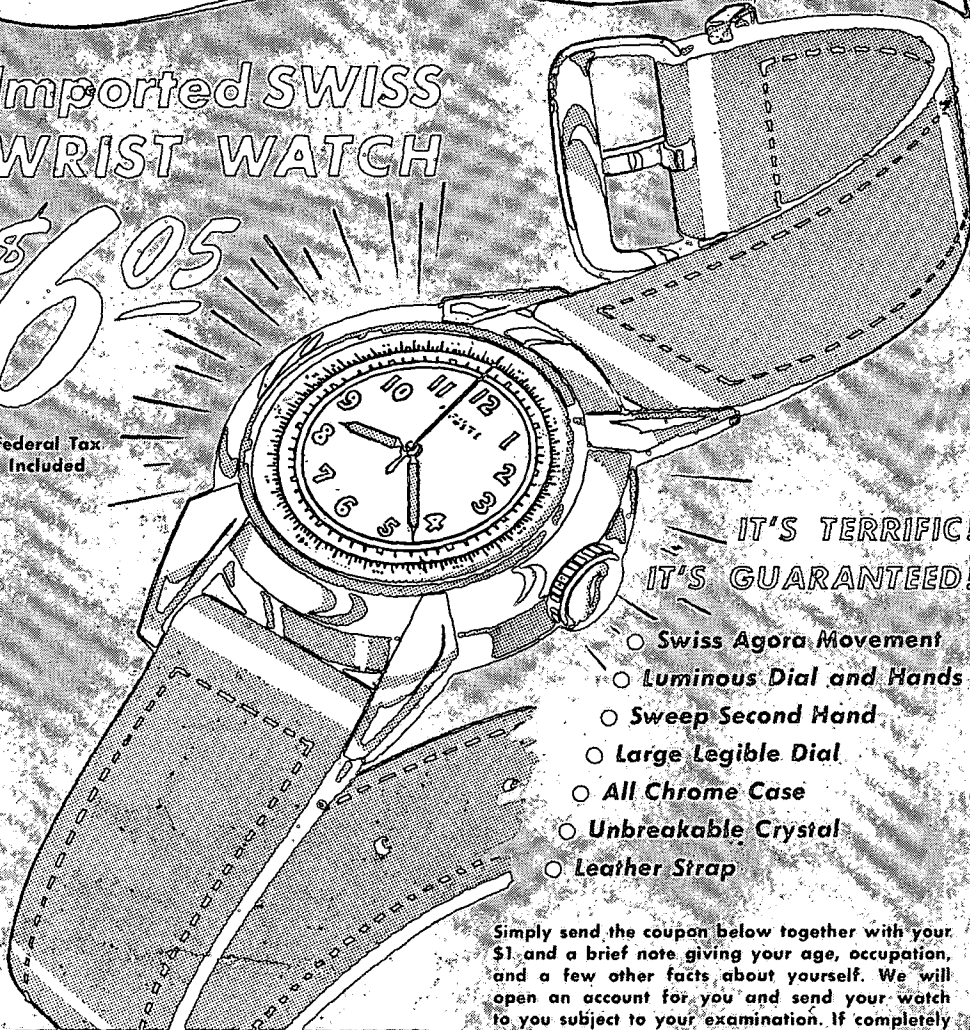
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