

CHRONOLOGY OF SHADOWS by Rick Lai

I. INTRODUCTION

This article is an attempt to create a coherent chronology of the published exploits of The Shadow, the pulp hero who was created by Walter B. Gibson under the pseudonym of Maxwell Grant. Many of my observations were based upon valuable information in these excellent reference books written about The Shadow: Frank Eisgruber's *Gangland's Doom* (Robert Weinberg, 1974), *The Shadow Scrapbook* (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc., 1979) by Walter B. Gibson (with additional material by Anthony Tollin), *The Duende History of The Shadow Magazine* (Odyssey Publications, 1980), by Will Murray (with additional material by Walter B. Gibson, Robert Sampson and Theodore Tinsley), and Robert Sampson's *The Night Master* (Pulp Press, 1982). In preparing this chronology, I re-read all the novels according to the submission order in which they were listed in *The Duende History of The Shadow Magazine*.

Before identifying the chronological factors in this pulp series, it must be established which of The Shadow's published exploits form the true series. Besides Gibson, the alias of Maxwell Grant was used by four other contributors to this series, Theodore Tinsley, Bruce Elliott, Lester Dent and Dennis Lynds.

Both Tinsley and Elliott wrote Shadow novels for the pulp magazine published by Street and Smith. Tinsley was hired to write novels as a backup for Gibson. Tinsley generally conformed to Gibson's conception of the pulp hero even though Tinsley's novels show distinct differences from Gibson's work. The Shadow may be more fallible and the action more violent, but Tinsley's novels are not a radical departure from Gibson's. Therefore, I include all of Tinsley's novels in this chronology with one minor exception. There was one novel which Tinsley originally submitted as a Shadow adventure, *Satan's Signature*, which was edited to remove the cloaked avenger from its events and published in *Clues* (November 1941) under the new title of *The Phantom Killer*. Since The Shadow no longer appeared in the novel, it can't be considered part of the series. I only mention *Satan's Signature* because it is included in the submission list of novels found in *The Duende History of The Shadow Magazine*.

When Gibson left the magazine temporarily in the late 1940's, Bruce Elliott was hired to replace him. Elliott wrote fifteen Shadow novels, but only one of them, *Reign of Terror* (June-July 1948), was consistent with Gibson's work. The other fourteen novels had The Shadow abandoning his role as mysterious crimefighter in order to solve crimes as Lamont Cranston. In Elliott's early novels, The Shadow appeared but he was much less masterful. In fact, he appeared to be getting his assignments from Burbank, the mysterious contact man who functioned solely as an agent in Gibson's novels. Elliott's novels are generally not viewed as legitimate entries in the series by fans of the pulp character. I have excluded the following novels by Elliott from the chronology: *The Blackest Mail* (August 1946), *Happy Death Day* (September 1946), *The Seven Deadly Arts* (October 1946), *No Safety in Numbers* (November 1946), *Death on Ice* (December 1946), *Death Stalks the UN* (January 1947), *Murder in White* (February-March 1947), *Room 1313* (April-May 1947), *Model Murder* (June-July 1947), *Svengali Kill* (August-September 1947), *Jabberwocky Kill* (October-November 1947), *Ten Glass Eyes* (December-January 1947), *The Television Murders* (February-March 1948) and *Murder on Main Street* (April-May 1948).

Lester Dent was hired by Street and Smith to write the Doc Savage series. In order to test his qualifications for the job, Street and Smith asked Dent to write a sample Shadow novel. Years later, this novel was revised by Gibson and published as *The Golden Vulture* (July 15, 1938). I see no difficulty in considering this novel a legitimate entry in the series.

Starting in 1963, Belmont Books published a new series of Shadow novels set in contemporary times. The first, *Return of The Shadow*, was written by Gibson under his own byline. Other than updating The Shadow slightly to the 1960's, it was consistent with his previous work. Belmont then published eight other novels written by Dennis Lynds under the Maxwell Grant pseudonym: *The Shadow Strikes* (1964), *Shadow Beware* (1965), *Cry Shadow!* (1965), *The Shadow's Revenge* (1965), *Mark of The Shadow* (1966), *Shadow--Go Mad!* (1966), *The Night of The Shadow* (1966), and *The Shadow: Destination Moon* (1967). In these novels, Lynds

combined elements of the radio show and the pulps to create a different version of The Shadow who tangled with the sort of villains who plagued James Bond and his imitators. Although the novels are entertaining, they are incompatible with Gibson's work, and are consequently excluded from this chronology.

Also included in this chronology are two short stories which Gibson wrote about The Shadow. These are "The Riddle of the Rangoon Ruby" from *The Shadow Scrapbook* and "Blackmail Bay" from *The Duende History of The Shadow Magazine*.

The pulp novels were published under the pretense that The Shadow really existed. The novels were printed with this caption: "From The Shadow's Private Annals as told to Maxwell Grant." The first issue of the magazine even had a statement from The Shadow printed on the back of the front cover:

"This is to certify that I have made careful examination of the manuscript known as 'The Living Shadow,' as set down by my raconteur, Mr. Maxwell Grant, and do find it a true account of my activities from that occasion. I have therefore arranged that Mr. Grant should have exclusive privilege to such further of my exploits as may be considered of interest to the American people."

Because of this pretense that The Shadow was a real person, I have adopted the rule that no pulp novel can be placed before the publication date which appeared on the cover of the magazine. This is not the actual month in which the magazine hit the newsstands. Generally, it was available one month earlier than the date on the magazine. However, I am not going to overly concern myself with the real facts of the publishing world. The premise that The Shadow was supposedly a real person runs into problems if you carry it to its logical extremes. In many novels, criminals go to great lengths to figure out the identities of The Shadow and his agents. If The Shadow really existed, crooks could have found out all this information just by buying the magazine at a newsstand. It could be speculated that Gibson changed the names of The Shadow's various identities as well as the names of his agents, but this is a line of speculation which I do not intend to pursue.

Although Gibson should be properly credited as The Shadow's creator, the name originated from a mysterious narrator on a radio program called *The Detective Story Program* (originally known as the *Detective Story Hour*), which began airing in the summer of 1930. Gibson was hired by Street and Smith to create a crimefighting hero based on this enigmatic radio host. The early novels frequently alluded to the radio show (but the text never actually identified it by name), and suggested that The Shadow took breaks from his investigations to narrate it.

Based on these radio references, the chronology of The Shadow's recorded exploits should begin in 1930. However, there was a chronological problem with starting in 1930. Because the magazine was originally published quarterly, Gibson mentioned that gaps of months separated some of the early novels. This practice ended when the magazine became a monthly publication. However, the fifth novel in the series, *Gangdom's Doom*, featured a political election in Chicago which actually happened in April 1931. In the fifth novel, a supporting character from the prior four novels, Claude Fellows, was slain. Placing *Gangdom's Doom* in the spring of 1931 caused the first three adventures to take place in late 1929 and early 1930 before a narrator known as The Shadow appeared on *The Detective Story Program*.

The Shadow continued to function as a radio narrator on various anthology programs until he was rewarded with his own series in 1932. However, he remained a narrator until 1937 where he became a crimefighter based on the pulps. Although he was now closer to his pulp counterpart, certain deviations appeared in the radio series. In the pulps, The Shadow was Kent Allard who frequently impersonated a wealthy adventurer named Lamont Cranston. In his second radio incarnation, he was really Lamont Cranston. The cloaked crimefighter was also given a girlfriend, Margo Lane, and the hypnotic ability to make himself invisible. Although The Shadow remained Allard in the pulps, these other radio embellishments would become part of the pulp novels during the 1940's. By 1937, Gibson had dropped from his novels all allusions to The Shadow as some sort of secret radio personality.

In writing this chronology, I will only be governed by the references in the pulp series. I acknowledge that The Shadow apparently was broadcasting his voice on radio programs in the 1930's, but I make no attempt to connect the radio references in the pulps to the actual radio appearances of the character. I place the first meeting between The Shadow and Margo Lane in 1940, even though they had known each other on the radio in 1937.

My intention was to generally keep the pulp novels in the order in which Gibson wrote them, and then put the contributions by Tinsley in any gaps which then appeared. However, several factors caused some juggling of the novels in ways which resulted in significant deviations from the submission order. In total, there should be 314 entries in this chronology (311 pulp novels, 1 paperback and 2 short stories). Although I have numbered the chronological entries to total 314, there are actually a larger number of entries. Gibson had large gaps in many of his novels. I will cite a few examples. In *Kings of Crime*, The Shadow fought crime in a resort during the entire summer season, but he didn't spend the entire summer there. In the middle of *Road of Crime*, Harry Vincent kept an eye on a reformed criminal in the Midwestern United States for months. In *The Silver Scourge*, a man is arrested for murder at the conclusion of one chapter, and then the novel resumed with the man awaiting execution after his conviction. Because of these large gaps, I had to have other novels and even portions of other novels, occur within the chronological gap inside a specific novel. Therefore, some novels have multiple entries in my chronology. I have uniformly appended a letter to the number for a partial chronological entry in order to still have 314 entries.

Another factor in placing these novels chronologically was the order in which the management at Street and Smith decided to print them. Gibson was so prolific at writing this series that there was a huge inventory of Shadow novels in the 1930's. A novel like *Crime Circus* would suddenly be picked to be printed much earlier than many novels which were written before it. Since the rules which governed my chronology were affected by publication dates, I had to make some adjustments due to the publication order.

Gibson also did some chronological juggling of his own. He would write a novel set in summer (*Death by Proxy*) and then set the next novel (*The Strange Disappearance of Joe Cardona*) in winter. In 1936 during the Spanish Civil War, Gibson wrote *The Masked Headsman*. The novel involved The Shadow with Spanish political refugees inside the United States. Probably because the Spanish Civil War was so controversial, the political situation described in the novel corresponded to 1933 not 1936.

I generally put Theodore Tinsley's novels in gaps that occurred once I had finished placing Gibson's novels. The only real time where Tinsley's contributions affected Gibson's was when I had to assign time frames to Tinsley's Prince of Evil series, four novels in which The Shadow battled the evil Benedict Stark. These novels clearly took place within a short span of time, and various references placed them in the summer. In this case, I had to juggle Gibson's contributions to make room for Tinsley's.

The major glaring inconsistency between Gibson's and Tinsley's novels occurred in the novels which they were writing in the early 1940's. Gibson had revealed The Shadow to be Kent Allard in 1937. In the beginning, Allard was the toast of the town. By 1940, Gibson had decided to portray Allard as a forgotten celebrity in *Xitili, God of Fire* and *The Wasp Returns*. Tinsley was unaware of this, and even enhanced Allard's fame by presenting him as one of the most admired men in the United States in *The Green Terror* and *The White Column*. In order to reconcile this discrepancy, I had to place Tinsley's novels involving the celebrated Allard after Gibson's involving the forgotten Allard, and deduce from Tinsley's prose the reason why Allard's fortunes had changed so fortuitously.

Beside real historical events which figured in the novels, Gibson also had The Shadow participate in fictional events which were based on well-known recent occurrences. In *Gangdom's Doom*, Gibson pitted his hero against Nick Savoli, a Chicago gangster clearly based on Al Capone. The political election which led to Savoli's downfall at the novel's conclusion was modeled closely on the April 1931 mayoral election in Chicago. A missing jurist, Judge Tolland, in *Double Z* was based on Judge Crater. The political kidnapping of a fictional Chinese General named Cho Tsing in *Teeth of the Dragon* was actually based on the abduction of Chiang Kai-shek in December 1936. Political events in a fictional South American nation of Garacua described in *The Garacuan Swindle* would seem to be inspired by the political turmoil which gripped the Caribbean nation of Cuba in late 1933. If Gibson did indeed base his fictional Garacua on Cuba, then he predicted that a colonel would eventually seize power in a coup. Gibson submitted his novel in December 1933, and the real-life political coup happened in January 1934. Cuba was also the basis for the fictional nation of Centralba in *Dictator of Crime*.

Continuing my pretense of treating The Shadow as a real person, I have speculated that these novels were "fictionalized" treatments of real events when making my respective chronological placements. This decision only caused some difficulty with *The Garacuan Swindle*. In this novel, Gibson had Police Commissioner Weston take a lengthy leave of absence to reorganize the police of Garacua. A temporary Commissioner named Wainwright Barth then took his place. Weston then came back in *The Dark Death*, stayed for a few novels, and then took a very enigmatic vacation in the Caribbean. During this vacation, Barth filled in until Weston returned in *The Ribbon Clues*. Weston then continued in his normal duties for all remaining novels with the exception of *The Crime Oracle* in which Barth was Commissioner without explanation.

If I kept the novels in submission order, then Weston would have three absences during which Barth replaces him. Because I am placing *The Garacuan Swindle* in January 1934, I had to place some previously written novels with Weston as Commissioner after it. Therefore, I gave Weston four absences. I also had some problem placing *The Ribbon Clues*. Various references in the novel indicate that the month of December was not too far away. The novel really should be placed in November 1934 (which was when Gibson wrote it). Because of the length of various novels which clearly precede *The Ribbon Clues*, the only slot where I could place this novel was in September 1935. Since Weston was clearing returning from an absence in this novel, *The Ribbon Clues* ending up immediately following *The Crime Oracle*, the last novel to feature Barth.

Another factor which figured in my chronological arrangement of the novels was prolonged absences by The Shadow's assistants. At the start of certain novels, Harry Vincent or Clyde Burke would be either returning from a vacation or concluding a lengthy assignment in a location outside New York. I have generally looked for novels where the relevant character was absent and placed them before the novel in which the character concluded his vacation or assignment.

The Shadow and his supporting cast often suffered wounds in the course of their adventures. During the 1930's, nearly every regular member of the cast received a bullet wound in the shoulder. Sometimes the character recovered from his wounds by the novel's end. More often, the characters still needed time to make a full recovery. In some cases, I have added gaps in this chronology to permit the time necessary for these wounds to heal. Unfortunately, this was not always possible because of the difficulties which arise when compressing a large amount of novels into a limited time frame. It would have to be assumed that many of these wounds merely creased the skin of the injured party.

There is another possible explanation. A mysterious purple elixir which appeared in novels such as *The Plot Master* seemed to accelerate the recovery of The Shadow and his agents. Perhaps this elixir accounted for the apparent miraculous healing powers of The Shadow and his subordinates,

Apparent editorial alterations played a part in the chronological placements of certain novels. *The Bells of Doom* was written during the period when Barth was commissioner and Weston was in Garacua. Written before Weston's return in *The Dark Death*, *The Bells of Doom* was published after that novel. In *The Bells of Doom*, the Commissioner was identified as Weston. I strongly suspect that Barth held the job in the original manuscript.

References to the opening of the 1939 New York World's Fair appear in *Castle of Crime* and *The Crime Ray*. These novels were published after the exhibition opened (April 30, 1939), but they were actually written in late 1938 and early 1939. Probably Gibson was instructed to insert these references since Street and Smith had on file a Doc Savage novel, *World's Fair Goblin* (April 1939) about the Fair months in advance of its opening.

The Case of Congressman Coyd, a novel written in 1934 but published in 1935, contained references to an arms embargo passed by Congress in 1935. This would seem to be a clear case of editorial insertion.

I accept all these probable editorial alterations as valid and made my chronology conform to them.

The number of days which is allocated to each novel in this chronology is based on the time frames in which The Shadow or a member of his supporting cast became involved in the story. In some cases, a few days passed before The Shadow or one of his supporting players became drawn into a case.

II. THE SHADOW'S EARLY YEARS

The Shadow's past is full of unresolved issues. After dropping various hints about The Shadow's past, Walter Gibson sought to describe in detail The Shadow's early years in *The Shadow Unmasks* (chap. 13). While much of the details provided by Gibson were consistent with earlier hints in the series, there were numerous inconsistencies. In order to address these inconsistencies, the history supplied in *The Shadow Unmasks* needs to be summarized.

The Shadow's real name is Kent Allard. He was a noted aviator. During World War I (1914-18), he was a spy. He was known by the alias of the Dark Eagle due to the fact that he often conducted aerial missions at night. Sometime during the war, he landed his plane behind German lines. He then faked the crash of his plane by drilling his engine with bullets. Going undercover, he helped numerous Allied prisoners of war escape from their German captors. He adopted many disguises during this period. His crowning achievement during this period was the discovery of a secret German airbase. After mapping out the German base, he escaped in one of the base's own planes.

During this period of undercover activity, Kent Allard was listed as officially missing in action. Shortly before the war ended (November 11, 1918), Allard reappeared and claimed that he had spent this period in a German prison camp from which he recently escaped. The world would seem to be unaware that Allard was really the Dark Eagle.

With the war's end, The Shadow as Allard conducted several notable flights in the early 1920's. However, aviation did not provide the kind of excitement which he craved. He considered becoming "a soldier of fortune" (i. e. mercenary), but rejected this option because he did not seek to profit from war. Seeing the rise of crime in the United States, he decided to disappear to conduct his own private war on crime. Twelve years before the events of *The Shadow Unmasks*, Allard faked his disappearance while passing over Guatemala while on a flight to South America. Since chronological evidence places *The Shadow Unmasks* in 1937, then Allard faked his disappearance in 1925.

In the jungles of Guatemala, he discovered a tribe of Xinka Indians. They viewed him as a god from the skies and bestowed upon him a jewel from the eye of a sacred idol. This jewel was the purple girasol which The Shadow wore on his left hand. The Shadow was acknowledged as the true ruler of the Xinka tribe which provided him with a secret source of gold to fund his war on crime.

In his travels, The Shadow had encountered a wealthy explorer and hunter, Lamont Cranston, who was frequently absent from his native New York. The Shadow decided to impersonate Cranston for his own purposes. Eventually, The Shadow would gain Cranston's acquiescence to this impersonation (in *The Shadow Laughs!*).

The major difficulty with *The Shadow Unmasks* is that it failed to elaborate on many earlier hints that The Shadow was disfigured as the result of a wound experienced in World War I. A crook named Spotter mentioned such a rumor in *The Living Shadow* (chap. 33):

"I seen The Shadow again...Down by the Pink Rat. This time I looked for his face. I saw nothing but a piece of white that looked like a bandage. Maybe The Shadow ain't got no face to speak of. Looked like the bandage hid somethin' in back. There was a young guy once who the crooks was afraid of---he was a famous spy in the War, and they say he was wounded over in France---wounded in the face. I think The Shadow is this guy come back---maybe he----"

Information in later novels confirmed this story. Criminals were gripped by fear upon seeing The Shadow's real face in the conclusions of *The Shadow's Shadow* and *The Black Falcon*. In *The Black Master*, a master criminal unmasked The Shadow and made these remarks (chap. 20):

"The secret of The Shadow...At last, it is understood! The man of many faces---with no face of his own!"

The general theory among Shadow scholars is that The Shadow was indeed disfigured in World War I. He used makeup to appear as Kent Allard in the 1920's. By 1937 when Allard reappeared, some form of plastic surgery had restored Allard's features.

Other parts of the origin story in *The Shadow Unmasks* conformed to earlier information. In *Murder Trail* (chap. 2), it was mentioned that The Shadow had been a spy assigned to

sabotage a German zeppelin, the L-43, during World War I. The Shadow had posed as an aide to an officer called Baron Hugo von Tollsburg. When the Baron boarded the aircraft, The Shadow accompanied him in disguise. When the Baron left, The Shadow remained as a stowaway. The L-43 was seeking to bomb England. The Shadow's mission was to destroy the L-43 before it reached its target. However, a storm caused the zeppelin to abandon its mission and return to Germany. The Shadow had no immediate need to sabotage the airship.

It could be assumed that the L-43 was launched from the secret airbase mentioned in *The Shadow Unmasks*. After the L-43 returned to base, The Shadow's presence could have been detected by the officers in charge of the base's security. The Shadow then escaped with a map of the base by flying one of the enemy's own planes.

In *The Shadow's Shadow* (chap. 11), a criminal named Felix Zubian offered a theory about The Shadow's past. During World War I, Zubian had been an American citizen spying for the Germans. His schemes had been foiled by a spy known as the Black Eagle. One would assume that the Black Eagle was just a variation on the title of Dark Eagle. Zubian gave a summary of the Eagle's World War I activities which corresponded to the details provided in *The Shadow Unmasks* including the secret airbase. The only difference was that Zubian was unaware that the Eagle had faked the crash of his plane behind enemy lines. Zubian had assumed that the Eagle had been shot down. According to *The Shadow Unmasks*, the Eagle had wanted his enemies to reach such an erroneous conclusion.

What's important about Zubian's story is that the Eagle's supposed crash and subsequent activities are stated as having occurred during America's participation in World War I (1917-18). In other novels, Gibson indicated that The Shadow had engaged in espionage activities before 1917.

In *The Red Menace* (chap. 12), The Shadow revealed that he had joined the Seventh Star, a secret society with ties to the Russian government of Tsar Nicholas II:

"I was in Russia during the first months of the war... As the agent of another government, I became a member of the Seventh Star."

This statement would indicate that The Shadow was in Russia during at least August-September 1914. In *The Romanoff Jewels* (chap. 23), The Shadow professed that the Tsar had given him his girasol ring as a gift for services rendered. The contradiction between *The Romanoff Jewels* and *The Shadow Unmasks* concerning the origin of The Shadow's ring was resolved by Walter Gibson in "The Purple Girasol," an article published in *The Duende History of The Shadow Magazine*. The Shadow actually had two rings. The Xinka idol in Guatemala had two girasols originally (one in each eye). One girasol was stolen from the idol and eventually ended up among the Russian crown jewels. It was this girasol which Tsar Nicholas II gave as a gift to The Shadow. In the 1920's, The Shadow found the Xinka tribe, displayed the missing eye to their idol and then received the companion jewel in return.

The ring featured in *The Red Menace* had the symbol of the Seventh Star inscribed in a secret compartment. It can be assumed that the Tsar gave The Shadow his first girasol as part of the adventurer's initiation into the Seventh Star.

In a later novel, *Six Men of Evil*, The Shadow opened the secret compartment in his ring to reveal a sacred Chinese token called the sign of Chow Lee. Some speculation had arisen that this token had been gained during unrecorded activities in China until Will Murray offered a persuasive explanation for this token in "The Men Who Cast The Shadow" from *The Duende History of The Shadow Magazine*. The sign of Chow Lee was very similar to the sign of Choy Lown, a token which The Shadow received in a novel entitled *The Grove of Doom*. Although written before *Six Men of Evil*, editorial juggling resulted in *The Grove of Doom* being published later. In order to avoid continuity problems, it is possible that the editor changed the name of Choy Lown to Chow Lee when the decision to publish *Six Men of Evil* was first made. It can then be assumed that The Shadow had merely received the Chinese token in *The Grove of Doom*, and then placed it inside the secret compartment of his ring over the seal of the Seventh Star.

The statement in *The Red Menace* that The Shadow was in Russia as the "agent of another government" raises further speculation. The Shadow must have been operating as the agent of a government allied with Tsarist Russia in 1914. Since the United States didn't enter World War I until 1917, then The Shadow must have been working for either the British or the

French. Robert Sampson in *The Night Master* has speculated that The Shadow must have prior experience as a spy to have been sent to such a delicate post as Russia in August 1914. Therefore, The Shadow must have been a spy for a year or two before being posted to Russia. If we assume that The Shadow was recruited in 1912, then he must have been about twenty years old. Therefore, he was probably born in 1892.

Sampson believed that The Shadow worked for French Intelligence (possibly because Allard is a French name), but an argument can be made that he was really recruited by the British Secret Service. In *The Black Master* (chap. 11), The Shadow was revealed to have used the identity of a supposed American explorer, Clifford Gage, in Asia. Chronological evidence would place *The Black Master* in 1931. Fifteen years before the events of *The Black Master*, The Shadow as Gage had known a man named Hubert Banks in India. The year would be 1916. Gage told Banks in *The Black Master* that he was not really an American explorer but an English secret agent who had been conducting investigations in India. It could be assumed that The Shadow had slightly altered the facts of his activities as Gage. He was actually an American probably working for the British Secret Service. Kent Allard must have been dispatched to India in 1916 to investigate some scheme by the Germans to spark unrest there.

The Clifford Gage identity becomes even more intriguing because it would seem that The Shadow posed as this American explorer in the early 1920's. The Shadow claimed to have seen many strange things as Gage since he met Banks in 1916:

"Murders in the harem of a maharajah. Plots to massacre British troops near the Afghan border. Crimes so horrible that one cannot imagine how human brains concocted them."

Gage had been rumored to have perished during a snowstorm in the Himalayas five years before the events of *The Black Master*. This would be 1926, one year after The Shadow faked the disappearance of his true identity, Kent Allard, in Guatemala. Gage told Banks that his Himalayan demise had been faked in order to conduct unhampered investigations in India.

Since The Shadow was apparently posing as Gage in the early 1920's, it would seem that he was engaged in cases which touched on international espionage during this period. Whether he was still formally affiliated with the British Secret Service remains a question. It is possible that The Shadow wandered around the world in the early 1920's and utilized at least his true identity of Kent Allard concurrent with the false identity of Clifford Gage. It could be that The Shadow tangled with international criminals who were engaged in free-lance espionage and plans to create unrest in the years immediately following World War I. By 1925, he could have realized that Prohibition had led to the rise of a strong criminal element inside the United States. His abandonment of the Allard and Gage identities could indicate that he was forsaking his focus on international crime to shift his base of operations to the United States. He also may have abandoned his roles of Allard and Gage because he had made a lot of enemies in those identities during the 1920's.

We do know for a fact that The Shadow's espionage activities did not end with the signing of the armistice on November 11, 1918. In *Mobsmen on the Spot*, The Shadow recruited Cliff Marsland as an agent in an adventure which my chronology places in 1931. The Shadow made the following remarks (chap. 3) to Marsland:

"Cliff Marsland!...That was not your name--fourteen years ago---when you were over-seas--...

..Perhaps you remember the village of Esternay, in the spring of 1918. Or perhaps that trip to Monte Carlo, three weeks after the Armistice? Do you recall Blanton, the Frenchman--"

Cliff Marsland would seem to have become a spy in Europe under another name sometime in 1917.

The Shadow, possibly posing as Blanton the Frenchman, was involved on secret missions with Marsland in Esternay during the war and in Monte Carlo after the war (December 1918). Eventually, Marsland returned to the United States. In 1923, he was sentenced to eight years in prison for a crime which he did not commit.

Marsland may not be the only supporting character from the 1930's whom The Shadow met in a false identity during World War I. Commissioner Weston was officer in the army during World War I (*Malmordo*, chap. 7). One wonders if Weston ever encountered Blanton the Frenchman.

If The Shadow was involved with espionage in December 1918, it is not too farfetched to assume that he was engaged in similar undercover activities when he was posing as Gage in the 1920's. Various references in the novels give The Shadow a wide knowledge of India and other countries of Asia which he could have visited as Gage. Sometimes The Shadow would recall scenes witnessed in Asia while posing as Lamont Cranston. Although The Shadow mentioned these events while posing as Cranston, they probably are his own experiences while utilizing the true identity of Kent Allard or the false identity of Clifford Gage. The Shadow once claimed to have been lost in the Himalayas (*Silver Skull*, chap. 12). At a dinner party, The Shadow as Cranston told of his travels to India and the Himalayas (*The Crime Clinic*, chap. 13). The Shadow had also been in Afghanistan: "On journeys to Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, The Shadow had often watched wary natives dodge from sight, vanishing into spots that seemed no larger than big rabbit holes" (*Shiwan Khan Returns*, chap. 4). The Shadow's observations of the effects of the drug hashish on others (*Washington Crime*, chap. 5) may have happened during his Asian travels as Gage. The Shadow was also familiar with "the astral call bell, the mental sound that the mystics of India produce when they wish to communicate with one another" (*Shiwan Khan Returns*, chap. 20). The Shadow recognized a tree grown in India (*Garden of Death*, chap. 7). In *The Invincible Shiwan Khan*, The Shadow demonstrated that he was extremely familiar with *naljorpas*, a group of mystics from Tibet, and had already conceived defense against their psychic tricks. The Shadow was familiar with "the process of Oriental fire walkers, who tread bare-footed through beds of flame" (*The Salamanders*, chap. 13). The Hindu firewalkers were not the only Indian tricksters whose techniques The Shadow had studied: "His travels in India had acquainted him with the famous well jumpers, familiar figures in the courts of many rajahs" (*The Jade Dragon*, April 15, 1942, chap. 17). The Shadow claimed to have seen men executed by having their skulls crushed by elephants while in India (*Five Ivory Boxes*, chap. 9). In *Masters of Death*, The Shadow recognized the cry of an Ordos tribesman because he "had heard it long ago when traveling the deserts of Mongolia" (chap. 16). In Java, The Shadow had learned jujitsu (*Realm of Doom*, chap. 17). One technique of this Javanese jujitsu was to paralyze an opponent by cutting off all circulation to the brain through a neck hold. The Shadow was familiar with the method of shallow breathing as practiced by Indian fakirs (*The Golden Masks*, chap. 14). In *The Whispering Eyes*, it was mentioned that The Shadow had seen "Hindus with a hundred punctures in their cheeks" who utilized "the trick of holding back the blood" (chap. 8). In the same novel, The Shadow also made these remarks:

"You should visit the Orient, doctor...I have seen instances there of suspended animation, produced by the spell cast by a yogi, wherein bodies can be stretched rigid and heavy weights placed upon them....

In India...I have seen them place huge paving stones on a rigid man's body and crack them apart with sledge hammers." (chap. 14).

In *Tear-drops of Buddha* (chap. 2), an unscrupulous businessman, Cecil Grenshaw, made a telephone call to The Shadow as Cranston. The Shadow recognized Grenshaw's voice. Grenshaw mentioned that they had been together during riots in Calcutta. Although this conversation happened during World War II, Grenshaw was either remembering the riots of July 1926 or May 1930. Since my chronology places The Shadow in New York during May 1930, I am going to conclude that Grenshaw was talking about the 1926 riots. This was the year in which The Shadow dropped his Clifford Gage identity in the Himalayas. Probably The Shadow as Gage was with both Grenshaw and the real Lamont Cranston in India during July 1926. Later in the same year, he then traveled to the Himalayas.

The Shadow would then seem to have met the real Cranston certainly by 1926. In fact, he may have met Cranston also in Tibet and Mongolia. Jerome Hybart, an art expert, made the following remarks to The Shadow as Cranston (*Guardian of Death*, chap. 5):

"You are the traveler who brought the famed jade lota from the Black Hat lamasery in Tibet! You are the man who furnished a first hand description of the silver coffin of Temujin, otherwise Genghis Khan, whose bodyguards, descendants of the originally appointed, still carry their great master through the dunes of the impassable Gobi."

Although these remarks were made to The Shadow as Cranston, Hybart was probably referring to accomplishments performed by the genuine Cranston. We will discuss the implications of the reference to Tibet shortly. The Mongolian reference is much more intriguing.

The coffin mentioned by Hybart actually appeared in an earlier novel, *Masters of Death*. Hybart was mistaken when he said that the coffin was still in the Gobi Desert. It had been destroyed in a fire along with Shiwan Khan, a descendant of Genghis Khan and The Shadow's greatest foe. Cranston apparently saw this coffin years before its destruction. I cited an earlier reference from *Masters of Death* that The Shadow had traveled through Mongolia. Possibly The Shadow as Gage traveled with Cranston in Mongolia.

In *Return of The Shadow*, The Shadow posing as Cranston ran into Rufus Palford, an elderly man who had traveled in Tibet. Palford remembered Cranston from an earlier encounter in Tibet (chap. 5):

"Lamont Cranston!...What are you doing in the Hudson highlands? Why you should be among the snow-clad Himalayas in far-away Tibet. We should be dining in state in the palace of the Grand Lama, you and I, not meeting in some woebegone tavern that has known better days, like ourselves."

Later The Shadow as Cranston recalled a previous shared experience to Palford (chap. 10):

"What about those long, thin-bladed Mongolian swords?....The Sungmas, who called themselves miracle men, used to bend the blades of those swords into spirals, claiming they had the power of demons. You certainly could have brought back some of them as souvenirs from Tibet--"

We know that The Shadow was in the Himalayan mountains as Clifford Gage in 1926. He could have been there with the real Cranston and Rufus Palford. After meeting Sungmas and dining with the Grand Lama, The Shadow could have arranged the supposed death of his Gage alter ego. It was probably during this 1926 sojourn that the real Cranston brought the famed jaded lota from the Black Hat lamasery. The lamas were also known as *naljorpas*, a group of mystics who later served Shiwan Khan. As noted earlier, The Shadow demonstrated knowledge of *naljorpas* which was gained prior to his duels with Shiwan. The Grand Lama with whom Cranston, Palford and probably Gage dined could have belonged to the Black Hats.

The Shadow's connection with Tibet became complicated by the second version of the radio series in which the cloaked avenger was transformed from a mysterious narrator into a crimefighter based on his pulp incarnation. In this second radio version, The Shadow was really Lamont Cranston who had studied hypnotism in India and Tibet. The radio Shadow could make himself invisible by clouding men's minds.

Gibson was pressured by editorial policy to make the pulp Shadow more similar to this radio version. Gibson had implied that The Shadow had visited India and Tibet as early as *The Black Master*. The Shadow even hypnotized a man into writing a confession in the fourth novel, *The Red Menace* (chap. 7). Therefore, it wasn't too great a transition to give The Shadow hypnotic abilities learned in Asia.

Gibson first introduced Tibetan hypnotism in a big way by creating Shiwan Khan, who had all the telepathic abilities of the radio Shadow and more. In the Shiwan Khan novels, mention was made that The Shadow had studied hypnotism. In *Shiwan Khan Returns*, The Shadow as Cranston even used hypnotism to influence Commissioner Weston to follow his suggestions (chap. 6).

Throughout novels from the 1940's, Gibson inserted comments which expanded on The Shadow's alleged hypnotic skills gained in Tibet. The Shadow now seemed to have a limited ability to cloud men's mind:

"Using the system of remaining absolutely immobile, with even his thoughts fixed, The Shadow was practicing the ways of Tibetan mystics" (*The Star of Delhi*, chap. 12).

"Often Lamont had claimed knowledge of the Tibetan system wherein, by becoming immobile and rendering one thoughts a blank, a human being could put himself out of other minds and often escape notice of passers-by" (*Temple of Crime*, chap. 11).

The Shadow "had profited heavily from his sojourns in Tibet where he had studied deeply into the metaphysical philosophy which declares that invisibility is basically a mental state on the part of the person who desires it" (*No Time For Murder*, chap. 17).

"Of course, there were times and occasions where The Shadow could cloud men's minds, as was done in Tibet where he had learned hypnotic methods from the Lamas, but in usual

practice, The Shadow's way was to simply blend with darkness" (*The Banshee Murders*, chap. 18).

"It could be that Cranston's secret - and The Shadow's - was based upon Tibetan training, for Cranston had often visited that land" (*The Curse of Thoth*, chap. 15).

The Shadow could go even without hours of sleep because of skills which he learned in Tibet:

"...In Cranston's life, sleep was something he could turn on and off. He could accumulate it, to have a reserve for times when he might have to go for days without it.

All this was the result of long intensive training in auto-hypnosis among the Masters of Tibet, during the period when Cranston had gained his intensive knowledge of Oriental ways, lore and language" (*Jade Dragon*, August-September 1948, chap. 17).

In *The Syndicate of Death* (chap. 11), The Shadow used his knowledge of hypnotism to erase a man's memory of a recent event. This was a different way to cloud a man's mind.

How do we reconcile these later references to The Shadow's hypnotic abilities with earlier adventures in which he did not demonstrate them? Probably The Shadow had a very unreliable method of clouding men's minds. It required him to stay absolutely still, not say a word and concentrate intensely. This feat also could only be performed in an area which was dimly lit or dark. The Shadow would not be able to talk to his adversaries or physically attack them.

By contrast, Shiwan Khan in *The Golden Master* was able to make himself invisible through hypnotism and move around with great agility. Shiwan only demonstrated this trick once in the four novels concerning him. Invisibility probably required such intense concentration that Shiwan would find himself mentally exhausted if he did this trick frequently. The same problem probably also existed with The Shadow's inferior ability to cloud men's minds. Therefore, both Shiwan and The Shadow rarely utilized hypnotism to make themselves invisible.

As far as The Shadow's ability to go without sleep due to autohypnosis, this power would not be incompatible with his earlier exploits. The same would be true of the ability to cause a gap in a person's memory. Probably The Shadow could only cause a subject with limited willpower to experience gaps in his memory.

The Shadow could have studied hypnotism in India and Tibet when he first visited Asia as Clifford Gage in 1916. Due to the distractions caused by his duties as a spy during World War I, The Shadow was unable to pursue these studies as deeply as Shiwan Khan. Consequently, his hypnotic skills were far inferior to Shiwan's.

Who were the Masters of Tibet from whom The Shadow learned these tricks? They were probably the Yellow Hats, the most prestigious and respected sect of lamas in Tibet. *Masters of Death* suggested that Shiwan had studied under the Yellow Hats because a member of that order, Marpa Tulku, came to the United States to punish the criminal mastermind for his misdeeds. Marpa Tulku may even have been one of Shiwan's teachers. He most certainly was not one of The Shadow's teachers. Marpa Tulku gave the impression that he was meeting The Shadow for the first time in this novel. Marpa Tulku gave no hints that the Yellow Hats had trained The Shadow in any way, but it is possible that the Tibetan order had only known The Shadow as Clifford Gage, a man who was supposedly dead.

Did The Shadow ever travel in Asia in his true identity of Kent Allard during the 1920's? *Crime Over Casco* (chap. 20) mentioned an Asian trip by Allard, but this trip apparently happened in the late 1930's (see my chronological discussion of The Shadow's activities in December 1938). Kent Allard's fame seemed largely confined to the Western Hemisphere where he made notable flights to Central and South America. According to *Crime Out of Mind* (chap. 11), a businessman named Greg Zerber had employed Allard prior to his 1925 disappearance: "It was Allard who had flown the mail for Zerber when the latter had been threatened with the loss of his contract with a Central American government that expected planes to ride the highest mountains in the worst weather."

The Shadow also seemed to have spent some time in China during the 1920's. In *The Fate Joss* and *Teeth of the Dragon*, The Shadow was revealed to be a close friend of a Chinese general called Cho Tsing. As I noted earlier, Cho Tsing would appear to be based on Chiang Kai-shek, who gained control of China in 1927. Considering that The Shadow was in India and Tibet in 1926, it would seem likely that he visited China and met the general in the following year.

The Shadow had traveled to many other corners of the globe. In *Dead Men Live* (chap. 16), The Shadow made the following statement as Cranston during the early 1930's:

"I go where the mood seizes me. Africa--India--South America. All are alike to me.

Alone and attended, I may walk into the midst of a Senegambian tribe. The Chief will recognize me. Unheralded, I may appear among the ancient Indians of Peru. There too, my presence is welcome.

I have been to Lassa, the holy city of Tibet. I have trekked through the South African veldt. I have explored the far reaches of the Amazon. I go to places where my very name is unknown to those who recognize me

All of the primitive people whom I have met have given me their name. Translated, I am known as 'Child of the Moon,' 'White Chief,' 'Smoke Man' and a host of other curious titles..."

Although The Shadow was posing as Cranston, he was probably recalling journeys which he made in the 1920's as either Gage or Allard. Senegambian is apparently a term for tribes which exist in the West African nations of Senegal and Gambia. In *The Golden Masks* (chap. 7), The Shadow indicated familiarity with the Ashanti, an African tribe from the West African nation of Ghana. Lassa is an alternate spelling for the Tibetan city of Lhasa. The reference to the Amazon would indicate that The Shadow had also visited Brazil.

By the time of *The Living Shadow*, which I place in November 1929, The Shadow had established a firm base in New York City. He had recruited one agent, Claude H. Fellows, "some months" earlier (chap. 18). However, *The Eyes of The Shadow*, a novel which I placed in January 1930, stated that Fellows had been recruited "a few years ago" (chap. 18). Most likely, Fellows was recruited in December 1928, which would be "some months" before November 1929, and a "few years" before January 1930.

Around 1929, The Shadow had also made arrangements with an New York radio station to allow his voice to broadcast on the airwaves. The pulp novels never mentioned what The Shadow said during these broadcasts. The Shadow discontinued these public broadcasts by 1937 if not earlier.

Crooks tried in unrecorded instances to trap The Shadow at the unnamed radio studio from which he broadcasted. The broadcasts were made from a curtained room from which no one had ever been seen entering or leaving. These broadcasts transpired every Thursday night. In *The Living Shadow*, it was mentioned that one crook posed as a radio technician at the studio to watch the room (chap. 29), but never saw The Shadow enter or exit it. In *Charg, Monster*, it was revealed that there was a hidden entrance to the room (chap. 16). Although The Shadow sometimes used this entrance to appear in the room, he also used a telephone hookup to transmit his voice into the room. *The Creeping Death* (chap. 3) mentioned an unrecorded adventure in which The Shadow used the telephone arrangement to thwart a criminal who had hidden inside the room to ambush him. *Charg, Monster* (chap. 16) noted that The Shadow recorded his broadcasts on phonograph records before playing them on the air. When The Shadow was absent from New York or unable to keep his weekly radio appointment due to fighting crime, these phonograph records were played on the air.

The Shadow also arranged for a radio station, WNX, to broadcast coded messages in their programs and commercials. These messages would be heard by Fellows and future agents. The people with whom The Shadow made these arrangements at WNX seem to be outside The Shadow's known agents. In *Crime Insured*, The Shadow was able to arrange the broadcasts at WNX even though nearly all of these agents had been captured by criminals.

III. CHRONOLOGY OF THE SHADOW'S EARLY YEARS

1892 Birth of Kent Allard

1912 Allard, an American citizen, is recruited by the British Secret Service

1914 World War I begins (August). In the early months of the war, Allard is working for the British Secret Service inside Russia. After doing a service for Tsar Nicholas II, Allard is initiated into the Seventh Star and rewarded with his first girasol. Allard begins to become known as the Dark (or Black) Eagle.

- 1916 Allard is assigned to India. He utilizes the identity of an American explorer known as Clifford Gage. He meets Hubert Banks. Allard learns various tricks from fakirs, well jumpers and firewalkers. He travels to Tibet where he visits the city of Lhasa. The Masters of Tibet (Yellow Hats?) teach him various tricks of hypnotism. Allard gains an extremely limited ability to make himself invisible by clouding men minds.
- 1917 The United States enters World War I (April). American troops arrive in France (June). Allard transfers from the British Secret Service to U.S. Army Intelligence. He is seriously wounded in the face during a mission in France. Makeup will be used to disguise this disfigurement. As the Dark Eagle, he pretends that his plane is shot down. He is actually behind enemy lines. He makes his way to Germany in order to free Allied prisoners of war and to conduct sabotage. Allard's activities start to interfere with the plans of Felix Zubian, an American citizen working for Germany.
- Sometime during this year, Cliff Marsland arrives in France. Under another name, he is an American spy. Ralph Weston also serves in France as an American army officer.
- 1918 In the spring of this year, Marsland meets the Dark Eagle (possibly posing as Blanton the Frenchman) in the village of Esternay. The Dark Eagle finds a secret German airbase from which the L-43, a German zeppelin, is being launched to bomb England. The Dark Eagle secretly hides aboard the aircraft as he leaves the airbase. Allard's plan to destroy the aircraft is aborted when bad weather causes the L-43 to return to base. When his presence in the base is uncovered by the Germans, the Dark Eagle escapes in an enemy plane with a map of the base. Using makeup to hide his disfigurement, Kent Allard reappears behind Allied lines in the autumn. He claims to have recently escaped from a German prison camp. An armistice ends the war (November 11). In December, the Dark Eagle (possibly as Blanton) accompanies Cliff Marsland on a secret mission to Monte Carlo.
- 1919-
1924 Allard travels around the world. He utilizes at least one false identity, Clifford Gage, during some of these journeys. Places visited during this period include the Amazonian jungles of Peru and possibly Brazil, the west coast of Africa (Senegal, Gambia, Ghana), South Africa, India, Afghanistan and Java (where he studies jujitsu).
- 1923 In New York, Cliff Marsland is imprisoned for a crime which he did not commit. He is sentenced to eight years.
- 1925 Working for Greg Zerber, Allard gains fame flying mail routes over Central and South America. On the last of these flights, he pretends to crash. Secretly landing in Guatemala, Allard becomes the ruler of a tribe of Xinca Indians who give him his second girasol. Leaving Guatemala, he abandons the identity of Kent Allard to pursue his destiny as The Shadow.
- 1926 The Shadow travels in Asia under the identity of Clifford Gage. As Gage, he meets Lamont Cranston. In Mongolia, Gage and Cranston find the silver coffin of Temujin carried by Ordos tribesmen. In India during the month of July, Gage and Cranston experience the Calcutta riots with Cecil Greshaw. With Rufus Palford, Gage and Cranston travel to Tibet where they encounter Sungmas and *naljorpas* (Black Hats), and dine with the Grand Lama of an unspecified Tibetan

order (possibly the Black Hats). From a Black Hat lamasery, Cranston gains possession of a jaded lota. The Shadow fakes the death of his Gage identity during a Himalayan snowstorm.

- 1927 The Shadow visits China where he befriends General Cho Tsing (Chiang Kai-shek?).
- 1928 The Shadow establishes a base of operations in New York. Claude Fellows is recruited as an agent (December).
- 1929 The Shadow begins to impersonate Lamont Cranston. The Shadow arranges to make public radio broadcasts at an unnamed radio station. Criminals fail to trap The Shadow at the station on more than one occasion. Some arrangement is made with a station called WNX to broadcast coded messages.

NOTE: In Philip Jose Farmer's *The Adventure of the Peerless Peer* (Aspen Press, 1974), The Shadow met Sherlock Holmes in February 1916. The Shadow utilized the alias of Colonel Kentov and he was operating out of Russia. He was also indirectly identified as The Dark Eagle (the French, Russian and German translations of this alias are given). The Shadow's involvement in the novel ended when he parachuted over Egypt.

In order to reconcile Farmer's novel with the above chronological outline, it would have to be speculated that The Shadow did not return to Russia after this exploit, but instead journeyed to India as Clifford Gage. If we are to believe the events in Farmer's novel, then The Shadow had also been rewarded with the commission of a Colonel in the Russian Army by the Tsar.

Dr. John H. Watson, the narrator of *The Adventure of the Peerless Peer*, claimed to feel a cloudiness of mind whenever Colonel Kentov approached. If Dr. Watson was correct, then this fact would indicate that The Shadow had studied mysticism in either India or Tibet prior to 1916. However, Watson's mental condition could have been caused by the Scotch he drank before meeting Kentov. More likely, Kentov was just blending into the darkness by wearing black clothing. When Watson mentioned his cloudiness of mind to The Shadow, it may have reminded the cloaked adventurer of rumors about how Asian mystics could allegedly make themselves invisible. When The Shadow was then posted to India, he decided to investigate these rumors.

Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan of the Apes also appeared in this novel. When Farmer couldn't get permission from the Burroughs estate for the short novel to be reprinted as part of a collection of his works, he revised the novel and re-titled it "The Adventure of the Three Madmen." This revised version was published in a collection entitled *The Grand Adventure* (Berkley Books, 1984). The character of Tarzan was replaced by Mowgli from Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*. There were no significant alterations to the presentation of The Shadow as Colonel Kentov.

IV. CHRONOLOGY OF RECORDED EXPLOITS

All novels listed were written by Walter Gibson unless otherwise specified. A "(TT)" next to a novel's title identifies Theodore Tinsley as the author.

1. 1929: November (22 days)
Title: *The Living Shadow*
Published: April 1931

Reference was made to a "moderately warm Indian Summer evening" (chap. 14). Indian Summer occurs usually in autumn or early winter. Harry Vincent was recruited as an agent. At the conclusion of the novel, Harry was taking a vacation to see his folks in Michigan (chap. 37).

There are references to The Shadow being some sort of secret radio personality (chap. 29). Similar remarks will be made throughout the early novels, and The Shadow originally transmitted coded messages to his agents by hiding them in radio dramas on WNX and other stations. These radio references were meant to tie in with the fact that the pulp character of The

Shadow was based on the mysterious narrator of *The Detective Story Program*, a radio program which began broadcasting on July 31, 1930 as *The Detective Story Hour*. *The Living Shadow* even went so far to claim that The Shadow made his broadcasts "every Thursday night," the time when *The Detective Story Program* was broadcasted. I would have preferred to place *The Living Shadow* no earlier than 1930, but fidelity to all the chronological references in the first five novels prevented this placement. Since the early novels do not identify *The Detective Story Program* by name, then it could be speculated that he was using some other program as his principal radio forum at this time.

NOTE: *Gypsy Vengeance*, a novel which I placed in 1934, made reference to a voyage which Lamont Cranston undertook with millionaire Howard Lauriston from Rio de Janeiro to New York. This trip happened "five years" previously (chap. 11). It is unclear whether Lauriston met the real Cranston or The Shadow posing as Cranston. Since The Shadow seemed to remember the details of this voyage, it may indeed have been him posing as Cranston. What could The Shadow have been up to in Brazil? My chronological arrangement places this trip in 1929. I suspect that the trip transpired in December.

By the second novel, The Shadow has an enigmatic agent named Burbank working for him. It was never clear when The Shadow recruited Burbank. It could have been during the gap between The Shadow's first two adventures, or it could have been before *The Living Shadow*. Since Harry Vincent was often called the agent with the most seniority in novels from the late 1930's and 1940's (Claude Fellows was then deceased), I am concluding that Burbank was recruited immediately after Vincent. Burbank would then have been recruited in December 1929 and his first adventure with The Shadow may have been this journey to Rio de Janeiro.

2. 1930: January (23 days)
Title: *The Eyes of The Shadow*
Published: July 1931

Harry Vincent was returning to New York from Chicago by train at the start of the novel. He may have stopped in Chicago after visiting his parents in Michigan. The novel's villain, Isaac Coffran, returned in *The Shadow Laughs!*

The Shadow was seriously wounded in this novel, but he fully recovered during the course of this exploit (chapters 24-26).

NOTE: Around February 1930, The Shadow pursued a vicious gang of criminals led by a mastermind known as the Keeper. After amassing millions, the criminals suspended operations due to their fear of The Shadow. The spoils from their criminal operations were hidden by the Keeper, and were supposed to be divided ten years later. Six years later, The Shadow discovered the location of this stolen wealth in *The Keeper's Gold* (entry #126).

Another unrecorded exploit of The Shadow also transpired in 1930. According to "Q" (chap. 4), a gang of crooks led by a man named Zeke Hoxel murdered a French financier, Pierre Lebanne, and stole a fortune in bonds. The Shadow decimated the Hoxel mob, but the bonds would not be uncovered until the events of "Q" ten years later (see entry #208). This unrecorded battle with the Hoxel gang probably happened during the gap between *The Eyes of The Shadow* and *The Shadow Laughs!*

3. 1930: May (11 days)
Title: *The Shadow Laughs!*
Published: October 1931

It had been "four months" (chap. 5) since Claude H. Fellows last saw Lamont Cranston in the previous novel. New York was experiencing "warm weather" (chap. 15). It had been "two months" since a coal pile had been touched (chap. 16). This last fact would imply that it was now two months into the spring.

Although this was only his third recorded exploit with The Shadow, Harry Vincent had worked for him on "various enterprises" (chap. 9). There were clearly unrecorded adventures which transpired before the time of the third novel.

The Shadow, as Lamont Cranston, announced his intention to leave the United States for at least "a month" (chap. 33). The Shadow may not have left New York, but just abandoned his Cranston identity for a brief period.

Isaac Coffran escaped his second encounter with The Shadow. He would never return in any recorded adventure.

NOTE: A reformed criminal named Hawkeye would eventually be recruited as one of The Shadow's agents in 1934. By my chronological arrangement, he had recently finished a stretch in prison by early 1934. According to *The Green Box*, Hawkeye had once encountered The Shadow as an adversary in an unrecorded adventure (chap. 11). Hawkeye trailed The Shadow once. Hawkeye was then working for "some big shots" whom The Shadow brought to justice. Hawkeye was imprisoned shortly after this confrontation with The Shadow. Hawkeye was probably arrested in 1930, and then probably served three years in prison. In *The Chinese Disks* (chap. 16), Hawkeye mentioned that he knew Cliff Marsland, a supposed gangster working undercover for The Shadow, for "a long while." Hawkeye probably met Marsland in prison. Before being recruited as an agent by The Shadow (see entry #9), Marsland had been sent to prison for a crime which he did not commit.

4. 1930: September (27 days)
Title: *The Red Menace*
Published: November 1931

The Shadow reappeared in New York as Lamont Cranston after having supposedly been "away from town for several months" (chap. 12). Vic Marquette, the Secret Service agent introduced in *The Shadow Laughs!*, made his second appearance in the series. Enough time had passed for him to grow "a heavy beard" (chap. 15) which prevented Harry Vincent from recognizing him. Bruce Duncan and other characters from *The Eyes of The Shadow* also resurfaced in *The Red Menace*.

NOTE: Based on references in *Six Men of Evil* (entry #28) and *The Crime Crypt* (#48), The Shadow had unrecorded adventures in Madrid and Rome. The large gap in late 1930 and early 1931 would be the logical place to allocate these adventures. *The Masked Headsman* (entry #52) offers a clue to The Shadow's activities in Madrid.

NOTE: Around February 1931, The Shadow caused Charley Kistelle, the criminal ringleader of *Six Men of Evil* (entry #28), to flee New York in an unrecorded case. I placed *Six Men of Evil* in December-January 1933, and Kistelle's flight was "nearly a couple of years ago" (chap. 11). Kistelle was "a minor figure in a gigantic scheme that failed" (chap. 13).

This case involving Kistelle may be tied to the unrecorded Kingsley Company investigation conducted by Joe Cardona in the same year (see entry #12).

5. 1931: March (20 days)
Title: *Gangdom's Doom*
Published: December 1931

This novel featured the demises of Claude H. Fellows, who had been one of The Shadow's agents in all prior novels, and Steve Cronin, a minor villain from the first three novels. In this novel, Cronin has joined the mob of Nick Savoli, a Chicago gangster who was based on Al Capone. Another gangster in the novel, Mike Borrango, "the big enforcement man for Savoli" (chap. 4), was probably based on Frank "the Enforcer" Nitti, Capone's chief lieutenant. Cronin had come to Chicago "a few months" before the novel started (chap. 7).

A short time after the main events of the novel concluded, there was a political election in Chicago in which "the reform forces" triumphed (chap. 27). In early April 1931, incumbent Mayor

Bill Thompson, a politician with ties to Al Capone, was defeated in a re-election bid by Anton Cermak. In *The Shadow's* fictional world, the empire of Savoli and Borrango fell under a series of indictments, and these two top gangsters flee Chicago after posting bail. Their real-life counterparts were not so lucky. Al Capone was indicted in June on charges of tax evasion, and convicted in October. He left prison in 1939. Nitti had actually been convicted of tax evasion in December 1930, and was not released from prison until March 1932. He ruled Capone's organization from that time onward until he committed suicide in 1943 shortly after being indicted for labor racketeering.

It could be pretended that at least Savoli was really Capone, and that *The Shadow* was actually the individual who brought that great criminal to justice. For the sake of historical reality, it should be noted that Frank G. Wilson, a member of the Special Investigations Unit of the IRS, prepared the case against Capone. Wilson's role in Capone's downfall has been obscured by books, movies and television shows exaggerating the achievements of Elliot Ness, the leader of an elite Treasury squad which attacked Capone's breweries.

There would be great difficulty in pretending that Borrango was really Nitti. Besides differences in physical description (Borrango was tall while Nitti was short), Nitti was in prison during the chronological period in which this novel transpired.

Harry Vincent was on vacation in Michigan visiting his parents shortly before the main events of the novel unfolded (chap. 3).

The *Shadow's* victory over Diamond Bert Farwell, his adversary in *The Living Shadow*, was mentioned. Bert's surname was correctly given as Farwell in one reference in *Gangdom's Doom* (chap. 11), but later given as Farley (chap. 18). Maybe Farley was an alias. The *Shadow's* victories over Isaac Coffran (chap. 18) were also cited. It was implied that Coffran was still alive and hiding from the authorities.

6. 1931: Early April (12 days)
Title: *The Death Tower*
Published: January 1932

Reference was made to "a warm day" (chap. 9). The *Shadow's* office on Twenty-third Street normally has the inscription "Jonas" or "B. Jonas" on its door, but in this novel (chap. 4) and *The Silent Seven* (chap. 3), the name is "M. Jonas."

In *The Death Tower*, we learn that Clyde Burke, an unemployed reporter had been recruited by *The Shadow* to run a clipping bureau. The novel also introduced the Silent Seven (chap. 13), a criminal organization which will be destroyed by *The Shadow* in the following novel.

Part of *The Death Tower's* plot revolves around the purple sapphire, a jewel reputed to be cursed. It once "belonged to King Alphonse of Antaria, at the time he was bounced from the throne" (chap. 3). The jewel then fell into the possession of an English noblewoman who died in an airplane crash. An American then owned it for "several months" before committing suicide. Antaria is a non-existent country. If Walter Gibson intended this remark to be a veiled reference to a contemporary deposed monarch, then he was probably thinking of Alfonso XIII, who lost the throne of Spain on April 12, 1931. For reasons of chronological coherency, I cannot accept Alfonso XIII as Alphonse of Antaria since the fictional king's overthrow would have transpired at least months before the novel began. It could be pretended that the fictional Alphonse was the real-life King Manuel of Portugal. He was overthrown in 1910, and lived in exile in England until his death in 1932. He could have held on to the purple sapphire for over a decade and then sold it to the English noblewoman sometime in the late 1920's.

7. 1931: Late April to Mid-May (20 days)
Title: *The Silent Seven*
Published: February 1932

Wilbur Blake, a millionaire in the novel, resided in Newport in the summer, and visited Florida in the winter. In the intervals, he lived in Long Island (chap. 11). Most likely, this novel took place in either spring or fall.

Although aware of the crimefighter's existence, detective Joe Cardona saw The Shadow for the first time in this novel (chap. 7). Cardona had worked for Inspector John Malone in *The Living Shadow*, but now reported to Inspector Timothy Klein. Clyde Burke became a reporter for the *Evening Classic* at the conclusion of the novel (chap. 23). We learn that Harry Vincent's room number at the Metrolite Hotel was 874 (chap. 9). His room would be changed frequently at the hotel.

8. 1931: May 20-July 9 (51 days)
Title: *The Black Master*
Published: March 1932

The novel began not too long after May Day (chap. 3). There were references to June 1 (chap. 15), June 30 (chap. 18) and July 8 (chap. 21). This novel had to come after *The Silent Seven* because Joe Cardona recalled that he had seen The Shadow previously (chap. 6). There is a slight problem caused by the fact that Clyde Burke was still running a clipping bureau in *The Black Master* (chap. 23), rather than working for the *Classic*. It could be that Burke was fired shortly after being employed by the newspaper. The death of the newspaper's editor in this novel (chap. 2) in an explosion may have resulted in the selection of a new editor who eventually reinstated Burke. Before this novel began, The Shadow and Harry Vincent were investigating the associates of millionaire Hubert Banks for "several weeks" (chap. 7). On orders from The Shadow, Vincent must have started this investigation around the time of *The Death Tower* and *The Silent Seven*, and suspended these inquiries when events in those novels required his services.

Joe Cardona was working for Inspector James Burke in *The Black Master*. In subsequent novels, he would be back to reporting to Timothy Klein.

9. 1931: Mid-July to Mid-August (29 days)
Title: *Mobsmen on the Spot*
Published: April 1932

This novel introduced Cliff Marsland into the ranks of The Shadow's agents. Clyde Burke was still in charge of the clipping bureau (chap. 15). The year was either 1931 or 1932. When serving as an American secret agent during World War I, Marsland used another name "fourteen years ago" (chap. 3). The year in which Marsland was in Europe would have been 1917 or 1918. Some of Marsland's activities in 1918 were mentioned, but he could have arrived in Europe during 1917.

10. 1931: Second half of August (12 days)
Title: *Hands in the Dark*
Published: May 1932

Clyde Burke was now on the staff of a newspaper called the *Sun* (chap. 7). Tong leader Wing Toy had this recollection: "Once--a long time ago--The Shadow made trouble with some Chinese" (chap. 17). Wing Toy may have been recalling the events of either *The Living Shadow* or *The Shadow Laughs!*. However, the reference to "a long time ago" suggests that Wing Toy was thinking of The Shadow's unrecorded meeting with General Cho Tsing of China in the 1920's.

NOTE: In *The Embassy Murders*, reference was made to an unrecorded adventure in South America. In 1931, The Shadow was responsible for the death of Alvarez Menzone, swindler and murderer, in Caracas, Venezuela (chap. 18). The fact of Menzone's death was unknown to the outside world. Menzone was in Caracas floating a fraudulent plan for a steamship line (chap. 12). Since The Shadow was absent from New York for months according to the next chronological entry (*Double Z*), it would seem logical that the Caracas episode happened during this absence from New York.

The Shadow may have visited other countries besides Venezuela during this South American trip. In *The Wealth Seeker*, The Shadow as Lamont Cranston mentioned that one of his friends was Pascual Cordillez, "the Chilean mine owner" (chap. 9).

NOTE: See my "Afterword: Apocryphal Shadows" for the possibility that The Shadow and Doc Savage participated in the events of Philip Jose Farmer's "After King Kong Fell" during October 1931.

11. 1931: November (15 days)
Title: *Double Z*
Published: June 1932

The year 1931 was implied by the fact that Zachary Shellman recalled "when times were hard two years ago" (chap. 20). Shellman seemed to be recalling the stock market crash of 1929. Part of the novel's plot involved a missing jurist, Judge Tolland, who was later murdered and secretly buried. Walter Gibson based Tolland on Judge Joseph Force Crater, who vanished on August 6, 1930. When the novel opened, Tolland had been missing for "fourteen months" (chap. 1). If the fictional Tolland disappeared around the time of his real-life counterpart, then the novel would have been set in either October or November 1931.

Some time had passed since *Hands in the Dark* because Clyde Burke "had received no orders from The Shadow during these recent months" in *Double Z* (chap. 4). The Shadow may have spent September and October away from New York City.

Clyde Burke was now once again working for the *Classic*. He would maintain this job for the remainder of the series. References were made to Cliff Marsland's activities in *Mobsmen on the Spot*, and Harry Vincent was once again returning from a vacation at his parents' home in Colon, Michigan (chap. 6). This novel recruited Rutledge Mann into the ranks of The Shadow's agents.

NOTE: Based on a reference in the next chronological entry (#12), The Shadow had apparently not been active in New York for a month. He may have spent the month of December 1931 in London involved in an unrecorded exploit which was cited by Inspector Eric Delka in *The Man from Scotland Yard* (chap. 7): "Dimly Delka could remember rumors of strange events in London years before. Of a fight down in Limehouse way in which a cloaked avenger had wiped out a horde of ruffians to save a squad from Scotland Yard." This Limehouse incident would appear to be separate from an unrecorded adventure involving London bank robbers. The exploit with the bank robbers is cited in *The Blackmail Ring* (see entry #13).

NOTE: The Shadow as Lamont Cranston probably aided Lord Jenley, a British official of Bermuda, in a criminal investigation in either 1930 or 1931 (see entry #104, *The Broken Napoleons*). The Shadow also as Cranston took a few cruises on a ship called the *Hatteras* commanded by Skipper Daniel Cray in either 1930 or 1931 (see entry #132, *Treasure Trail*). In *Dictator of Crime* (see entry #231), a novel set in a thinly disguised Cuba, it was mentioned that The Shadow "had visited other Caribbean countries in the interests of justice" (chap. 12). Probably these unrecorded trips to the Caribbean were the exploits involving Jenley and Cray.

12. 1932: Early January (9 days)
Title: *The Crime Cult*
Published: July 1932

The climate was "cold" (chap. 1). Some time had passed since *Double Z* because Harry Vincent's service with The Shadow had "been quiet during the past month" (chap. 3). Vincent had moved his room at the Metrolite since *The Silent Seven*. He now resided at Room 506 (chap. 4).

There was a reference to an unrecorded exploit of Joe Cardona: "When you caught that fellow who was making all that trouble for the Kingsley Company a year ago..." (chap. 5). Whether The Shadow had any involvement in this case remains unknown.

NOTE: The Shadow spent the remainder of January in Europe (see the next entry).

13. 1932: February (17 days)
Title: *The Blackmail Ring*
Published: August 1932

Although The bulk of this novel was set in the United States, it opened with The Shadow in Paris. The Shadow had been active in unrecorded adventures in Europe before this novel opened. He had pursued a murderer from Germany to France. He also devastated a group of bank robbers in London (chap. 1).

A lot of the action in this novel was concentrated in Greenhurst, Mass., "a budding summer colony that failed to bloom" (chap. 10). However, the fact that Greenhurst was a summer colony does not mean the novel was set in the summer.

There was a reference to The Shadow's previous activities in Chicago (chap. 5) during *Gangdom's Doom*.

14. 1932: March (6 days)
Title: *Hidden Death*
Published: September 1932

In *The Blackmail Ring* (chap. 22), Harry Vincent was wounded in the left shoulder. He probably needed time to recover for the events of *Hidden Death*. Coincidentally, Vincent was again wounded in one of his shoulders during this adventure (chap. 11). The Shadow was also wounded in *Hidden Death*, but he only received minor flesh wounds in the arm and the thigh (chap. 14).

Joe Cardona had his first meeting with Ralph Weston, the police commissioner, in this novel (chap. 1). This novel created the impression that Weston was only recently appointed commissioner.

15. 1932: March (9 days)
Title: *Green Eyes*
Published: October 1, 1932

This novel contained references (chap. 5) to *The Shadow Laughs!* and *The Red Menace*: "A certain man had been instrumental in thwarting the plans of a counterfeiting ring. Again, this unknown had balked the schemes of Red agents who had been active in America."

Green Eyes (chap. 9) also contains a reference to *The Black Master*: "One man had seen The Shadow's face--seen it against The Shadow's will."

Harry Vincent was probably recovering from his shoulder wound gained in *Hidden Death*. He was not present in *Green Eyes*.

16. 1932: April (26 days)
Title: *The Ghost Makers*
Published: October 15, 1932

Stella Dykeman had died in March, "a month ago" (chap. 9).

The Shadow had been "once before" in Chicago (chap. 18), a reference to *Gangdom's Doom*. Despite The Shadow's earlier victory in Chicago, the crime situation had not improved greatly by the time of *The Ghost Makers* (chap. 17): "Gangsters were rampant in Chicago."

NOTE: There is a gap of a week in *The Ghost Makers* (between chapters 13 and 14). It was probably during this gap that The Shadow had an unrecorded adventure in 1932. Details of this adventure can be found in *The Sealed Box* (chap. 4). Traveling to the town of Southbury, The Shadow learned that a man named Larry Sherrin had embezzled a large sum of money from his employer, Richard Whilton. Sherrin intended to frame others for the embezzlement, and to

use the money to establish himself as the leader of a gang of robbers. Although The Shadow uncovered Sherrin's villainy, he was extremely merciful towards Sherrin. With the knowledge of Richard Whilton, The Shadow imprisoned Sherrin on an island in the West Indies. There Sherrin would be rehabilitated. It was not until five years later that Sherrin was allowed to return to the United States (see entry #142).

By late 1935, the West Indian island would be used to rehabilitate large numbers of criminals. See *The Broken Napoleons* (entry #104).

17. 1932: May (27 days)
Title: *The Five Chameleons*
Published: November 1, 1932

The Shadow's name "was suggested with a big clean-up that took place in Chicago" (chap. 12). This was a reference to *Gangdom's Doom*.

In *The Five Chameleons*, Martha Delmar was reminded by The Shadow of a man who prevented a crook from stealing her pocketbook on the outskirts of Greenwich Village some time ago (chap. 13). If The Shadow was indeed this man, then we have a minor unrecorded incident from his career cited in this novel.

The Shadow was wounded in the shoulder (chap. 17), and he would have needed some time to rest before resuming his war on crime in the next chronological entry.

- 17a. 1932: Early June (1 day)
Title: *Kings of Crime* (Entry #1, chapters 1-3)
Published: December 15, 1932

There are actually three chronological entries for *Kings of Crimes*. This novel took place during the summer season in Seaview City, a resort modeled on Atlantic City. The Shadow intervened in events in Seaview city during three distinct chronological periods.

The first intervention took place during the start of the summer season. The Shadow sent the local authorities at Seaview City a radio message that a crime wave was approaching. The next chronological entry for this novel is #20a.

18. 1932: June (19 days)
Title: *Dead Men Live*
Published: November 15, 1932
19. 1932: Late June to early July (10 days)
Title: *The Grove of Doom*
Published: September 1, 1933

"...the early summer sun..." (chap. 2). "...a clear summer day..." (chap. 21).

20. 1932: July (11 days)
Title: *Shadowed Millions*
Published: January 1, 1933

The novel concerned a plan to create an independent country out of the Colombian territory of Santander. At the novel's conclusion, ten million dollars was sent to Santander for this purpose. Santander never achieved independence from Colombia.

- 20a. 1932: July (3 days)
Title: *Kings of Crime* (Entry #2, chapters 4-11)
Published: December 15, 1932

This is the second chronological entry for *Kings of Crime*. It was now "one month" after The Shadow issued his radio message (chap. 4). Wheels Bryant, the ringleader of the crooks,

issued this comment on the summer season: "There's two full months ahead, and the big payoff will be in the middle of September, when the beauty pageant is staged." (chap. 5). Since Bryant seems to be counting September as a summer month, then he must have been speaking in July when there were still two remaining months in the summer season.

The Shadow intervened in Seaview City, disrupted criminal operations, and caused one prominent gangster, Herbert Carpenter, to be sent to prison. The next and final entry for *Kings of Crime* is #22.

21. 1932: August (28 days)
Title: *The Romanoff Jewels*
Published: December 1, 1933

The Shadow was seriously wounded, but he fully recovered during the course of this exploit (chapters 11-13).

- 21a. 1932: August (2 days)
Title: *The Golden Grotto* (Entry #1, chapters 1-2)
Published: May 1, 1933

Clyde Burke was aboard a ship which was bound from Southampton, England, for New York. There he witnessed a robbery of a gold shipment aboard the ship. He was even wounded in the shoulder by the robbers (everyone who worked for The Shadow seemed to get wounded there). The Shadow was in New York during this entry.

Burke had been in London "a few weeks ago" (chap. 1). Since Burke was absent from the events of *The Romanoff Jewels*, he could have been in London while the previous novel transpired. He was probably conducting some secret investigation for The Shadow that did not require his master's presence. Burke was not working for the *Classic*, but "a free-lance journalist" (chap. 1). However, Burke eventually got his job back with the *Classic* after returning to New York (chap. 3). Apparently the *Classic's* management permitted Burke to take unpaid leaves of absence while he was on missions for The Shadow.

Burke was absent in the next chronological entry, and this absence will give him time to recover from his shoulder wound and function as a reporter in *The Shadow's Shadow* (entry #23).

The next chronological entry for the remaining chapters of *The Golden Grotto* is #24.

22. 1932: Early September (5 days)
Title: *Kings of Crime* (Entry #3, chapters 12-23)
Published: December 15, 1932

Herbert Carpenter had spent at least a month (chap. 12) in prison. By my chronological arrangement, The Shadow had been involved in *The Romanoff Jewels* while Carpenter languished in prison.

Carpenter then escaped, and later met The Shadow in Seaview City. Now repentant, Carpenter aided The Shadow in defeating the criminal gang which threatened the summer resort.

Carpenter returned to prison where he eventually received a pardon one month later on "a clear autumn day" (chap. 23). Carpenter must have gotten his pardon in October.

For the earlier events of this novel, see #17a and #20a.

23. 1932: Mid-September (12 days)
Title: *The Shadow's Shadow*
Published: February 1, 1933

Harry Vincent and Joe Cardona met for the first time in this novel. Vincent's room at the Metrolite Hotel was 1408 (chap. 1), but he intended to change it after a murder was committed there.

There was a reference to *The Romanoff Jewels*: "Did you hear about the raid that some smart boys pulled on the Bolsheviks in Moscow, when they went after the Russian crown jewels?"

(chap. 3). There was also a reference to *The Blackmail Ring*: "He knew of a mysterious raid, in the heart of the Apache district of the French capital, wherein The Shadow had triumphed over the fiercest fiends of the Parisian underworld." (chap. 3).

The crooks in *The Shadow's Shadow* had received valuable information from an imprisoned Diamond Bert (chap. 3), the villain from *The Living Shadow*. Bert's name was given as Farley rather than Farwell.

Since joining The Shadow's agents in *Double Z*, Rutledge Mann's office was Room 909 in the Badger Building. In *The Shadow's Shadow*, Mann's office is Suite 2121 in the Grandville building (chap. 3). Mann will be back in the Badger Building in all future novels featuring him. The Grandville Building had earlier housed Claude Fellows' office on its fifteenth floor (*The Living Shadow*, chap. 7). Since Suite 2121 would be given as Mann's office number in the Badger Building in *Treasures of Death* (see entry #43), the references to the Grandville Building in *The Shadow's Shadow* were probably mistakes.

24. 1932: Late September (9 days)
Title: *The Golden Grotto* (Entry #2, chapters 3-23)
Published: May 1, 1933

There is a unspecified gap of days or weeks between the gold robbery witnessed by Clyde Burke (see #21A) and The Shadow's investigation of it. I chose to treat the gap as weeks rather than days.

This novel concerns a town called East Point, which was populated by a small group of "summer residents" (chap. 4). Even though I have placed this novel in very early autumn, summer residents could still have still been living in East Point just after the summer season technically ended.

This novel contained a reference to *The Shadow's Shadow* : "Yet Harry had seen Mann in the power of desperadoes who threatened him with torture and death if he would not betray The Shadow." (chap. 4).

25. 1932: Early October (8 days)
Title: *The Creeping Death*
Published: January 15, 1933

The Shadow was wounded at the end of this exploit. Since he could only use his left arm (chap. 23), it would appear that he wounded in his right arm. He would need a sufficient amount of days to recover before his next exploit.

26. 1932: Second half of October (13 days)
Title: *The Shadow's Justice*
Published: April 15, 1933

About the seventh day of this exploit, a ship called the *Southern Star* arrived in New York. It was originally scheduled to arrive on the "twentieth" of the month (chap. 3). Since there was bad weather delaying its arrival, it is hard to say exactly on what day it did arrive. However, it must have reached New York in the final third of the month.

Harry Vincent was wearing "knickers" in a Wisconsin forest (chap. 16). The weather could not have been that cold. I would have preferred to place this novel in either spring or summer, but the only slot with relatively warm weather which I can find is in the first half of autumn.

NOTE: The Shadow spent the month of November in Europe where he visited Moscow (see the next entry).

27. 1932: December (15 days)
Title: *Murder Trail*

Published: March 15, 1933

As Henry Arnaud, The Shadow boarded a zeppelin in Germany. Before arriving in Germany, The Shadow had been in Moscow (chap. 2). The Shadow had apparently been in Europe for a month since Harry Vincent had been "free from duty" in the United States "for the past month" (chap. 4).

It was observed that Frenchmen and Germans were enemies "less than fifteen years ago" (chap. 6) by a criminal impersonating a celebrated German spy, Baron Hugo von Tollsburg. Since World War I ended in 1918, this statement implies that the year was 1932, fourteen years after hostilities ceased.

28. 1932-33: Late December to mid-January (21 days)
Title: *Six Men of Evil*
Published: February 15, 1933

This novel contained references to The Shadow's exploits in Europe (chap. 6):

"In London , in Berlin, in Madrid, crooks of all nationalities lowered their voices when they discussed The Shadow. In Paris, skulking crooks still mumbled tales of The Shadow's prowess, of that eerie night when an unknown being in black had battled single-handed against a horde of apaches. In Moscow, there were men who remembered the time when The Shadow had fought himself free from a regiment of Red troops."

The Paris episode happened in *The Blackmail Ring* while the Moscow incident transpired in *The Romanoff Jewels*. *The Blackmail Ring* had mentioned unrecorded adventures in London and Germany. The unrecorded exploit in Germany may have taken The Shadow to Berlin, a city which he had also briefly visited in *The Red Menace*. *The Man from Scotland Yard* (chap. 7) also mentioned an early unrecorded adventure of The Shadow in the Limehouse district of London. The Madrid reference probably indicates an unrecorded adventure which happened during late 1930 and early 1931 since my chronology has a large gap there.

The Shadow had a talisman called "the sign of Chow Lee" (chap. 21). In *The Grove of Doom*, The Shadow had received a talisman from a Chinese sage named Choy Lown. Will Murray, the current author of the Doc Savage series and a leading expert on The Shadow, has speculated that Chow Lee and Choy Lown are the same man. This theory is based on the fact that *The Grove of Doom* was written right just before *Six Men of Evil*. The editorial decision to print *Six Men of Evil* first may have resulted in the alteration of Choy Lown's name to Chow Lee.

29. 1933: Second half of January (13 days)
Title: *Fingers of Death*
Published: March 1, 1933

The Shadow's office on Twenty-third street only has the word "Jonas" on its door (chap. 2). The "B." either fell off or maybe The Shadow was sending a secret message to someone who visited the floor. This odd sort of thing happened at the headquarters of a fellow pulp crimefighter, The Avenger. The door originally had a sign saying "Justice," then it was "Justice, Inc.," then it was "Justice," then "Justice, Inc." returned. I wonder whether I should do an in-depth study on the sign on Doc Savage's door.

30. 1933: Early February (10 days)
Title: *The Death Giver*
Published: May 15, 1933

The sign on The Shadow's office is back to saying "B. Jonas" (chap. 2).

31. 1933: Mid-February (5 days)
Title: *The Silent Death*
Published: April 1, 1933

32. 1933: Late February to early March (15 days)
Title: *Ghost of the Manor*
Published: June 15, 1933

The sign on The Shadow's office is simply "Jonas" again (chap. 8). Why does the "B." keep disappearing?

During the events of this novel. The Shadow made a brief trip to Cincinnati where he had a brief unrecorded adventure in which he captured bank robbers (chap. 8).

33. 1933: Mid-March (8 days)
Title: *The Black Hush*
Published: August 1, 1933

The sign on The Shadow's office is still "Jonas" (chap. 3).

34. 1933: Late March (9 days)
Title: *The Living Joss*
Published: July 1, 1933

This novel contains no references to the sign on The Shadow's office.

35. 1933: Early April (7 days)
Title: *The Red Blot*
Published: June 1, 1933

This novel contains no references to the sign on The Shadow's office. In this novel, it was Joe Cardona who got wounded in the shoulder (chap. 23). This novel established a firm relationship between Commissioner Ralph Weston and The Shadow's Cranston identity. Weston had met The Shadow as Cranston in unrecorded circumstances (chap. 10).

- 35a. 1933: Mid-April (9 days)
Title: *The Silver Scourge* (Entry #1, chapters 1-16)
Published: July 15, 1933

A coin bearing the year 1922 was judged to be "more than ten years old" (chap. 7). The year of this novel's events would have to be 1933.

This chronological entry ends with the arrest of Silk Elverton, the central crook in the novel. The novel then resumed (see entry #38) with Elverton awaiting execution in prison after being convicted of murder. Assuming that the wheels of justice moved very quickly, at least a month would have had to pass for Elverton's trial and sentencing.

Joe Cardona appeared briefly in the novel (chap. 6). It would have to be assumed in this chronological arrangement that Cardona's shoulder was still bandaged from the wound which he had received in the previous entry. Of course, *The Silver Scourge* made no reference to Cardona recovering from any wounds.

A minor recurring character named Pietro was introduced in this exploit. In *The Silver Scourge*, Pietro, a pushcart vendor, only provided the police with information about a gang of counterfeiters. In *The Chinese Disks* (chap. 14), an unrecorded incident related to the events of *The Silver Scourge* was revealed. Four crooks friendly with the counterfeiters tried to murder Pietro for cooperating with the police, but The Shadow intervened to rescue the Italian vendor's life. This episode probably occurred concurrently with the major events of *The Silver Scourge*.

- 35b. 1933: Late April (5 days)
Title: *Road of Crime* (Entry #1, chapters 1-10)
Published: October 1, 1933

In this novel, the central character was Graham Wellerton, a relatively decent man who had been forced into a life of crime. Wellerton had married Carma Urstead "a few years ago" (chap. 4). Wellerton had then joined the gang of Wolf Daggert, a bank robber, in New York. Wellerton left Daggert's gang "about three years ago" (chap. 2). After committing crimes elsewhere, Wellerton returned to New York where he became a lieutenant of King Furzman, a gangster who also employed Daggert.

Graham and Carma were married in 1928 (chap. 22). Graham Wellerton could have worked for Daggert for about 2 years before leaving his employ. Therefore, Wellerton got married in 1928, met Daggert in the same year, left his service in 1930, returned to New York and joined Furzman's mob in 1933.

This chronological covers the period during which The Shadow trailed Wellerton and Daggert from New York to Grand Rapids, Michigan. While The Shadow prevented a robbery by Daggert in Grand Rapids on the fifth day of this exploit, Wellerton was jailed for vagrancy in the town of Southwark. Wellerton only served three days of his sentence. A friend of Wellerton's father then secured his release, and Wellerton spent a unspecified number of weeks in Southwark before The Shadow again intervened in his life. Wellerton had to have spent at least two weeks in Southwark before encountering The Shadow again. See entry #36a for the next events of *Road of Crime*.

36. 1933: Early May (5 days)
Title: *The Isle of Doubt*
Published: August 15, 1933

- 36a. 1933: Mid-May (4 days)
Title: *Road of Crime* (Entry #2, chapters 11-17)
Published: October 1, 1933

After Graham Wellerton had spent at least two weeks in Southwark, The Shadow arrived there and prevented another crime by Wolf Daggert. Leaving Harry Vincent in Southwark, The Shadow returned to New York (chap. 17). Vincent would remain in Southwark for a month awaiting The Shadow's return.

The sign on The Shadow's office still read "Jonas" (chap. 11).

The previous entry for *Road of Crime* was #35b. The next and final entry will be #39.

37. 1933: Late May (8 days)
Title: *Master of Death*
Published: September 15, 1933

The Shadow as Lamont Cranston returned to New York from "a short trip by plane" (chap. 2). He was probably returning from Southwark, the town from *Road of Crime*. The fact that Harry Vincent was absent from this novel can be attributed to his continued presence in Southwark.

The sign on The Shadow's office was now back to "B. Jonas" (chap. 13).

The novel mentioned the exile of King Alphonso of Spain (chap. 11). King Alphonso (or Alfonso) went into exile during April 1931.

This novel introduced Dr. Rupert Sayre, who will become an agent of The Shadow.

38. 1933: Early June (3 days)
Title: *The Silver Scourge* (Entry #2, chapters 17-23)
Published: July 15, 1933

This chronological entry covers The Shadow's return to the town of New Albion in order to see that Silk Elverton was properly punished for his crimes. The previous entry for this novel was #35a.

Harry Vincent was absent from this section of the novel. By my chronological arrangement, he was still in Southwark.

NOTE: In *Spoils of The Shadow*, a novel which I placed in the late spring and early summer of 1934, Harry Vincent noted that "he was runner up in Michigan small arms championship when I was home last summer" (chap. 5). Southwark from *Road of Crime* would seem to be in Michigan since it was near Grand Rapids. In June 1934, Vincent must have briefly gone from Southwark to visit his hometown of Colon, Michigan, where he participated in a small arms championship.

Probably Vincent persuaded Graham Wellerton, whom he had befriended, to accompany him on this excursion. By doing so, Vincent would have continued to follow The Shadow's orders to keep an eye on Wellerton.

39. 1933: Mid-June (2 days)
Title: *Road of Crime* (Entry #3, chapters 18-24)
Published: October 1, 1933

After a month's absence, The Shadow returned to Southwark to help Harry Vincent rescue Graham Wellerton from the machinations of Wolf Daggert and his co-conspirators. See entries #35b and #36a, for the previous events of this novel.

40. 1933: Mid-June (4 days)
Title: *The Death Triangle*
Published: October 15, 1933

41. 1933: Late June (10 days)
Title: *The Killer*
Published: November 1, 1933

Joe Cardona got "nicked" in the left shoulder (chap. 21). He might need a few days to recover before participating in the next adventure.

42. 1933: July (15 days)
Title: *Mox*
Published: November 15, 1933

It was mentioned that Joe Cardona had seen The Shadow "in a disguise that had veiled his true features" (chap. 2). This statement was probably a reference to *The Killer*.

43. 1933: Late July to early August (9 days)
Title: *Treasures of Death*
Published: December 15, 1933

Rutledge Mann was still in the Badger Building, but he was now in Suite 2121 (chap. 4) rather than Room 909. Suite 2121 was the same suite number given in *The Shadow's Shadow* for Mann's office in the Grandville Building. Since Mann worked in the Badger Building in all other novels, the references to the Grandville Building in *The Shadow's Shadow* may just have been a mistake on Walter Gibson's part. Probably Mann was always in the Badger Building.

Hawthorne Crayle, the friendly curio dealer from *The Shadow's Shadow*, reappeared in *Treasures of Death*.

Rupert Sayre made his second appearance in this novel. After treating a wounded Shadow, he diagnosed that the crimefighter needed to spend three days in bed (chap. 20).

Although The Shadow violated his doctor's orders in the novel's conclusion, he probably complied with them afterwards. There has to be at least a three day gap between this exploit and the next.

44. 1933: Mid-August (4 days)
Title: *Gray Fist*
Published: February 15, 1934

In this novel, The Shadow first met Yat Soon, the arbiter of disputes between the tongs of New York's Chinatown.

The Shadow was wounded twice in this novel. He was wounded in the left arm in the middle of this adventure (chap. 16). He recovered sufficiently from that wound to handle a gun with his left arm, but he was then wounded in the left shoulder at the novel's conclusion (chap. 24).

45. 1933: August 20-September 2 (14 days)
Title: *The Crime Clinic*
Published: December 1, 1933

On The last day of this adventure, it was a Saturday, and the next Monday was going to be a "a bank holiday" (chap. 17). Monday, September 4, 1933, was Labor Day.

An objection could be lodged against placing this story in the summer. Joe Cardona had to wear an overcoat at night because of the "chilly weather" (chap. 8). However, maybe that night was just unusually chilly for the summer.

46. 1933: Early September (6 days)
Title: *The Wealth Seeker*
Published: January 15, 1934

In this novel, The Shadow as Lamont Cranston was pretending to be preparing to leave New York in order to visit Easter Island for a long period (chap. 9). Since The Shadow continued to pose as Lamont Cranston in New York, he simply must have later told Commissioner Weston that the trip was canceled.

Cliff Marsland was wounded in the left shoulder (chap. 4), but he fully recovered from this injury in the course of the novel.

47. 1933: September (18 days)
Title: *The Black Falcon*
Published: February 1, 1934

48. 1933: October 7-16 (10 days)
Title: *The Crime Crypt*
Published: June 15, 1934

As their final crime, the villains robbed a museum on the fifteenth of the month (chap. 14) during the afternoon, and The Shadow brought the criminals to justice on that evening after midnight. Therefore, the adventure ended in the early hours of the sixteenth.

There was a reference to The Shadow's European exploits: "He has been in Paris, London, Berlin, Moscow, Madrid - yes, and in Rome." (chap. 3). The Shadow visited Paris in *The Blackmail Ring*. He traveled to Moscow in *The Romanoff Jewels* and in an unrecorded trip just before the events of *Murder Trail*. *The Blackmail Ring* had discussed unrecorded adventures in London and Germany. The unrecorded exploit in Germany may have taken The Shadow to Berlin, a city also visited in *The Red Menace*. *The Man from Scotland Yard* (chap. 7) also mentioned an early unrecorded adventure of The Shadow in the Limehouse district of London. *Six Men of Evil* had also alluded to unrecorded activities by The Shadow in Madrid. *The Crime Crypt* is the first novel to cite that The Shadow had visited Rome. The Madrid and Rome trips probably happened in late 1930 or early 1931.

49. 1933: Second half of October (9 days)
Title: *Crime Circus*
Published: April 15, 1934

Clyde Burke did not appear in this novel. By my chronological arrangement, his absence would be explained by his presence in Washington D. C. (see the next entry).

The story involved a circus which was nearing the end of its regular business season. Everyone in the circus seemed to be dressing for warm weather. This story could only have taken place at the end of summer or the beginning of autumn.

NOTE: It was probably in late October that The Shadow had unrecorded adventures in which he rescued the lives of Moe Shrevnitz and Jericho Druke, two men who would later become his agents. According to *The Chinese Disks* (chap. 14), The Shadow rescued Shrevnitz from gangsters who hijacked his cab in front of Brindle's restaurant. The same novel mentioned that The Shadow intervened when Druke was doorman at the Club Galaxy. Druke tried to stop gunmen who had killed a man named Heine Walbo (probably a gangster) at the Club. The Shadow slew the gunmen before they could murder Druke.

50. 1933: Early November (8 days)
Title: *The Embassy Murders*
Published: January 1, 1934

On The Shadow's orders, Clyde Burke had abandoned his job in New York and moved to Washington D. C. to set up the National City News Association. Burke had been in Washington for "a few weeks" and "less than a month" (chap. 2). Since Burke was in New York during *The Crime Crypt*, about two or three weeks must have passed since the prior adventure concluded.

The Embassy Murders transpired while a "Pan-American Convention" was opening in Washington (chap. 3). While no such convention transpired in the real world during 1933, a Pan-American Conference was held in Montevideo, Uruguay, during December 1933. It could be pretended that the novel's imaginary "Convention" was actually a series of diplomatic meetings being held in preparation for the real-life Conference which would open in the following month.

This novel contained frequent references to the Chaco War (1932-35) in which Bolivia and Paraguay fought violently over contested territory.

In this novel, Carl Dolband of the American Secret Service was murdered. Dolband had briefly appeared earlier in *The Silver Scourge*.

51. 1933: Mid-November (11 days)
Title: *The Cobra*
Published: April 1, 1934

In this novel, Commissioner Weston accepted the existence of The Shadow as a fact. He had previously believed that The Shadow as a myth.

An alleged rival crimefighter, the Cobra, had arisen to challenge The Shadow's reputation. The Cobra had probably taken advantage of The Shadow's presence in Washington during *The Embassy Murders* to pursue his agenda.

The Cobra made reference to the invasion of The Shadow's sanctum in *Gray Fist*: "Once men of crime had penetrated here; they had not lived to tell the location of The Shadow's sanctum." (chap. 6).

52. 1933: Late November (6 days)
Title: *The Masked Headsman*
Published: April 15, 1937

This novel was moved way out of submission order. It was actually written in 1936. The reason for this radical shift was because Walter Gibson described a political situation in Spain which fits the autumn of 1933.

The time was definitely autumn or winter: "Though the season was late, the evening had gained an Indian Summer mildness" (chap. 9).

The plot of the novel involved a colony of wealthy Spanish expatriates in the United States. They had fled Spain because of recent property seizures, but the Masked Headsman, a criminal with ties to a radical political party in Spain, had come to the United States to rob these Spanish aristocrats. The villain's political party was described as the People's Party. The current political situation in Spain is described in the following passage (chap. 9):

"News from Spain told that the radical party was disturbed by internal strife. Those who had passed laws of seizure against aristocrats were out of office. Still the political scene was unsettled. It had improved, but it was not stable."

At this point, a brief discussion of Spanish history in the 1930's is necessary. In April 1931, King Alfonso XIII abdicated his throne, and a republic was created in Spain. The Constitution allowed the government to pass laws by which the property of citizens could be seized. The most notable law of this nature was the Agrarian Law (1932) by which the property of wealthy landowners could be confiscated. During 1931-33, the government of Spain was dominated by a left-wing coalition of which the most prominent member was the Socialist Party. On November 19, 1933, political elections resulted in the creation of a right-wing coalition which sought to reverse many of the measures of the previous government. In February 1936, political elections resulted in the creation of a new left-wing government known as the Popular Front. This new coalition included the Socialists as well as more radical group such as the Communists, the Trotskyites and even Anarchists. In July 1936, the Spanish military revolted and the Spanish Civil War commenced. By 1939, the right-wing forces led by Francisco Franco won the Civil War.

Walter Gibson wrote this novel in the autumn of 1936, but he did not describe the carnage of the Spanish Civil War. He seemed to be describing the autumn of 1933 in which a left-wing government had been replaced by a right-wing government. The radical People's Party described in this novel may have been based on the Socialists. Another possibility is that the People's Party was based on the Communists. Although not part of the ruling coalition in 1931-33, the Communists were beginning to stir up political turmoil in Spain during those years.

The Shadow posed under the identity of Jose Rembole in this novel. This was the second novel which Gibson wrote in which The Shadow assumed this identity. However, the first novel, *Quetzal*, appears later in this chronology because of other factors in this series. There was nothing in *Quetzal* that stated that The Shadow was assuming this identity was the first time.

In fact, The Shadow may also have assumed the identity of Rembole during the unrecorded Madrid exploit suggested in *Six Men of Evil* and *The Crime Crypt*. In *The Masked Headsman*, Count Darraga, a leader of the Spanish exiles, recognized Rembole as an old friend who had "saved friends of ours from death" (chap. 6). Whatever The Shadow's unrecorded activities in Spain, he did not take sides in the political struggle: "Formerly, The Shadow had not sided with either Spanish faction, except to protect helpless persons from death" (chap. 5). By my chronological arrangement, The Shadow's unrecorded visit to Madrid would have transpired sometime during October 1930-February 1931. During this period, Spain was undergoing the political turmoil that would eventually lead to the abdication of the king (April 1931).

The only agents appearing in this novel were Harry Vincent and Clyde Burke. Therefore, there should be no problem in continuity by radically moving this novel forward in my chronology.

53. 1933: Early December (7 days)
Title: *The Circle of Death*
Published: March 1, 1934

At the novel's conclusion, The Shadow was wounded in the arm (chap. 26). He would probably need about a few days to recover.

54. 1933: Mid-December (9 days)
Title: *Death Clew*
Published: May 15, 1934

Sergeant Markham got wounded in the shoulder (chap. 3). The same injury was inflicted on Joe Cardona (chap. 22). Although Markham would have been sufficiently recovered from his wound by the time the adventure concluded, Cardona would probably need a few days to recover before appearing in the next chronological entry.

Part of this novel's plot involved the manufacture of airplanes to be sold to Paraguay for use in the Chaco War (1932-35).

55. 1933: Late December-early January (12 days)
Title: *Tower of Death*
Published: May 1, 1934

Shortly before this novel opened, The Shadow foiled the raid of a gangster named Conklin on the Club Calcutta (chap. 1). This incident is unrecorded. It probably happened a day or two before the novel.

At the conclusion of this exploit, Joe Cardona acknowledged The Shadow's role in foiling crime to the participants in the case (chap. 22). Cardona never would have spoken so openly of The Shadow unless Weston's policy on The Shadow's existence had changed in *The Cobra*.

56. 1934: January 11-18 (8 days)
Title: *The Garacuan Swindle*
Published: September 15, 1934

The chronological placement of this novel hinges on the real-life geopolitical events which it parallels. Ralph Weston was investigating an investment swindle involving bonds issued by the South American government of Garacua. The corrupt dictatorial ruler of Garacua, President Birafel, had fled his country and a period of instability followed. Weston relinquished his role as police commissioner of New York to oversee the National Police of Garacua. Forming an alliance with Colonel Jose Daranga, Weston staged a coup in Garacua. Daranga became the ruler of Garacua under a military junta. At the conclusion of the novel, The Shadow and the other characters in the novel heard of this coup after midnight (chap. 21). Although I could find no comparable series of events in South America, I did find a similar group of occurrences when I extended my search to all of Latin America. In August 1933, the brutal President of Cuba, Gerardo Machado, fled his country. Cuba remained in an unstable situation until Colonel Carlos Mendieta was made president by a military junta on January 17, 1934.

It could be pretended that Garacua was Cuba. Birafel could be imagined to be an alias of Machado, and Daranga could be envisioned as a disguised portrayal of Mendieta. The geographical location of the country was altered with its name. However, this pretense causes some chronological difficulties. In *The Garacuan Swindle*, Weston temporarily surrendered the position of New York police commissioner to Wainwright Barth. A series of novels then followed with Barth as commissioner until Weston's eventual return. Walter Gibson wrote several novels with Weston as commissioner before *The Garacuan Swindle*, and I am unable to fit all of them into my chronology before mid-January 1934. I would have to postulate that Weston left Cuba (Garacua) shortly after the coup of January 17, 1934. Perhaps the new government felt that the presence of so prominent an American adviser would lead to riots against "Yankee imperialism,"

and asked Weston to return to New York. Weston would then have resumed his duties as police commissioner of New York. At some later point (June 1934 in my chronology), the political situation stabilized in Cuba (Garacua) and the Mendieta (Daranga) government again requested Weston's assistance. Weston then again relinquished his position to Barth.

57. 1934: Late January to Mid-February (18 days)
Title: *The Green Box*
Published: March 15, 1934

This novel introduced Slade Farrow, Hawkeye and Tapper. Although they acted as allies of The Shadow by the time of the novel's conclusion, they would not take their places as members of The Shadow's organization until *The Chinese Disks*.

A hotel clerk was reading a copy of *The Shadow* magazine (chap. 3).

- 57a. 1934: Mid-February (2 days)
Title: *Gypsy Vengeance* (Entry #1, chapters 1-8).
Published: August 15, 1934

The Shadow learned of a plot to find gems which had once belonged to a Spanish nobleman dispossessed by the establishment on the Spanish Republic. The Republic had been established in 1931.

The Shadow had been conducting "a long campaign" to locate a gang behind a series of burglaries when the novel opened (chap. 2). This investigation probably was engaged in during gaps in the previous adventures. There is a gap of four days in *Death Clew* and a gap of about a week in *The Green Box*.

There is a gap of three weeks in *Gypsy Vengeance*. The next chronological entry for this novel is #59.

58. 1934: Late February to Mid-March (20 days)
Title: *The Crime Master*
Published: August 1, 1934

Both Cardona and The Shadow were seriously wounded in this novel. The Shadow had fully recovered by the novel's conclusion. Cardona's exact status wasn't mentioned, but he should have recovered since over two weeks had passed since his injury. At least two weeks was the original medical estimate for Cardona's recovery (chap. 7).

Rupert Sayre treated The Shadow's wounds in this novel. Sayre mentioned that he had been in "occasional contact" with The Shadow (chap. 14) since their first meeting in *Master of Death*. Besides treating The Shadow's injuries in *Treasures of Death*, it is probable that Sayre attended to the wounds sustained by the crimefighter in *Gray Fist* and *The Circle of Death*.

I envision that *The Crime Master* transpired during the gap of three weeks in *Gypsy Vengeance*.

59. 1934: Late March (6 days)
Title: *Gypsy Vengeance* (Entry #2, chapters 9-22).
Published: August 15, 1934

Lamont Cranston had not been seen in town for some time (chap. 9). This was probably because he had spent two weeks recovering in Rupert Sayre's home from the wounds received in the course of *The Crime Master*.

Cliff Marsland was "clipped" in the shoulder by a bullet, and his wound was treated by Dr. Sayre (chap. 13). Marsland had probably fully recovered from this injury by the novel's conclusion.

The previous chronological entry for the early portions of this novel is #57a.

60. 1934: Early April (10 days)
Title: *Charg, Monster*

Published: July 1, 1934

In the course of this exploit, The Shadow had an unrecorded exploit in San Francisco in which he smashed a Chinatown dope ring (chap. 6).

- 60a. 1934: April (17 days)
Title: *Chain of Death* (Entry #1, chapters 1-21)
Published: July 15, 1934

The Shadow discovered the existence of an organization called Crime Inc., and foiled a major robbery planned by it. There now followed a gap of 7 days. See entry #61 for the conclusion of *Chain of Death*.

NOTE: The Shadow took a brief trip to somewhere south of Washington D.C. for unexplained reasons in late April and early May. He was returning from this trip by train when *Spoils of The Shadow* began.

- 60b. 1934: Early May (1 day)
Title: *Spoils of The Shadow* (Entry #1, chapters 1-4)
Published: September 1, 1934

While returning from a trip, The Shadow received word to meet a man named Mark Tyrell in New York. Rushing back to New York, The Shadow met Tyrell who tried unsuccessfully to bribe the crimefighter. Tyrell did not want The Shadow to interfere in five robberies which would commence "nearly a month" later (chap. 4). See entry #63 for the rest of *Spoils of The Shadow*.

61. 1934: Early May (1 day)
Title: *Chain of Death* (Entry #2, chapter 22)
Published: July 15, 1934

The Shadow arranged a meeting of Crime Inc. eight days after the previous entry for this novel (see #60a). The organization was then destroyed by The Shadow.

62. 1934: May (15 days)
Title: *The Key*
Published: June 1, 1934

It would have been more sensible to place this novel in the summer rather than the spring. One of the nights in the novel is described as "sultry" (chap. 10). However, the publication date of the novel precludes assignment to the summer of 1934. The fact that The Shadow killed the novel's mastermind in front of Commissioner Weston in the final chapter means that this adventure had to transpire after *The Cobra* in which Weston accepted The Shadow's existence as a fact. Since I assigned *The Cobra* to November 1933, then I can't put *The Key* in the summer of 1933.

In *The Key*, Harry Vincent's hotel room at the Metrolite is 1412 (chap. 8).

63. 1934: June (23 days)
Title: *Spoils of The Shadow* (Entry #2, chapters 5-20)
Published: September 1, 1934

The previous entry for this novel was #60b. "Weeks had passed since Mark Tyrell's meeting with The Shadow." (chap. 5). Tyrell now commenced his robberies which were foiled by The Shadow.

The Shadow was wounded in the left shoulder (chap. 14), but he seemed to have recovered from this injury by the novel's conclusion.

NOTE: By my chronological arrangement, Ralph Weston returned to Garacua (Cuba) in late June 1934. Wainwright Barth resumed the duties of police commissioner (see entry #56 for a more detailed explanation). Harry Vincent also began a vacation in Michigan in late June (see entry #65).

64. 1934: Late June to early July (7 days)
Title: *The Four Signets*
Published: January 1, 1935

Barth was police commissioner, and Harry Vincent was absent.

65. 1934: July (12 days)
Title: *Doom on the Hill*
Published: November 15, 1934

Prior to the start of this adventure, Harry Vincent spent 10 days vacationing in Colon, Michigan (chap. 1). At the conclusion of this adventure, The Shadow was wounded in his left arm (chap. 20). He would need appropriate time to recover before undertaking his next adventure. There were no references to the name of the police commissioner of New York.

66. 1934: Late July (7 days)
Title: *The Death Sleep*
Published: October 15, 1934

Barth was police commissioner.

- 66a. 1934: Early August (2 days)
Title: *The Chinese Disks* (Entry #1, chapters 1-6).
Published: November 1, 1934

The Shadow learned that Diamond Bert Farwell, his nemesis from *The Living Shadow*, was again organizing crime, and the great crimefighter recruited Slade Farrow, who first appeared in *The Green Box*, to assist in the investigation. Farrow posed as an inmate in the prison from which Diamond Bert was scheduled to be released. A gap of three weeks then followed. The remaining events of this novel are covered by entry # 67 .

The original encounter between The Shadow and Diamond Bert transpired "several years ago" (chap. 12).

Barth was commissioner.

67. 1934: August 15-18 (4 days)
Title: *The House that Vanished*
Published: October 15, 1935

Reference to a "sultry afternoon" (chap. 4) implies that this novel transpired during the summer. There are no references to the identity of New York police commissioner, and the only agents who appear are Mann, Vincent and Burke.

The novel started on a Saturday (chap. 3), but The Shadow and his agents did not become involved in the case until a few days later. The first day of The Shadow's involvement was the fifteenth of the month (chap. 13). August 15 fell on a Wednesday in 1934. The mystery involved an heiress reaching her twenty-first birthday on the eighteenth of the month. This event happened at the novel's conclusion.

NOTE: The Shadow may have discovered a broken French coin next to the body of an unidentified murdered man during August 1934 (see entry #104).

68. 1934: Late August to early September (10 days)

Title: *The Chinese Disks* (Entry #2, chapters 7-23).
Published: November 1, 1934

After spending three weeks in prison (see #66a), Slade Farrow returned to New York to brief The Shadow on the information which he had discovered about Diamond Bert. Through Farrow, The Shadow recruited Hawkeye, and Tapper, other characters from *The Green Box*, into his organization. The Shadow renewed his alliance with Yat Soon, the Chinese tong leader from *Gray Fist*, and gained the allegiance of Pietro, the Italian pushcart vendor from *The Silver Scourge*. This novel also described the recruitment of agents Moe Shrevnitz and Jericho Druke. Both of these men's lives had been saved by The Shadow in unrecorded adventures (chap. 14).

This novel happened after the beginning of summer. Maurice Bleffinger, the owner of the Bleffinger Safe Company saw a former employee "early in the summer." (chap. 18). A month later, Bleffinger discovered that the man had disappeared from his former residence. Sometime later, Bleffinger imparted this information to The Shadow in his guise of Lamont Cranston.

Several recurring characters were wounded in the closing stages of the novel. Hawkeye was wounded in the shoulder (chap. 20), Sergeant Markham was also wounded in the shoulder (chap. 21) and had to be rushed to the hospital (chap. 22), and Harry Vincent received a minor flesh wound in the arm (chap. 22).

Harry Vincent's room at the Metrolite Hotel was now 1010 (chap. 14).

69. 1934: September (15 days)
Title: *Murder Marsh*
Published: October 1, 1934

"Autumn is almost here." (chap. 11). "An early autumn chill..." (chap. 15).

There were no references to the name of the police commissioner of New York. Concerning the matter of the wounds suffered by recurring characters in the previous chronological entries, neither Markham nor Hawkeye were present in this adventure. They could have been recovering from their wounds. As for Harry Vincent, he did not make an appearance until the seventh day of *Murder Marsh*. He would have had ample time to recover from a flesh wound.

70. 1934: Late September (6 days)
Title: *The Unseen Killer*
Published: December 1, 1934

Posing as Lamont Cranston, The Shadow claimed to have recently returned from a trip abroad (chap. 2). The Shadow may not have actually left the country, but have merely abandoned his Cranston alter ego for a brief period. The Shadow did not pose as Cranston in the previous chronological entry, *Murder Marsh*.

In *The Unseen Killer*, Barth was still commissioner, and various agents recruited in *The Chinese Disks* reappeared. This novel introduced Miles Crofton, who would eventually join the ranks of The Shadow's agents.

NOTE: In early October 1934, Harry Vincent was hired to be the secretary of Commander Dadren, the inventor of a new submarine for the Navy Department. Vincent moved to one of the Carolinas.

71. 1934: Early October (10 days)
Title: *Cyro*
Published: December 15, 1934

One of the chief villain's henchman is an ex-member of the Cuban secret police who left his country "before the big revolution" (chap. 7). The Cuban revolution happened in August 1933.

Harry Vincent participated in the last two days of this adventure in New Orleans. By my chronological arrangement, Vincent would have been working as Commander Dadren's secretary

in the Carolinas at this time. However, Vincent probably could have used some excuse to make a quick trip to Louisiana at the time.

Posing as Lamont Cranston at a dinner party (chap. 12), The Shadow recalled the events of *Six Men of Evil*.

Barth was police commissioner of New York in *Cyro*.

72. 1934: Late October (9 days)
Title: *Terror Island*
Published: August 15, 1936

The novel took place during a hurricane off the shore of Florida. The hurricane season covers from June through October. Part of the plot concerned treasures which had been left in Cuba after the recent revolution had transpired. The Cuban revolution happened in August 1933.

The Shadow had originally left New York for Cuba about "a few weeks ago" (chap. 10). I estimate that The Shadow left for Cuba about a week and a half before the events of the novel began.

Harry Vincent was present for the last 5 days of this adventure. In order to fit all these novels in a coherent chronology, I must make this exploit coincide with the period in which Vincent was serving as Dadren's secretary in the Carolinas (see the next entry). Vincent was originally in New York for about a day, and then took a train to South Carolina, and eventually joined The Shadow on an island off Georgia. Vincent could have gone to New York on some errand for Dadren, and then been summoned to aid The Shadow in the southern United States. Vincent could have left Dadren's business in Rutledge Mann's capable hands to join in this mission for The Shadow. After the adventure concluded, Vincent in Georgia could have communicated with Mann over the phone, and then rejoined Dadren in the Carolinas.

The Shadow received "a trifling flesh wound" when a bullet "skimmed" his shoulder (chap. 21). He probably did not need any long amount of time to recover from this wound. The same can not be said for Hawkeye who received a bullet in his thigh (chap. 21).

The commissioner of New York was not mentioned in this novel. He could still be Barth.

73. 1934: Early November (11 days)
Title: *The Plot Master*
Published: February 1, 1935

Harry Vincent had been Commander Dadren's secretary for about a month (chap. 6). At the conclusion of this case, Vincent went back to his normal duties with The Shadow. By the time of *The Plot Master*, Miles Crofton had joined the ranks of The Shadow's agents. This novel also introduced the character of Senator Ross Releston, an important ally in Washington D. C. for The Shadow. Professor Arthur Whitburn from *The Red Menace* reappeared in *The Plot Master*. The events of the earlier novel were "a few years" prior to *The Plot Master* (chap. 3). Vic Marquette reappeared (chap. 12) and noted that his last meeting with Harry Vincent transpired in *The Embassy Murders*.

At the conclusion of *The Plot Master*, The Shadow was recovering from two bullet wounds in the shoulder. It was estimated that his recuperation would take one more week (chap. 24).

Hawkeye was absent from this novel. By my chronological arrangement, he would still be recovering from the wound received in *Terror Island*.

74. 1934: November (13 days)
Title: *The Blue Sphinx*
Published: January 15, 1935

In this novel, Clyde Burke lost his job at the *Classic* because he wrote an article critical of Commissioner Barth.

75. 1934: Early December (5 days)

Title: *The Golden Quest*
Published: May 1, 1935

In this novel, Harry Vincent was staying at a hunting lodge in Michigan. The lodge's owner, Cortland Laspar was considering staying there "for the winter" (chap. 8). The impression was given that winter has not started yet. Since winter does not officially start until December 21, this novel could have taken place in early December.

Vic Marquette of the Secret Service reappeared in this novel. He had been impersonating a hermit in Michigan for "a few months" (chap. 14), and had grown a beard. Marquette had also been present in *The Plot Master*, a novel which I have placed in early November. It is possible that Marquette had started his investigation in the late summer and early fall. During this period, he grew a beard. Then the events of *The Plot Master* caused him to be recalled back to Washington. He was forced to shave off his beard during his sojourn in Washington. When *The Plot Master* concluded, Marquette returned to Michigan and grew his beard again.

In *The Golden Quest*, there were no references to Clyde Burke or New York's police commissioner. A bullet again "clipped" The Shadow's shoulder (chap. 22). The wound would appear to be extremely minor because The Shadow was afterwards able to pilot his autogiro from Michigan to New York.

76. 1934: Late December (11 days)
Title: *The Dark Death*
Published: February 15, 1935

Prior to the start of this novel, The Shadow had spent "a couple of weeks" posing as a member of a criminal gang (chap. 6).

Weston was again police commissioner. He had returned from Garacua, and Barth had gone to Europe (chap. 16). This change resulted in Clyde Burke being reinstated by the *Classic*.

77. 1935: Late January (9 days)
Title: *Bells of Doom*
Published: March 15, 1935

The Shadow took a flight from New York to London (chap. 1). There he pretended to be Cranston returning from an African expedition. He boarded a steamship bound for New York. The novel opened as the ship was approaching the end of its voyage.

Ralph Weston was briefly identified as the commissioner of New York (chap. 3). This was certainly an editorial insertion because an examination of the submission order reveals that *Bells of Doom* was submitted between *The Four Signets* and *The Chinese Disks*, two novels which featured Barth as commissioner.

A bullet "skimmed" The Shadow's shoulder at the novel's conclusion (chap. 22). This wound seemed to be very minor, and The Shadow would have recovered from it by the next day.

78. 1935: Very late January to early February (11 days)
Title: *Crooks Go Straight*
Published: March 1, 1935

At the novel's conclusion, The Shadow had been "clipped" by a bullet in the shoulder again (chap. 25). The exact seriousness of this wound was not specified. The Shadow was also recovering from taking a fall through a trapdoor (chap. 19).

79. 1935: February (4 days)
Title: *The Triple Trail*
Published: April 15, 1935

80. 1935: February (6 days)
Title: *The Third Skull*
Published: May 15, 1935

80a. 1935: Late February to early March (8 days)
Title: *Lingo* (Entry #1, chapters 1-14)
Published: April 1, 1935

Barth again replaced Weston whose absence was now due to a "long vacation" (chap. 5). This "vacation" may be related to the fact that Clyde Burke was almost sent to Cuba by the *Classic* to cover the possibility of another revolution there (chap. 16). Burke never made the trip because crooks kidnapped him. We learn in the next chronological entry, *Murder Every Hour* (chap. 12), that Weston was in Bermuda. If we accept the theory that Garacua was Cuba, then the American government may have secretly sent Weston to the Caribbean to forestall further unrest in Cuba. Weston could have covered up this mission by pretending to take a vacation to other Caribbean islands such as Bermuda.

After a gap of 2 weeks, the events of *Lingo* are concluded in entry #82.

81. 1935: March 8-12 (5 days)
Title: *Mardi Gras Mystery*
Published: September 1, 1935

The Shadow and Harry Vincent went to New Orleans. The Shadow arrived in New Orleans three days after Mardi Gras Day (chap. 3). Mardi Gras Day was March 5, 1935. Vincent had been in New Orleans for at least a couple of days before The Shadow. Vincent's earlier presence in New Orleans means that the previous chronological entry for the first part of *Lingo* can not be placed beyond March 5, 1935.

Mardi Gras Mystery contained no references to the identity of the police commissioner of New York. The novel also featured Lt. Wayson from the earlier *Cyro*.

The Shadow was engaged in a complex impersonation in New York during the gap of two weeks which transpired in *Lingo*. In order for *Mardi Gras Mystery* to take place during the gap in *Lingo*, then The Shadow in his false identity from *Lingo* would have needed to make some excuse that enabled him to leave New York for five days

82. 1935: Mid or late March (2 days)
Title: *Lingo* (Entry #2, Chapters 15-23)
Published: April 1, 1935

The previous entry for the first portion of this novel was entry #80a.

83. 1935: Late March to early April (3 days)
Title: *Murder Every Hour*
Published: June 1, 1935

Barth was still acting commissioner.

84. 1935: April 4-12 (9 days)
Title: *The Condor*
Published: June 15, 1935

The seventh day of this adventure was the tenth of the month (chap. 15). Barth was still acting police commissioner. The Shadow received a "slight wound" in the arm in the novel's conclusion (chap. 24).

85. 1935: April (10 days)
Title: *Atoms of Death*

Published: July 15, 1935

Bruce Duncan, who had earlier appeared in *The Eyes of The Shadow* and *The Red Menace*, alerted The Shadow to the mystery in this novel. The novel also cited the events of *The Red Blot* (chap. 14) and *The Black Falcon* (chap. 9).

This novel claimed that Henry Arnaud was merely a false identity of The Shadow, and not a real person (chap. 11). However, there was supposedly a real Henry Arnaud in *The Black Master* (chap. 10). At least a man claiming to be Arnaud was in Toronto while The Shadow was posing as Arnaud in New York. Maybe this other Arnaud was really a criminal who was later killed by The Shadow in an unrecorded adventure. The Shadow could have covered up the real Arnaud's death in order to maintain this false identity for himself. The Shadow once pursued such a ruse involving a South American swindler (in *The Embassy Murders*).

Barth was the acting police commissioner in *Atoms of Death*.

The Shadow was wounded in the left arm (chap. 17). Dr. Sayre treated the master crimefighter's wound, but The Shadow again received a "not serious" wound in the same arm (chap. 23) when the novel concluded.

86. 1935: Late April to early May (4 days)
Title: *The Man from Scotland Yard*
Published: August 1, 1935

This novel introduced Inspector Eric Delka of Scotland Yard. In the novel's conclusion, Delka's hip was "singed" by a bullet, and Vic Marquette of the Secret Service was "clipped" in the shoulder (chap. 19).

There were no references to the identity of New York's police commissioner. Senator Ross Releston, who had been introduced in *The Plot Master*, made his second appearance in the series.

87. 1935: Mid-May (7 days)
Title: *The Creeper*
Published: August 15, 1935

No references were made to the identity of New York's police commissioner.

88. 1935: Late May (5 days)
Title: *The Fate Joss*
Published: July 1, 1935

This novel introduced Dr. Roy Tam, an important ally of The Shadow in the Chinese-American community. The identity of New York's police commissioner was not mentioned.

89. 1935: Early June (9 days)
Title: *Death Rides the Skyway*
Published: February 1, 1936

Miles Crofton had been in San Francisco for "weeks" before the novel opened (chap. 1). By this chronological arrangement, Crofton had been absent from The Shadow's adventures since *The Man from Scotland Yard*. Crofton's assignment to San Francisco was of a lengthy duration. He would be in that city during the events of later novels (*The Chinese Tapestry* and *The Third Shadow*). Tam Sook from *Six Men of Evil* briefly reappeared at the start of this novel.

Weston was probably the commissioner at this point in time because he was mentioned as being a friend of Lamont Cranston (chap. 15).

90. 1935: June (6 days)
Title: *The London Crimes*

Published: September 15, 1935

The Shadow and Harry Vincent traveled to London to fight crime. This novel marked the second appearance of Eric Delka of Scotland Yard. Although *The London Crimes* was submitted after *The Ghost Murders*, there would seem to be a strong argument for placing this London-based adventure first. Vic Marquette was mentioned as still being a member of the Secret Service in *The London Crimes* (chap. 2), but this status changed in *The Ghost Murders* (see the next entry).

91. 1935: Early July (4 days)
Title: *The Ghost Murders*
Published: January 1, 1936

Vic Marquette, who had been a member of the Secret Service in all prior chronological entries, had now become a G-man (i.e. a member of the FBI). Reference was made to the "gold embargo" (chap. 11) enacted in 1933.

Weston was commissioner. The next reference to the identity of the commissioner is in entry #95.

92. 1935: July (4 days)
Title: *The Chinese Tapestry*
Published: November 1, 1935

Dr. Roy Tam made his second appearance in the series. It was mentioned that Miles Crofton was now "regularly stationed" in San Francisco (chap. 5).

The Chinese Tapestry mentioned that "nearly twenty-five years" had passed since the abdication of the Chinese Emperor (chap. 1). The Emperor abdicated on February 12, 1912.

93. 1935: July (11 days)
Title: *Murder Town*
Published: June 15, 1936

The Shadow was injured early in this adventure (chap. 5), but he seemed to have experienced a full recovery by the novel's conclusion.

94. 1935: July 30 to August 3 (5 days)
Title: *The Voodoo Master*
Published: March 1, 1936

The second day of this novel was a Wednesday (chap. 4).

Red Mike's, an underworld dive which had been located in a basement in the early novels, had now moved to a location in the "Hell's Kitchen" section of New York (chap. 10). It was now located on the second floor of a building which housed a shabby restaurant on its first floor.

Miles Crofton joined The Shadow on this adventure because he "happened to be in New York" to test a new autogiro for his employer (chap. 6). Presumably, Crofton was still based in San Francisco at this point in time.

The Shadow received "a slight concussion" (chap. 15) and a minor bullet wound in his left hand (chap. 16), but he seemed fully recovered from these injuries by the novel's conclusion.

Rupert Sayre was consulted by the police (chap. 1) because of his experiences in *Master of Death*.

The novel's villain, Dr. Rodil Mocquino returned in *City of Doom* and *Voodoo Trail*.

95. 1935: Early August (4 days)
Title: *The Crime Oracle*
Published: June 1, 1936

The weather was so "mild" in New York that a convertible was being driven at night with the top down (chap. 2). Barth was now acting as police commissioner (chap. 3). No explanation was given for Weston's absence. This was Barth's last appearance as commissioner.

The novel's villain, Zorex (alias the Head and the Oracle), was believed to have been a criminal known as the Strangler. This Strangler had committed crimes in New York "a few years ago" (chap. 20). One wonders if The Shadow may have crossed the path of this evildoer during his previous incarnation as The Strangler.

Joe Cardona discovered that Cliff Marsland was one of The Shadow's agents in *The Crime Oracle*, but he never demonstrated any awareness of this fact in later exploits.

96. 1935: Mid-August (4 days)
Title: *Castle of Doom*
Published: January 15, 1936

The Shadow and Harry Vincent were again in London. The events of *The London Crimes* transpired "some time ago" (chap. 6), and The Shadow had only recently arrived in London in his Cranston guise (chap. 1).

97. 1935: Mid-August (4 days)
Title: *Zemba*
Published: December 1, 1935

References were made to The Shadow's exploits in *The London Crimes* and *Castle of Doom*: "It was he who solved the case of the notorious crook called the Harvester; it was The Shadow who exposed the ways of Barton Modbury, the master of Criswold Castle..." (chap. 7). In *Zemba*, a French official mentioned that The Shadow had been in Paris before (chap. 7). He had visited the city in *The Blackmail Ring* and *The Romanoff Jewels*.

In *Zemba*, Harry Vincent and Cliff Marsland joined The Shadow in France a day later because they could not catch "the same boat" (chap. 8). *Castle of Doom* had concluded with The Shadow and Vincent still in England. Marsland could have joined them there shortly afterwards. The ships which transported The Shadow and his agents to France could have sailed from England.

NOTE: According to Theodore Tinsley's *The Golden Dog Murders* (chap. 2), The Shadow visited the Indian state of Rajkumana two years before the events of that novel. There he caught a glimpse of the ruling Maharajah. Since I place Tinsley's novel in 1937, The Shadow would have made this trip in 1935. I would place this Indian trip in late August 1935. In order to get back to New York for the next chronological installment, The Shadow would have needed to take a plane from France to India, only spend a couple of days there, and then return to the United States by plane with appropriate stops for refueling. Rather than have Vincent and Marsland accompany him on this trip, he probably sent them back to the United States after the events of *Zemba*.

98. 1935: Early September (5 days)
Title: *The Ribbon Clues*
Published: October 1, 1935

The plot involved a deceased millionaire's plan to leave his fortune to a nephew who was scheduled to be released from a Chinese prison before the fifth of December (chap. 19). The nephew was released earlier, and it was not yet December (chap. 3). References to "winter ahead" (chap. 18) and "cold night air" (chap. 21) at night suggest that the time is autumn or at least late summer. The publication date of this novel restricts my flexibility on where to assign this novel. The best time would normally have been November 1934, but I don't have a gap there because of Weston's status as commissioner. Therefore, September 1935 will have to do.

Ralph Weston was the police commissioner. The novel mentioned Weston's prior trip to Garacua (chap. 1), and Clyde Burke's troubles with Barth during that period (chap. 10). The last novel to identify Weston as commissioner in this chronology was #91 (*The Ghost Murders*). Since

Barth had recently replaced Weston in *The Crime Oracle* (#95), it is possible that Weston was absent from New York during part of July and all of August.

In *The Ribbon Clues*, Cardona is described as holding the rank of Detective in the New York Police Department. This was Cardona's original rank in the series, and he normally reported to Inspector Timothy Klein. In a few rare novels where Klein was on leave, Cardona functioned as Acting Inspector. Eventually, Klein was phased out of the series, and Cardona was called Acting Inspector and later just Inspector. Some novels which were written after *The Ribbon Clues* (such as *Death Rides The Skyway* and *The Crime Oracle*) are placed chronologically before it even though they have Cardona's title as Acting Inspector. However, other novels which clearly precede *The Ribbons Clues* (e. g. *The Chinese Disks*) give Cardona's title as Acting Inspector. I see no contradiction in this placement because the novels are very unclear when Cardona was promoted to a full Inspector. Any novel which refers to him as an Acting Inspector could mean that he was really technically a Detective.

Whether you read these novels in published order, submission order or my proposed chronological order, you will become very confused when Cardona went from an Acting Inspector to a full Inspector. Viewed in submission order, Walter Gibson began to drop the "Acting" in Cardona's title with this series of novels written in 1936: *The Golden Masks*, *Jibaro Death* and *The Strange Disapperance of Joe Cardona*. The "Acting" was then restored for *The Seven Drops of Blood*, and then omitted for *Death Token*. The next novel by Gibson featuring Cardona was *Vengeance is Mine!*, in which Cardona is referred to as an Inspector by everyone except for one scene in which he tells a businessman that he is only an "acting inspector" (chap. 12). The publication order for these novels is not too different from the submission order, but I had to juggle them extensively for my chronological entries for 1936. When Gibson finally abandoned use of the word "Acting" in Inspector Cardona's title, Theodore Tinsley continued to use it. Even though Gibson no longer used "Acting" in the policeman's title, a illustration of Cardona with the title of "Acting Inspector" appeared with many of his novels published in 1937. If we ignore these illustrations as well as Tinsley's references, then Cardona probably became a full inspector around the time of *The Shadow's Rival* (entry #134).

99. 1935: Mid-September (5 days)
Title: *The Python*
Published: November 15, 1935

The novel featured a "deserted summer colony" on the Maryland coast, and mentioned that it was now the "off season" (chap. 12). A day in New York was described as "sultry" (chap. 13). These references would seem to indicate that it was late summer or early autumn.

The novel's plot concerned jewels from Cuba which had been hidden on the island during the recent revolution, and which were now being brought to the United States. The Cuban revolution transpired in August 1933.

Weston was police commissioner.

- 99a. 1935: Mid-September (1 day)
Title: *The Case of Congressman Coyd* (Entry #1, chap. 1)
Published: December 15, 1935

Clyde Burke traveled to Washington to set up a news bureau there. The events of *The Embassy Murders* had transpired "a few years ago" (chap. 1). A gap of two weeks then happened until the next chronological entry for this novel, #101.

100. 1935: September 20-26 (7 days)
Title: *The North Woods Mystery*
Published: February 15, 1936

Clyde Burke was absent from this novel. The novel began on a day where there was "late summer heat," (chap. 1) and the last day of the adventure was a Thursday (chap. 12).

101. 1935: October (14 days)
Title: *The Case of Congressman Coyd* (Entry #2, chapters 2-20)
Published: December 15, 1935

The novel mentioned the "present embargo that concerns warring nations" (chap. 7). In August 1935, Congress passed the Neutrality Act which instituted this embargo. Congress was in recess throughout the novel. Congress was not in session from August 27, 1935, to January 2, 1936. One day in Washington was "an inferno from the heat of the sun" (chap. 16). The novel has to have transpired in either late summer or early autumn.

The previous entry for the early events of this novel was #99a.

102. 1935: Late October to November (31 days)
Title: *The Third Shadow*
Published: March 15, 1936

Crofton was still assigned to San Francisco (chap. 8). The novel mentioned the 1933 revolution in Cuba (chap. 9). Weston was commissioner.

NOTE: During several gaps in *The Third Shadow*, The Shadow must have found time to raid the underworld and kidnap criminals in order to have them rehabilitated by Slade Farrow (see entry #104). One of these raids happened at a dive called Guzzler's Joint (see entry #106).

103. 1935: Early December (5 days)
Title: *The Sledge-hammer Crimes*
Published: August 1, 1936

104. 1935: December 9-18 (10 days)
Title: *The Broken Napoleons*
Published: July 15, 1936

The yacht *Nepenthe* left Bermuda on the sixteenth of the month (chap. 8). This event transpired on the eighth day of the adventure. The owner of the yacht spent his winters in Bermuda (chap. 9).

The novel's villain, Levateur, left a broken coin near the bodies of his victims. The Shadow had recovered such a coin from a nameless man's body some time prior to this novel. It had "long" been in his possession (chap. 8). This incident must have transpired in some unrecorded investigation of The Shadow (possibly in August 1934).

Lord Jenley, a British official of Bermuda, was an old friend of Lamont Cranston. Since Jenley listened to Cranston's advice in fighting crime, it is probable that The Shadow as Cranston aided Jenley in some unrecorded criminal investigation (probably in 1930 or 1931).

In *The Broken Napoleons*, it was revealed that The Shadow was abducting criminals to be rehabilitated by criminologist Slade Farrow on a secret island base in the West Indies. This island prison had been established months before (chap. 8), but the abductions of criminals had only begun to make an impact on the underworld during "the past weeks" (chap. 6).

According to *The Sealed Box* (chap. 4), The Shadow had incarcerated a man named Larry Sherrin on his West Indian island for five years. Since chronological evidence places *The Sealed Box* (entry #142) in 1937, then Sherrin had been on the island since 1932. The Shadow would have abducted Sherrin even before he met Farrow in *The Green Box*. The Shadow must have established his island base as early as 1932, but only operated it on a very limited scale. By 1935, he had expanded operations on the island, and put Slade Farrow in charge of the men incarcerated there. The island's facilities had probably been reorganized under Farrow during the summer of 1935, but The Shadow had only begun to kidnap large numbers of criminals during November 1935. There were large gaps of unrecorded activity by The Shadow during the events of *The Third Shadow*, the only novel which I have placed in November 1935. During these gaps, The Shadow probably captured criminals and arranged their transportation to the island.

105. 1936: Early January (4 days)
Title: *The Strange Disappearance of Joe Cardona*
Published: November 15, 1936

The novel was set in "early winter" (chap. 1). Joe Cardona had just returned from vacation. He had probably made his vacation coincide with the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

106. 1936: Mid-January (6 days)
Title: *The Yellow Door*
Published: July 1, 1936

References were made to The Shadow's abduction of criminals: "Rumor had it that The Shadow was shipping them to parts unknown" (chap. 7). One of The Shadow's unrecorded raids transpired at a dive called Guzzler's Joint (chap. 7). The raid on Guzzler's joint probably transpired during one of the gaps in *The Third Shadow*.

The Yellow Door recalled an event from *The London Crimes*: "Once in London Harry had worked with The Shadow and seen his chief handle a double role. The Shadow had twice interviewed one man, but in different characters, thanks to his mastery of disguise" (chap. 4).

In *The Yellow Door*, The Shadow's forehead was bloodied by "a glancing gun blow" (chap. 20), but this injury was apparently only a minor wound that did not require any lengthy recuperation.

107. 1936: Late January (4 days)
Title: *The Salamanders*
Published: April 1, 1936

References to "cool air" and "chilly outdoors" (chap. 14) imply that the time was winter. Miles Crofton was in the East Coast during this novel. He was first mentioned as being with a shipment from Texas at Newark Airport (chap. 10). The novel does not make clear whether Crofton arrived with the shipment or was just there to receive it. If he arrived with the shipment, then he may still have been stationed at the West Coast during this time.

108. 1936: Very late January (4 days)
Title: *The Man from Shanghai*
Published: April 15, 1936

The Shadow received a deep knife cut on his left shoulder (chap. 21).

109. 1936: February 5-7 (3 days)
Title: *City of Doom*
Published: May 15, 1936

This was the second battle between The Shadow and the Voodoo Master. When the novel opened, The Shadow was arriving in the town of Hampstead in order to find Harry Vincent, who had been in the vicinity for a few days. The second day of this novel fell on a Thursday (chap. 6).

110. 1936: February (4 days)
Title: *Jibaro Death*
Published: September 15, 1936

Miles Crofton had "recently arrived" in New York by flying an autogiro (chap. 18). Presumably, Crofton was still regularly stationed on the West Coast.

The plot involved a fictional South American country called Santander. The president of Santander, Jose Rentone, had recently died of natural causes. A new revolutionary regime led by Pedro Lepres was seeking to consolidate its power over the country. The president's grandson, Alvarez Rentone, had arrived in the United States to find a treasure that would finance the anti-Lepres faction. The Lepres regime hired a bandit, Emilio Zenjora, to murder Jose and recover the treasure.

Santander was said to be bordered by Ecuador (chap. 4) and Colombia (chap. 8). The only real-life country which borders both of them would be Peru. The political situation described in this novel bore no resemblance to Peruvian politics in the 1930's.

Walter Gibson's usage of the name Santander raises some other questions. Santander is the name of a real-life province in Colombia. A previous novel, *Shadowed Millions*, had involved a scheme to make the real-life Santander an independent country. That novel did not say whether the scheme had succeeded or not. Perhaps Gibson intended the Santander of *Jibaro Death* to be the country whose creation was being discussed in *Shadowed Millions*.

In the real world, the province of Santander never gained independence from Colombia. This fact leads to another possible interpretation. *Jibaro Death* could be viewed as a slightly distorted account of a power struggle between different factions in the Colombian province of Santander. Perhaps the Lepres faction favored independence from Colombia while the Rentone faction was opposed to it.

In *Jibaro Death*, we learn that Moe Shrevnitz's cab was equipped to disguise its appearance (chap. 3).

111. 1936: February (12 days)
Title: *The Seven Drops of Blood*
Published: December 1, 1936

Moe Shrevnitz's old cab was destroyed in this novel and replaced by a new streamlined model. Nine novels in this chronology were actually written before *The Seven Drops of Blood*: *The Gray Ghost*, *The House of Silence*, *Buried Evidence*, *The Radium Murders*, *City of Crime*, *Partners of Peril*, *The Golden Masks* and *Death by Proxy*. Of these nine, *The Gray Ghost*, *Buried Evidence*, *The Radium Murders* and *The Golden Masks* featured Moe's cab, but these novels did not describe its appearance or its attributes.

112. 1936: March 4-12 (9 days)
Title: *Death Token*
Published: March 1, 1937

Since Moe's cab is described as "streamlined" (chap. 1), this novel must have followed *The Seven Drops of Blood*. The third day of *Death Token* was "the sixth of March" (chap. 4). The month of March is frequently mentioned throughout the novel, and the date of the twelfth of March is very important to the resolution of the mystery being investigated by The Shadow.

This novel featured two very famous real-life ships, the *Queen Mary* (launched in 1934) and the *Normandie* (launched in 1932). The German dirigible, the *Hindenburg*, also arrived in the United States in this novel on March 12. Constructed in 1936, the *Hindenburg* never made any trans-Atlantic crossings any earlier than May. In 1936, the *Hindenburg* made ten trans-Atlantic crossings during May-October. In 1937, it only made one crossing, and this ended with the airship's tragic destruction in May. How could the *Hindenburg* have made a March trip? It can not be argued that the novel really took place in May, because a snow blizzard hit New York (chap. 4). The most likely explanation is that some other German airship made the crossing, and the New York press inaccurately identified it as the *Hindenburg*, which was still being prepared for its trans-Atlantic schedule in Germany.

The Shadow received "a deep flesh wound" in the shoulder during this novel (chap. 3), but he seemed to have fully recovered from it by the novel's conclusion.

113. 1936: Mid-March (3 days)
Title: *The Radium Murders*

Published: September 15, 1937

A reference to "cool night air" (chap. 1) would be consistent with March. At the conclusion, a bullet "singed" The Shadow's shoulder (chap. 18).

114 . 1936: Late March (4 days)
Title: *The Golden Masks*
Published: September 1, 1936

Reference was made to "Ethiopian soldiers they've been showing in the newsreels" (chap. 12). These soldiers were defending their country against the Italian invasion which lasted during October 1935 to May 1936.

115 . 1936: April 1-9 (9 days)
Title: *The Gray Ghost*
Published: May 1, 1936

The weather was warm on Long Island because the owner of an estate was keeping his windows open at night (chap. 1). The penultimate day of this novel fell on a Wednesday (chap. 15).

NOTE: Adopting the identity of a gangster called Roger "Trig" Callister, The Shadow went to the city of Westford to investigate widespread corruption in the highest level of government. After spending several days in Westford as Callister, The Shadow then embarked on an anti-crime crusade which is covered by the next chronological entry, *City of Crime*.

116. 1936: Second half of April (10 days)
Title: *City of Crime*
Published: October 1, 1936

During his activities in the city of Westford, The Shadow was wounded in the left shoulder by a bullet (chap. 16). However, The Shadow recovered from this injury in the course of the novel.

117. 1936: Early May (3 days)
Title: *Partners of Peril* (TT)
Published: November 1, 1936

The Shadow had been aware of a death threat against a New York resident, Reed Harrington, for about a week (chap. 1) before the novel unfolded. However, this fact does not necessarily mean that The Shadow spent the previous week in New York. In fact, there is a passage which implies that The Shadow had spent the previous week outside New York. Even though The Shadow was posing as Cranston in the Cobalt Club on the first day of this adventure, a fellow club member claimed that he hadn't seen Cranston in the Cobalt Club for about a week on the third and final day of this novel (chap. 22). The Shadow responded that he had been out of town for the last week. It can then be assumed that the fellow member did not visit the Club on the day that the novel opened, but had been regularly visiting the Club for most of the previous week.

The Shadow was probably in Westford, the site for the events of *City of Crime*, during the week that preceded the start of *Partners of Peril*. One of the agents who did not join The Shadow in Westford must have discovered that a death threat had been issued against Reed Harrington. When The Shadow returned from Westford, he then proceeded to investigate the Harrington matter. On the first day after The Shadow returned as Cranston to the Cobalt Club, he did not run into a fellow club member who would later strike up a conversation two days later.

Harry Vincent would need some time to recover from the events of *Partners of Peril*. His shoulder was "singed" by a bullet (chap. 15), and another bullet had shattered the bone of his left wrist (chap. 21).

118. 1936: May (8 days, beginning after the 12th)
Title: *Intimidation, Inc.*
Published: December 15, 1936

A short time before the events of this novel unfolded, a businessman had surrendered to an extortion demand which had a deadline of "the 12th of this month" (chap. 2),

119. 1936: Early June (4 days)
Title: *House of Silence*
Published: July 15, 1937

Magnolias were in season (chap. 1).

120. 1936: June 10-13 (4 days)
Title: *Buried Evidence*
Published: September 1, 1937

The time was probably spring or summer since a rodeo was being held in Boston (chap. 3). The Shadow and his supporting cast became involved in this case on a Wednesday (chap. 3).

121. 1936: Late June (5 days)
Title: *Death by Proxy*
Published: October 15, 1936

A man was expected to be at a house "all summer" (chap. 17).

122. 1936: Early July (4 days)
Title: *Vengeance is Mine!*
Published: January 1, 1937

The Cobalt Club had stopped giving out lifetime memberships six years ago (chap. 1). By this chronological arrangement, the ban on lifetime membership was in 1930. Ralph Weston joined after the ban, and this chronology makes 1932 his first appearance in the series (see entry #14).

The plot involves a series of murders which had their origin in a scandal in which a bank collapsed because it was found to have deposits based on worthless securities. This scandal was supposed to have transpired six years earlier (chap. 13), but we are later told that the bank's collapse happened seven years earlier (chap. 21). The gap of seven years between the banking scandal and the murders makes more sense because the bank would have probably collapsed then in 1929 during the stock market crash.

123. 1936: July 17-24 (8 days)
Title: *Loot of Death*
Published: February 1, 1937

The novel began on a Friday (chap. 1).

Vic Marquette is once more a Secret Service operative working for the Treasury Department. Since *The Ghost Murders*, Marquette had been a FBI operative working for the Department of Justice. It could be that Marquette was temporarily transferred back to the Treasury Department because of personality conflicts at the FBI. In my chronological arrangement, Marquette has recently caught a gang of daring bank robbers with The Shadow's help in *House of Silence*. The FBI's most publicized cases in the 1930's involved bank robbers.

Often the press lionized the FBI agent involved in these cases. When this happened, the FBI director, J. Edgar Hoover, would sometimes become intensely jealous of the agent being praised. For example, Hoover's resentment at the attention being paid to Melvin Purvis, the G-Man who ended the careers of John Dillinger and Pretty Boy Floyd, led to a bitter feud which resulted in Purvis' resignation. It could be that similar tensions resulted between Hoover and Marquette after the case described in *House of Silence*. Perhaps Marquette was temporarily transferred back to the Secret Service by Hoover in order to remove him out of the limelight which the press was then focusing on the FBI. Eventually, Marquette returned to the FBI.

The Shadow had a rib bruised in the course of this adventure (chap. 8), but he seemed to have fully recovered from this injury.

124. 1936: July 28-August 2 (8 days)
Title: *Murder House*
Published: March 15, 1937

When the novel opened, a businessman was taking a picnic which he did every Tuesday and Friday (chap. 1). The Shadow and his regular cast became involved in this story seven days later (chap. 2). Therefore, The Shadow had to have become a participant in this novel on a Tuesday or a Friday. I chose Tuesday because The Shadow's previous adventure would have ended on a Friday.

Vic Marquette was working for the Secret Service in this novel.

125. 1936: August 11-18 (7 days)
Title: *Foxhound* (TT)
Published: January 15, 1937

The novel began on a Thursday (chap. 2). A rare painting had recently been brought to the United States aboard the *Hindenburg* (chap. 7). During May through October 1936, the *Hindenburg* made ten flights to the United States from Germany.

Joe Cardona was abducted by the novel's villain, and Commissioner Weston covered up this kidnapping by claiming Cardona was taking his scheduled vacation (chap. 18). One would assume that Cardona would take vacation in either the spring or summer. In Gibson's *Murder House*, Cardona pretended to go on an unscheduled vacation in order to conduct a criminal investigation outside New York.

Foxhound was very tough on The Shadow and his agents. Harry Vincent got his hand pierced by a knife (chap. 5). Clyde Burke was shot in the neck, and had to undergo a risky operation (chap. 15). The Shadow received a cut on his cheek, and a serious bullet wound somewhere in his body (chap. 23). Both Burke and The Shadow would need time to recover before their next chronological appearances.

According to Theodore Tinsley in this novel, The Shadow had a secret private hospital in Manhattan to take care of the wounds sustained by himself and his agents (chap. 15). One would assume that Dr. Rupert Sayre was the person who oversaw the operations of this hospital.

NOTE: According to *The Shadow's Rival* (entry #134), The Shadow had an unrecorded adventure involving a gangster named Pug Seedy. The Shadow killed the "big-shot" for whom Seedy was working (chap. 5). I would place this unrecorded adventure in September 1936. The title character of the same novel, a criminologist named Gannet Seard, also began advising the police in the same month. Seard's involvement with the police began five months before the novel opened (chap. 2), and I place the novel in February 1937.

There are also two references to unrecorded adventures in *The Rackets King* (entry #145), a case which I have placed in August 1937. These adventures may also have taken place during September 1936. The first reference indicated that The Shadow had first encountered Lou Channing, a gambler in *The Rackets King*, while spying on another criminal who had "been eliminated long ago" (chap. 7). The Shadow taped a conversation between Channing and the other crook while they were playing poker. The Shadow may have taped this conversation in order to impersonate Channing's poker partner.

In *The Rackets King*, Joe Cardona also made this remark about The Shadow: "Sometimes...he's turned a job over to me. Like the time he snagged a batch of stolen gems from the crooks who had them. They turned up in my overcoat pocket" (chap. 19).

It is also probable that during September 1936 The Shadow as Cranston met Jerome Trebble, a wealthy recluse who brought his yacht to Long Island Sound. This meeting happened a "few years" before the events of *Crime Rides the Sea* (chap. 7), a novel which seems to be set in July 1938.

According to the second novel entitled *Wizard of Crime* (published in February 15, 1943, see entry #267), The Shadow exposed the activities of a criminal financier named King Kauger some years before the events of the novel. A comment by Joe Cardona (chap. 5) indicates that this event happened around the time of *Intimidation, Inc.* (entry #118) and *Crime Insured* (entry #135). Therefore, I suspect that The Shadow encountered Kauger between the events of those two novels. September 1936 would be the best place to place The Shadow's unrecorded involvement with Kauger.

126. 1936: October (11 days)
Title: *The Keeper's Gold*
Published: October 15, 1937

The Shadow had originally pursued the Keeper's gang "six years ago" (chap. 2). Since the interval is given as "nearly seven years ago" (chap. 3), the end of the year was probably drawing near. The fact that the weather was not cold in London (chap. 15) suggests that the time is early autumn.

The Shadow received a bullet wound in the left wrist (chap. 6), but he had recovered from it by the novel's conclusion.

127. 1936: November (5 days)
Title: *The Cup of Confucius* (TT)
Published: May 1, 1937

References to "this cold time of year" (chap. 8) would be consistent with November. The Shadow was wounded in the rib during an explosion (chap. 1), but he recovered from this injury. A bullet "nicked" his ear lobe in the novel's conclusion (chap. 19).

The novel's plot concerned a rare Chinese relic, the Cup of Confucius. The Cup was sold to an American millionaire by Sun Wang, a fictional Chinese warlord who was leading "bandit troops" against the "invaders" of his homeland (chap. 8). Sun Wang would seem to be operating around Manchuria, which the Japanese had conquered during 1931-33. This warlord would seem to be independent of the Nationalist government of Chiang Kai-shek. It should be noted that the Nationalists often characterized the Communists as "bandits." It could be that Sun Wang was a Communist leader. The Communist looked down on Confucian beliefs, and would have possessed no regrets about selling a relic associated with the great Chinese sage.

128. 1936: November (3 days)
Title: *The Pooltex Tangle* (TT)
Published: October 1, 1937

The plot involved a form of clothing that was totally fire-proof and almost bullet-proof. A shipment of this clothing had been sold to a foreign country whose representative was given the code name of "Mr. West. A rival country tried to steal the shipment, and their representative was called Mr. East. The country whom Mr. East served would seem to be Nazi Germany. Therefore, Mr. West's country would probably be France. Tensions between France and Germany had increased when the Nazis intervened in the Spanish Civil War during 1936. Hostilities in Spain opened in July.

The Shadow's eyebrow was totally "singed away" by fire, and a bullet "ripped" open a cut on his jaw (chap. 20).

Theodore Tinsley gave Joe Cardona a nephew named Anthony in this novel. The young man was unfortunately murdered in the start of the novel.

NOTE: Sometime during 1936, The Shadow had an unrecorded exploit alluded to in *The Lone Tiger* (chap. 1). A criminal gang called the Tiger Mob robbed the house of the Mileson family in New York. The Milesons were locked in a cold wine cellar by the gang, and The Shadow rescued them. This incident transpired two years before *The Lone Tiger*, which I have placed in September 1938. Since the weather in New York was apparently cold when The Tiger Mob incarcerated the Milesons, November was probably the month when this unrecorded adventure transpired. December is ruled out by the fact that I have chronological evidence that The Shadow spent most of that month away from New York

Around late November, the Solidarity Insurance Company, the evil organization behind the events of *Crime Insured* (entry #135), began to sell insurance policies to criminals to sustain losses if crimes proved unsuccessful.

129. 1936: Early December (3 days)
Title: *Washington Crime*
Published: April 1, 1937

It was "early winter" (chap. 3). A female spy, Nina Valencia, had worked for the "cause of the royalists" during the "recent revolution in Spain" (chap. 5). This "revolution" would seem to be a reference to the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War during July 1936.

The Shadow posed as the Count of Santurnia, an identity originated in *The Gray Ghost*.

The Shadow had heard of the novel's main villain, Hugo Creelon, during previous exploits in Europe. The Shadow probably heard of Creelon while he was investigating international espionage in *Zemba*. Creelon was an international spy who sold his services to the highest bidder. He was staying in Washington at the embassy of an unidentified nation which was employing him. This nameless nation would also seem to be behind an international campaign of sabotage against American naval bases which reached as far as Honolulu (chap. 1). Japan would appear to have been the nation sponsoring Creelon.

The Shadow had witnessed the effects of the drug hashish on others (chap. 5). There are no previous novels featuring hashish, and this would seem to be a reference to an unrecorded exploit in The Shadow's past. Possibly The Shadow became familiar with hashish's effects during his unrecorded exploits as Clifford Gage in India and Afghanistan.

Vic Marquette was working for the Secret Service in this novel.

130. 1936: December (5 days)
Title: *Quetzal*
Published: February 15, 1937

In *Washington Crime*, The Shadow had been summoned by Senator Ross Releston to investigate an espionage operation. The novel ended with The Shadow still in Washington, D. C. In *Quetzal*, The Shadow is leaving Washington to undertake a mission for the American government inside Mexico. Releston probably gave The Shadow a new assignment when *Washington Crime* ended.

The plot of *Quetzal* involved a secret military base being built jointly by the American and Mexican government. A freelance master spy, Quetzal, put the plans for the base up for auction to a group consisting of international spies from different unnamed countries. Some spies decided to pool their money rather than bid against each other. The spies who cooperated in this pooling probably worked for Germany, Italy and Japan, the nations which eventually would form the Axis.

Quetzal and his agents were aware that The Shadow posed as Lamont Cranston. Hugo Creelon had discovered this fact in *Washington Crime*. Perhaps Quetzal and Creelon were master spies who sometimes traded information. Another possibility is that Creelon informed the unnamed nation employing him about The Shadow's cover identity, and this country's agents then informed Quetzal. Both Creelon and Quetzal seemed to be dealing with Japan. In a later novel,

Death Ship (entry #163), it will be revealed that Japanese spies have identified The Shadow with Cranston.