

131. 1936: December (6 days)
Title: *Teeth of the Dragon*
Published: November 15, 1937

In this novel, Walter Gibson created fiction based on a real-life incident in China. The plot involves General Cho Tsing, an important Chinese government official who had earlier been identified as a friend of The Shadow in *The Fate Joss*. In *Teeth of the Dragon*, China was in a state of frenzy over the General's abduction:

"The Chinese government wants to raise one hundred million dollars, immediately. Ten million to pay the ransom of General Cho Tsing who was kidnapped and carried to the interior of China. The rest to provide a national defense, which the abductors demand as part of the deal" (chap. 5).

The General's captors were described as "bandits" (chap. 6). The General was secretly transported to San Francisco by the Jeho Fan, a Chinese secret society. Once the ten million was paid, the General "would return, disguised, to China; later a fictionalized story of his release would be made public" (chap. 14). The "bandits" who abducted the General in China seemed to be motivated by patriotism since they wanted ninety million dollars spent on defense. However, the Jeho Fan were only interested in money. The relationships between the "bandits" in China and the Jeho Fan was never made clear in the novel. Eventually, The Shadow rescued the General, who then returned secretly to China.

The fictional General Cho Tsing was based on the then ruler of China, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. In late 1936, the Nationalist government of Chiang Kai-shek was more interested in suppressing its internal Communist opposition, frequently characterized as "bandits," than in resisting Japan which had conquered Manchuria and other provinces of northern China. Some of the officers in Chiang's army felt that the government should make peace with the Communists in order to oppose Japanese aggression with a united front. On December 10, 1936, these officers led by Marshal Chang Hsuen-liang in collusion with the Communists abducted Chiang in the Chinese province of Sian. Chiang was to be held captive until he agreed to make peace with the Communists in order to oppose Japan. On December 25, 1936, Chiang was released. Although he never formally agreed to his captors' demand, he then changed his policies and began to mobilize China to resist Japan. Realizing that China was now concentrating its efforts against further aggression, Japan attacked China in July 1937.

If we pretend that Cho Tsing was Chiang Kai-shek, it is not too difficult to rationalize Gibson's fiction with reality. The Jeho Fan must have hijacked this prominent official from the "bandits" holding him in Sian. The Jeho Fan were only interested in getting the ransom from this military leader. When The Shadow rescued the Chinese leader, he was returned to China where the "fictionalized story" was put forth that he had spent his entire captivity inside Sian. Although no ransom had been paid for his release, this period of captivity had changed the Chinese leader's outlook and caused him to organize the defense of his country against foreign aggression.

In *Teeth of the Dragon*, The Shadow dropped his guise of Lamont Cranston for that of an unnamed American with a hawkish face (chap. 12). This description sounds somewhat like The Shadow's real identity, Kent Allard. *Teeth of the Dragon* had actually been written after *The Shadow Unmasks* in which Allard first appeared after being supposedly absent from the United States for twenty-five years. In this chronological arrangement, *Teeth of the Dragon* is placed before *The Shadow Unmasks*, and it must be assumed that the unnamed identity adopted by The Shadow was not Allard.

Since I have placed *Teeth of the Dragon* after *Quetzal*, The Shadow could have journeyed to San Francisco from Mexico. He may even have undertaken this case on behalf of the American government. A careful reading of *Washington Crime*, *Quetzal* and *Teeth of the Dragon* indicates that The Shadow's adoption of the Cranston identity was known to very high officials in Washington, D. C.

Teeth of the Dragon was the first appearance of Myra Reldon, an agent for the U. S. government who posed as a Chinese girl named Ming Dwan. Vic Marquette also appeared in this novel. He had been a member of the Secret Service in *Loot of Death*, *Murder House* and *Washington Crime*. He was depicted as a Federal agent, but no mention was made of the exact government agency which employed him. Since Myra Reldon would be identified as an FBI agent on *The Golden Pagoda*, it could be assumed that Marquette was now once more with the FBI.

NOTE: The Solidarity Insurance Company received great profits from their first month of operation (*Crime Insured*, chap. 9). The Shadow's absence from New York during the month of December must have created a climate where illegal activities flourished.

132. 1937: January (10 days)
Title: *Treasure Trail*
Published: May 15, 1937

New York was experiencing "cold weather" (chap. 6). The plot of this novel involved the raising of a Spanish galleon. The professor in charge of this operation didn't want to raise the ship until the New York World's Fair opened (chap. 6), but Commissioner Weston forced him to raise it. Considering that the Fair was not scheduled to open until April 1939, the professor would have been waiting very long if Weston had not intervened. In January 1937, construction was just beginning on the Fair.

Some years prior to this novel, The Shadow as Lamont Cranston had undertaken cruises aboard a ship called the *Hatteras* (chap. 3). As Cranston, The Shadow befriended the ship's skipper, Daniel Cray. I would place these cruises in the gaps found in either 1930 or 1931.

133. 1937: January 17-February 1 (16 days)
Title: *Brothers of Doom*
Published: June 1, 1937

The novel ended on a Monday (chap. 14). The weather was cold in New York: "The night was cold and windy" (chap. 15).

This is the last of Gibson's novels in this chronology that called Joe Cardona an "Acting" Inspector. However, some of Theodore Tinsley's following novels (e.g. *The Fifth Napoleon*, *The Golden Dog Murders*) identified Cardona as an "Acting Inspector," and a pulp illustration of Cardona for some of Gibson's later novels (e.g. *Face of Doom*) used the "Acting" in his title.

NOTE: The Solidarity Insurance Company's profits are down during their second month of selling crime insurance (*Crime Insured*, chap. 9). The Shadow must have found time to interfere with their clients' criminal operations during gaps in *Treasure Trail* and *Brothers of Doom*.

134. 1937: February (9 days)
Title: *The Shadow's Rival*
Published: June 15, 1937

Prior to the start of this case, The Shadow had a few unrecorded cases in which the police intervened before he could bring criminals to justice. The police were able to catch these criminals without The Shadow's help because Commissioner Weston was receiving the advice of Gannet Seard, a criminologist whose involvement with the police ceased when the novel concluded.

NOTE: The Solidarity Insurance Company's experienced a huge loss in its third month of selling crime insurance (*Crime Insured*, chap. 9). All of these losses are blamed on The Shadow, but probably some of them were due to the activities of Gannet Seard. However, the criminal underworld was unaware of Seard's existence, so they likely blamed The Shadow for all their failures.

135. 1937: March 4-12 (9 days)
Title: *Crime Insured*
Published: July 1, 1937

The second day of this novel was on a Friday (chap. 5).

The Solidarity Insurance Company destroyed The Shadow's first sanctum in this novel. In return, the Solidarity Insurance Company was put out of business permanently. Oddly, The Shadow allowed the police to apprehend Stampf, the chief investigator for the Solidarity Insurance Company. Considering that Stampf knew 1) that The Shadow posed as Lamont Cranston and 2) that Vincent, Marsland, Burke, Shrevnitz, Hawkeye, Mann and Burbank worked for The Shadow, it would be dangerous for the great crimefighter to allow this crook to be sent to a prison where he could communicate his knowledge to fellow felons. Maybe The Shadow later abducted Stampf and transported him to that island run by Slade Farrow.

Another possibility was that Stampf was too afraid of The Shadow to reveal his knowledge so long as he was in police custody. In a later novel, *Death From Nowhere*, a crook named Silk Elredge discovered that The Shadow posed as Cranston. Although Silk would eventually be killed, there was a brief period where he was apprehended by the police. During this time, he reasoned that The Shadow would kill a squealer and that the crimefighter could penetrate any police station or prison (chap. 14). Therefore, Silk kept his knowledge to himself. Perhaps Stampf reasoned the same way. There are other examples of minor crooks who had learned some valuable piece of information about The Shadow, and were imprisoned by the legal authorities. Earlier in *The Crime Oracle*, Vic Marquette arrested a crook who knew Cliff Marsland was an agent. Later in *Silver Skull*, the police arrested a woman, Thelma Royce, who knew The Shadow posed as Cranston. It can be assumed that these criminals reasoned like Silk Elredge.

The invention from *The Black Hush* played an important role in the novel.

The real Lamont Cranston was last reported to be in London (chap. 14). This report fits in with the next chronological entry.

NOTE: During the gap between chronological entries, The Shadow established himself in a new sanctum.

136. 1937: March 19-April 8 (21 days)
Title: *The Shadow Unmasks*
Published: August 1, 1937

A detective searched the apartment of a gem dealer on the sixth of the month (chap. 19). This search transpired on the nineteenth day of the novel.

In this novel, the real Cranston is injured in a plane crash in London. The Shadow was then forced to assume his real identity of Kent Allard, an aviator supposedly lost in the Guatemalan jungles. Due to the various hints in the early Shadow novels, it had been assumed that Allard had been disfigured. Walter Gibson ignored these hints when he introduced Allard into the series. Therefore, speculation had arisen among Shadow fans that Allard had undergone plastic surgery to restore his true face. For The Shadow to undergo conventional methods of plastic surgery, he would have been inactive for weeks in order to recover from the operation. However, The Shadow did uncover an extremely quick method of plastic surgery practiced by a lost tribe of Aztec Indians during the events of *Six Men of Evil*. It could be that The Shadow spent years investigating this Aztec method of plastic surgery in order to utilize it to restore his face. If this be true, then The Shadow probably underwent plastic surgery during the gap between *Crime Insured* and *The Shadow Unmasks*.

137. 1937: Mid-April (14 days)
Title: *The Yellow Band*
Published: August 15, 1937

Kent Allard visited Florida to stop a crime wave there. There are references in this novel which implied that the time was winter. Allard suggested that a businessman contact a member of the "foreign legion" of vacationing police officers in Florida. The "foreign legion" was described as "that unofficial organization that winters in Miami every year" (chap. 9). Allard then gave the name of Joe Cardona, who was actually not a member of the "foreign legion." In fact, Cardona was still in New York. The Shadow then summoned Cardona from New York to Miami. Cardona traveled there under the pretense that he was vacationing. Since Cardona was not really on vacation, then the time could be early spring. Allard's mention of the "foreign legion" was merely a ruse to bring Cardona into the case.

There was also a reference to the difficulty of policing Miami: "Every winter brought a new influx of criminals..." (chap. 17). The Shadow was then pursuing a new gang of crooks called the Yellow Band. This gang could have arrived in late winter in Miami, and then continued their crime spree into the spring.

138. 1937: Late April (2 days)
Title: *Death Turrets*
Published: November 1, 1937

Lionel Brendaw was a war profiteer who was jailed for swindling the American government "twenty years ago" (chap. 4). The United States entered World War I in 1917.

NOTE: Before the events of the next chronological entry, *Racket Town*, unfolded, The Shadow spent days, if not weeks, in the city of Parkland where he established a false identity.

139. 1937: May (16 days)
Title: *Racket Town*
Published: December 15, 1937

The Shadow cleaned up the city of Parkland in this novel using a strategy similar to those employed in *Gangdom's Doom* and *City of Crime*. The Shadow's basic ploy in a city controlled by racketeers was to infiltrate the mob in a false identity.

According to *The Spy Ring* (entry #202), a novel which I have placed in 1939, the real Lamont Cranston was "marooned" with other Americans in Shanghai during the month of May two years earlier (chap. 11). During that month of May, The Shadow "had been actively fighting crime in New York; so openly that newspapers had

carried mention of The Shadow." If we assume that New York State rather than New York City was meant by this reference, then the events of *Racket Town* fit neatly in with this apparent reference to The Shadow's activities in May 1937. *Racket Town* concluded with The Shadow being publicly applauded for his work in destroying a criminal gang.

NOTE: Before the events of *The Fifth Napoleon* unfolded, The Shadow spent at least one week orchestrating a gang war in New York.

140. 1937: June (2 days)
Title: *The Fifth Napoleon* (TT)
Published: February 1, 1938

The time would seem to be either late spring or summer because this scene transpired on a penthouse: "A blonde in a bathing suit was sunning herself in a deck chair" (chap. 13).

New York was now in the grips of a crime wave controlled by five gang leaders. The Shadow's absence from New York in *The Yellow Band*, *Death Turrets* and *Racket Town* probably gave this crime syndicate a free hand in New York.

A bullet "creased" Joe Cardona's left shoulder (chap. 17) and another wounded him in the right wrist (chap. 19). A bullet "dug a red furrow" on The Shadow's forearm (chap. 19).

141. 1937: June (5 days)
Title: *The Crimson Phoenix* (TT)
Published: April 1, 1938

A crook named Duke Duncan was now dominating New York's rackets. He seemed to have moved into the vacuum caused by the death of the Fifth Napoleon in the previous novel. Duncan's death in this novel may *not* have left the leadership of New York's underworld vacant (see entry #145).

The plot in this novel involved a coded message which revealed a plot of a Far Eastern power to launch a war against the United States and other "democratic nations" (chap. 19). The war would be launched by "a surprise aerial attack." The war plot was foiled when The Shadow sent the secret message to the American government. Japan would seem to the nation plotting this war, and Theodore Tinsley's "surprise aerial attack" would seem to be a prediction of Pearl Harbor (December 7, 1941). The other "democratic" nations were probably Britain, France and Holland. All of them had colonies in the Far East. In July 1937, Japan launched a massive invasion of China, and Tinsley's imaginary war scare could be envisioned as being somehow tied to that event. It could be pretended that Japan was pretending to attack both China and the Far Eastern possessions of Western nations during the summer of 1937. The Shadow's intervention delayed Japan's actions against the Western nations until 1941, but the invasion of China proceeded on schedule.

Tinsley's master plan to start a war in the Far East could be tied to the espionage activities investigated by The Shadow in Gibson's *Washington Crime* and *Quetzal*, which are both placed by this chronology in December 1936. Despite the hint of Japan's involvement in *The Crimson Phoenix*, The Shadow had no direct contact with any agents working for that country in the novel. This may have been lucky for him since Japanese spies had probably been aware of his usage of the Cranston identity since the events of *Washington Crime*.

Joe Cardona was not present in this novel, and it could be argued that he was still recovering from his wounds in *The Fifth Napoleon*. In *The Crimson Phoenix*, a bullet left "a red hot razor slash" on The Shadow's wrist (chap. 14).

142. 1937: Early July (6 days)
Title: *The Sealed Box*
Published: December 1, 1937

References to "a sultry night" (chap. 1) implied that the time was summer. This novel involved Larry Sherrin, a man whom The Shadow had sent to his private island prison five years ago (chap. 4). The Shadow must have been operating his private penal institution even before he met Slade Farrow.

The Shadow injured his left side in a fall, and still had difficulty moving his left arm when the novel concluded. He would need time to recover before his next adventure.

NOTE: Before the events of *Hills of Death* unfolded, The Shadow had spent four days observing strange activities in the hills of New Jersey (chap. 1). By my chronology, The Shadow conducted this preliminary investigation during July 17-20, 1937.

143. 1937: July 21-24 (4 days)
Title: *Hills of Death*
Published: January 15, 1938

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

The novel involved a benevolent European doctor who was secretly moving to America the wealth of people being persecuted by "tyrannical governments" (chap. 5) in Europe. Much of this wealth probably belonged to German Jews who were faced with the prospects of confiscation of their wealth by Herman Goering and other Nazi leaders.

Miles Crofton appeared in this novel (chap. 16), and he now seemed to be permanently stationed on the East Coast where he was in charge of The Shadow's autogiro in Newark Airport. When The Shadow had last visited San Francisco (*Teeth of the Dragon*), Crofton had not been present.

Vic Marquette appeared in *Hills of Death*, but no reference was made to the exact identity of the Federal agency employing him.

144. 1937: August 13-17 (5 days)
Title: *The Crystal Buddha*
Published: January 1, 1938

The third day of this novel was the fifteenth of the month (chap. 11). The time would seem to be the summer because a character named Barbara Brinby was "to begin her law course in the Fall" (chap. 7).

145. 1937: Late August (7 days)
Title: *The Rackets King*
Published: June 15, 1938

The novel concerned the murder of Tex Dybert, the secret Rackets King of New York. The impression was given in the novel was that Dybert was secretly controlling rackets in New York for a long time. By my chronological arrangement, Gibson's Dybert would have been dominating rackets during the same period when Tinsley's title character from *The Fifth Napoleon* was also supposed to be in charge of the major rackets in New York. However, Gibson presented Dybert as a clever criminal who allowed other gangsters to build up their rackets before seizing control of them. Dybert could have been allowing the Fifth Napoleon to build up a criminal empire in order to seize control of it later. The Shadow's victory over the Fifth Napoleon would then have prevented Dybert's power play.

There is also the question of Duke Duncan, who seemed to be dominating New York's rackets in Tinsley's *The Crimson Phoenix*, a novel which I have placed immediately after *The Fifth Napoleon*. Duncan was not a major villain, and he was quickly murdered in *The Crimson Phoenix*. Perhaps Duncan was really a front for Dybert, who did not court publicity. Dybert could have used Duncan to re-establish dominance over the rackets when the Fifth Napoleon died. The underworld would then have thought Duncan was the real big shot, but he could have secretly been taking his orders from Dybert.

The Shadow received a bad blow to the head in *The Rackets King* (chap. 14), but he quickly recovered from it.

NOTE: Shortly after the events of *The Rackets King*, five gangsters known as the Hand left New York (see entry #154).

146. 1937: Early September (7 days)
Title: *The Murder Master*
Published: February 15, 1938

A man named Justin Palbrock was going to declare his candidacy for the State Senate (chap. 6) after the first day of this novel. Since elections would be held in November, political campaigns officially begin in September. Although candidates normally declare before September, the beginning of this month is not too late to start a campaign.

NOTE: Shortly before the events of *The Voice*, The Shadow as Lamont Cranston took an unrecorded trip to Chicago. In *Murder for Sale* (entry #160), The Shadow assumed the identity of Clip Arsham, a New York gangster who had last been reported in Chicago (chap. 16). The Shadow had probably also assumed Arsham's identity during this unrecorded Chicago trip.

147. 1937: Second half of September (5 days)

Title: *The Voice*
Published: November 1, 1938

Residents of New York are surprised that dusk fell at six o'clock even though "days were short at this season of the year" (chap. 1). It would seem to be September. Daylight Savings Time ended in late September during 1937, and this novel had to happen before clocks were moved back an hour.

Vic Marquette appeared in *The Voice*. Marquette had originally been working for the Secret Service when he had been introduced in *The Shadow Laughs!*. He stayed with that Federal agency until Gibson made Marquette a member of the FBI in *The Ghost Murders*. Marquette continued with The FBI for several novels thereafter, but Gibson put him back in the Secret Service in three novels (*Loot of Death*, *Murder House* and *Washington Crime*). Marquette then appeared in *Teeth of the Dragon* and *Hills of Death*, but the Federal agency for which he worked was not identified. In those two novels, it could be assumed that Marquette was working for the FBI since he joined forces with Myra Reldon in *Teeth of the Dragon*. She would be identified as an agent for the FBI in *The Golden Pagoda*. After *Hills of Death*, Marquette would appear in this chronology as a FBI agent with two exceptions (Tinsley's *Death's Harlequin* and Gibson's *The House on the Ledge*) in which he returned to the Secret Service. In submission order, the first novel to acknowledge Marquette as being a member of the FBI again was *Crime Over Boston*, and *The Voice* was written afterwards. Because of the argument that *The Voice* should be placed in September, it precedes *Crime Over Boston* in this chronological arrangement.

148. 1937: Late September-early October (16 days)
Title: *Death Jewels*
Published: August 1, 1938

In these remarks about The Shadow's sanctum (chap. 6), the events of *Crime Insured* were recalled: "Its location changed at intervals - sometimes to suit The Shadow's own convenience, on other occasions because crooks guessed the whereabouts of the secret headquarters. Once a shrewd criminal had ferreted his way to the sanctum and produced a mass attack there."

An unnamed agent flew The Shadow's autogiro in *Death Jewels* (chap. 18). This was probably Miles Crofton. We can assume that he had been permanently stationed on the East Coast since at least *Hills of Death*.

149. 1937: Mid-October (3 days)
Title: *Cards of Death*
Published: May 1, 1938

It is unlikely that this novel took place in the winter because the weather was warm enough for Commissioner Weston to have drinks with a criminal investigator on the outside terrace of a penthouse apartment (chap. 9).

150. 1937: Late October (5 days)
Title: *Serpents of Siva*
Published: April 15, 1938

The weather was very "chilly" on one night (chap. 1), but the next day a group of socialites were boating on Long Island Sound (chap. 2). The weather in New York would seem to be alternating between chill and warmth. Autumn would seem a good time to place the novel.

A bullet "skimmed" The Shadow's ribs (chap. 6), but he seemed fully recovered from this injury by the novel's conclusion.

151. 1937: Early November (7 days)
Title: *Face of Doom*
Published: March 15, 1938

A master criminal known as the Face was now the overlord of the New York underworld. We can assume that he asserted control after the murder of Tex Dybert in *The Rackets King*.

Harry Vincent saw a newsreel of Irish Sweepstakes winners (chap. 5). In 1937, the Irish Sweepstakes was held in Mid-March, late May and late October. This novel should then be placed in either late March, early June or early November.

152. 1937: Mid-November (6 days)

Title: *The Green Hoods*
Published: August 15, 1938

153. 1937: Late November (5 days)
Title: *The Golden Pagoda*
Published: March 1, 1938

Prior to the start of the novel, Harry Vincent had spent at least three days conducting an investigation in New York's Chinatown.

An unnamed agent flew The Shadow's autogiro (chap. 19). As with *Death Jewels*, it would be safe to assume that the pilot was Miles Crofton.

The Golden Pagoda was the second appearance of Myra Reldon.

The Shadow was wounded by a bullet which left a "sear across his left shoulder blade" (chap. 16), but he seemed to have fully recovered from this injury when the novel concluded.

154. 1937: Early December (5 days)
Title: *The Hand*
Published: May 15, 1938

This was the first of five novels in which The Shadow battled an association of five gangsters known as the Hand. This quintet of gangsters had disbanded "many months ago" during a big crackdown on rackets in New York (chap. 5). This crackdown probably resulted as the aftermath of the events described in *The Rackets King*. This is the view of two notable Shadow scholars, Will Murray and the late Robert Sampson. However, there is the possibility that Walter Gibson was trying to tie in the fictional events of The Shadow with the real world. Gibson mentioned that the cleanup of the rackets was under the direction of an unnamed special prosecutor. A special prosecutor named Paul Sherman appeared in Tinsley's *The Fifth Napoleon*, but no special prosecutor appeared in any of Gibson's novels. It could be that Gibson's special prosecutor was based on Thomas Dewey. As a special prosecutor in New York during 1935-37, Dewey launched a crusade against racketeers that resulted in 72 convictions in 73 cases. Dewey was elected Governor of New York in 1942, and ran unsuccessfully as the Republican presidential candidate in 1944 and 1948.

The events of *The Hand* have to transpire in either November or December 1937 because of this novel's relationship to *Crime Rides the Sea*, a novel which transpired in July 1938. One of the gang members, Pointer Trame, was in Havana in *The Hand* (chap. 5). In *Crime Rides the Sea*, Trame had been in Havana "nearly eight months ago" (chap. 6).

155. 1937: Early December (5 days)
Title: *The Golden Dog Murders* (TT)
Published: September 1, 1938

The time had to be either early winter or late autumn. A millionaire named Peter Randolph had moved from his "summer estate" to the home where he resided "every winter" (chap. 3). A rowboat had apparently been "abandoned by some camper at the end of the summer season" (chap. 9). It can't be too far into winter because squirrels were sighted (chap. 12).

Cliff Marsland was tortured by a hoodlum with a knife (chap. 10), but his wounds did not seem serious.

156. 1937: Mid-December (5 days)
Title: *Crime Over Boston*
Published: September 15, 1938

157. 1937: Early January (6 days)
Title: *The Dead Who Lived*
Published: October 1, 1938

158. 1938: January 11-15 (5 days)
Title: *Vanished Treasure*
Published: October 15, 1938

A character named Roger Hastings promised to visit his relatives for the weekend (chap. 14), and he arrived on the fourth day of this case. Roger must have arrived on a Friday or a Saturday, and I chose Friday.

159. 1938: January (6 days)
Title: *Voodoo Trail*
Published: June 1, 1938

This was the third and final battle between The Shadow and the Voodoo Master. The Shadow was wounded in the shoulder with a knife (chap. 19) during the climax of this novel.

In *The Yellow Band*, Cardona had become convinced that Cranston was The Shadow. By *Voodoo Trail*, he realized that The Shadow only posed as Cranston. Walter Gibson did not elaborate on Cardona's suspicions. In fact, Cardona's behavior in later novels did not indicate any knowledge of the connection between The Shadow and Cranston.

160. 1938: February (8 days)
Title: *Murder for Sale*
Published: July 1, 1938

There was "sleet" in Philadelphia (chap. 17). This novel was the second battle between the Hand and The Shadow. At least a month must have passed between *The Hand* and *Murder for Sale*. In *The Hand*, Ring Brescott, the murder specialist of the Hand, was reported to be in California. By *Murder for Sale*, Brescott had left California, gone to Mexico and then arrived in Philadelphia. In Philadelphia, Brescott had established a profitable criminal organization which had been in operation for at least a couple of weeks before The Shadow smashed it.

161. 1938: February (3 days)
Title: *The Golden Vulture* (written by Lester Dent and revised by Walter Gibson)
Published: July 15, 1938

Inspector Cardona was vacationing in Florida when this novel opened. After pretending to be a member of the "foreign legion" of police officials who regularly vacation in Florida during *The Yellow Band*, it would seem that Cardona formally joined their ranks by the time of *The Golden Vulture*.

NOTE: The Shadow spent the first week of March investigating mysterious radio signals which figure in the next chronological entry.

162. 1938: March 8-18 (8 days)
Title: *Shadow Over Alcatraz*
Published: December 1, 1938

The second day of this exploit was a Wednesday (chap. 2).

The villain of this novel, Zanigew, had supposedly figured in previous cases investigated by The Shadow. The name "Zanigew" had been even uttered by "dying crooks" (chap. 2) in front of The Shadow. No such incident was ever recorded in a previous novel. Most likely, minions of Zanigew had encounters with The Shadow during some of these unrecorded adventures: 1) travels to Europe, South America and the Caribbean during 1929-32, 2) a February 1931 case which caused Charley Kistelle of *Six Men of Evil* to flee New York 3) a trip to India in the summer of 1935, 4) various adventures which I have assigned to September 1936.

Shadow Over Alcatraz gave absolute confirmation that Miles Crofton had abandoned his duties as The Shadow's resident San Francisco agent in order to maintain The Shadow's autogiro in Newark. Crofton flew the autogiro from the eastern United States to San Francisco (chap. 22). It is most likely that Crofton relinquished his post in San Francisco sometime before *Teeth of the Dragon*, a novel which I have placed in December 1936. The Shadow flew his autogiro to Zanigew's ship. He left the ship by boat before it sank. One would assume that the autogiro sank with the ship, and The Shadow later replaced it with a new wingless autogiro in his future exploits such as *Smugglers of Death* and *Crime Rides the Sea*. *Shadow Over Alcatraz* ended with The Shadow having been injured in a fall from a great height. He would need sufficient time to recover before his next exploit.

163. 1938: Late March to April (14 days)
Title: *Death Ship*
Published: April 1, 1939

The events of *Shadow Over Alcatraz* are mentioned in *Death Ship*: "The Shadow remembered one time when Alcatraz had been invaded, but he himself had nullified that enterprise" (chap. 1).

Death Ship transpired in San Francisco. Apparently The Shadow remained in California to recover from his injuries in the previous Alcatraz episode, and then became drawn into this new case.

In *Death Ship*, Japanese spies were aware that The Shadow posed as Lamont Cranston. Walter Gibson offered no explanation for the spies' discovery of this fact, but the answer may lie in the earlier *Washington Crime*. In that novel, master spy Hugo Creelon learned of The Shadow's adoption of the Cranston identity. Creelon captured The Shadow as Cranston, and held him prisoner in the embassy of an unnamed nation which seemed to be Japan. There can be little doubt that Creelon informed the authorities in charge of the embassy of his prisoner's identity.

NOTE: See my "Afterword: Apocryphal Shadows" for the possibility that The Shadow met Dave Stevens' comic book hero, the Rocketeer, in the spring of 1938.

164. 1938: May (3 days)
Title: *Double Death* (TT)
Published: December 15, 1938

This was the first of Tinsley's novels to feature The Shadow in his true identity of Kent Allard.

165. 1938: May (3 days)
Title: *River of Death* (TT)
Published: March 1, 1939

This novel was very rough on The Shadow and his agents. The Shadow received a knife wound in the arm (chap. 5), a piece of glass cut his face (chap. 11), a bullet "creased" his ribs (chap. 14), and the sight on a gun barrel made a cut in his forehead (chap. 15). Harry Vincent received a severe blow on the head from a blackjack (chap. 3). Clyde Burke was tortured by having his feet exposed to a blowtorch (chap. 14).

166. 1938: Early June (7 days)
Title: *Chicago Crime*
Published: November 15, 1938

People were bathing in Lake Michigan (chap. 1), and fireflies were seen (chap. 16). This was the third battle between The Shadow and the Hand.

167. 1938: June (11 days)
Title: *Smugglers of Death*
Published: June 1, 1939

A female character named Myrna Elvin went to her summer cottage when the "season was early" (chap. 7). Since the time would be early summer, then June most likely is the month for this exploit.

On the second day of this case, The Shadow appeared as Lamont Cranston and claimed to have recently returned from South America (chap. 6) that morning. The South American trip was a clear fabrication since The Shadow had been fighting criminals the previous day. The Shadow's falsehood about the South American trip indicated that he had not recently been in New York in his Cranston guise. By my chronological arrangement, he would have recently returned from Illinois after *Chicago Crime* concluded.

168. 1938: July 9-14 (6 days)
Title: *Crime Rides the Sea*
Published: January 15, 1939

This was the fourth battle between The Shadow and the Hand. The time would seem to be summer because The Shadow hired a plane which would be unusable after "another summer of heavy use" (chap. 6). The novel also identified "Tuesday the twelfth" (chap. 8) as being the fourth day of the exploit. This date only transpired in April and July during 1938.

Tapper was wounded in the leg (chap. 15).

169. 1938: Late July to mid-August (18 days)

Title: *Realm of Doom*

Published: February 1, 1939

This was the fifth and final battle between The Shadow and the Hand. Before the novel opened, The Shadow had spent "several days" in Charleston, West Virginia (chap. 1).

The Shadow received a gash on his forehead during a fight (chap. 19).

170. 1938: Late August (9 days)

Title: *Silver Skull*

Published: January 1, 1939

The Shadow was overcome by gas (chapters 5-6), injured in an explosion (chap. 9), and received a minor bullet wound in the arm (chap. 15). He had apparently recovered from all these injuries by the novel's conclusion.

171. 1938: Early September (8 days)

Title: *The Lone Tiger*

Published: February 15, 1939

The Shadow's left knee was injured in a fall (chap. 10) and the injury was later aggravated in a second fall (chap. 14). However, The Shadow seemed to have fully recovered from this injury.

172. 1938: Mid-September (9 days)

Title: *The Vindicator*

Published: March 15, 1939

"The night was warm..." (chap. 3).

173. 1938: September 23-28 (6 days)

Title: *Noose of Death* (TT)

Published: July 1, 1939

The novel probably began on a Friday because The Shadow as Lamont Cranston arrived as a "week-end" guest (chap. 7) at a home in the country during the first day of this exploit. The time was certainly not spring because gulches which were full of "torrents of water" in the spring were now dry (chap. 7). The fact that the weather was warm and then became "slightly cooler" (chap. 10) would suggest autumn.

In this novel, Theodore Tinsley finally dropped the "Acting" from Joe Cardona's title of Inspector.

174. 1938: Early October (7 days)

Title: *The Three Brothers*

Published: May 15, 1939

The owner of a chemical factory rationalized that the sale of gas masks could be made to the U. S. government for the following reason: "There will be another war scare eventually, like the last one" (chap. 14). Probably "the last one" was meant to be the Czechoslovakian crisis which was resolved by the Munich agreement (September 30, 1938).

The Shadow was injured in an automobile crash (chap. 10), but he fully recovered from his injuries.

175. 1938: Mid-October (10 days)

Title: *Battle of Greed*

Published: April 15, 1939

Unscrupulous businessmen were corresponding about "secret shipments of munitions to Spain" (chap. 10). This was a reference to the Spanish Civil War (1936-39). These shipments had to be secret because embargoes had been applied by Congress to warring nations and this legislation was extended to cover civil wars.

176. 1938: October 31-November 11 (12 days)

Title: *House of Shadows*

Published: December 15, 1939

The last day of this novel is a holiday during which banks were closed (chap. 14). The previous two days were regular work days when financial institutions were active. Therefore, the last day of this novel happened when

a holiday fell on either a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. There was mention made that hyacinths and marigolds were present in a garden (chap. 20). This fact would suggest either spring or summer, but all the spring and summer holidays from 1938 and 1939 (Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day) did not fall on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. Thus, I was forced to examine autumn holidays. November 11, Armistice Day (now called Veteran's Day), fell on a Friday in 1938. In the autumn, marigolds could still be present in a garden. Hyacinths are spring flowers, but their seeds would be planted in the autumn. Consequently, they could be said to be present in a garden in some form during autumn.

The Shadow injured his forehead in a fall (chap. 11), but he fully recovered from this injury.

177. 1938: November 12-22 (11 days)
Title: *City of Shadows*
Published: June 15, 1939

The Shadow became involved in the novel on a Saturday (chap. 3), and this exploit ended on a Tuesday (chap. 14). The placement of this novel was determined because of references in *Death in the Stars* (entry #203).

NOTE: In *Crime Over Casco* (chap. 20), a novel set in September 1945, The Shadow claimed to have made "a round-the-world flight" as Kent Allard which took him to the Orient where he met a man named Austin Shiloh. This flight happened "years ago." This flight could only have happened in the 1930's because Allard disappeared in Central America in 1925, and Charles Lindbergh didn't fly across the Atlantic until 1927. Since I have this gap in December 1938, I place the Allard trip in this month. Amelia Earhart had disappeared in July 1937 while making a similar trip around the globe. Perhaps The Shadow had unearthed some clue to her disappearance in 1938 and this trip was a cover to allow him to investigate.

178. 1939: Early January (3 days)
Title: *Death's Harlequin* (TT)
Published: May 1, 1939

It was "a cold winter's night in the nation's capital" (chap. 1). A secret chart of American coastal defenses was described as "the 1939 plan" (chap. 12).

This was the first of Theodore Tinsley's novels to feature Vic Marquette. Tinsley depicted Marquette as a Secret Service agent "temporarily" assigned to the FBI (chap. 1). Considering that Marquette always worked for the FBI in subsequent appearances, this temporary assignment clearly became permanent.

179. 1939: January 10-12 (3 days)
Title: *Death From Nowhere*
Published: July 15, 1939

The novel opened on "Tuesday, the tenth" (chap. 3).

The Shadow injured his arm during the course of this adventure (chap. 7), but he seemed to have fully recovered by the conclusion.

NOTE: In *Castle of Crime* (entry #185), a novel which I have placed in May 1939, The Shadow was revealed to have created the identity of a master spy who was widely respected in espionage circles. The Shadow probably created this disguise during January-February 1939 and established a reputation for this cover identity in unrecorded exploits during these months.

180. 1939: February 18-23 (6 days)
Title: *City of Ghosts*
Published: November 15, 1939

The novel transpired in Florida and there was a drought because "the rainy season" had not arrived (chap. 1). The rainy season lasts in Florida from April to November. The fifth day of this adventure was a Wednesday (chap. 18).

181. 1939: Early March (6 days)
Title: *The Golden Master*
Published: September 15, 1939

This was the first battle between The Shadow and Shiwan Khan, the Golden Master.

182. 1939: March (16 days)
Title: *Wizard of Crime*
Published: August 15, 1939

The weather in New York seemed to be getting warmer. A character named Ralph Atgood normally wore a "light topcoat," but one night the weather was "too warm" and he removed it (chap. 14). Therefore, I have placed this novel in early spring.

The Shadow recovered from two different sets of injuries in the course of this novel. He suffered a "brain concussion" (chap. 6), and later experienced "painful bruises, slight cuts and a badly wrenched shoulder" (chap. 17).

- 183 1939: April (6 days)
Title: *The Masked Lady*
Published: October 15, 1939

- 184 . 1939: April (4 days)
Title: *The Scent of Death*
Published: June 1, 1940

185. 1939: Early May (6 days)
Title: *Castle of Crime*
Published: October 1, 1939

The novel opened "in New York during a World's Fair year" (chap. 4) . A false report circulated that a "ghost vessel" had attacked the Fair (chap. 12). The Fair opened on April 30, 1939.

A character retrieved a car which had been left in a Bangor garage during a previous "summer vacation on the Maine coast" (chap. 15). The summer vacation could have been taken in the summer of 1938. The cover of the pulp magazine displayed The Shadow looking at a check dated June 7, 1939, but the novel never made mention of such a date.

186. 1939: Mid-May (13 days)
Title: *Isle of Gold*
Published: August 1, 1939

"There might be some jobs some day when New York became a dream city of the future like the fantastic exhibit on view at the World's Fair" (chap. 1). The Fair opened on April 30, 1939.

The novel would seem to be set in the spring since people arrived in Portland, Maine, "in advance of the summer season" (chap. 5).

187. 1939: June (19 days)
Title: *The Crime Ray*
Published: September 1, 1939

As with the previous 2 entries, this novel has to have transpired after the opening of the World's Fair on April 30, 1939. Crooks tried to wreck a train bringing tourists to the Fair (chap. 17).

At least a week passed between *The Crime Ray* and The Shadow's previous exploit. It was mentioned that The Shadow had failed to prevent a jewel robbery launched by his current adversaries in the week before the novel opened (chap. 3).

The Shadow as Lamont Cranston was arrested, and the police took his fingerprints (chap. 14). Unless The Shadow had some way to disguise his fingerprints, then the New York police have Kent Allard's fingerprints filed under the name of Lamont Cranston. Of course, The Shadow could always have removed the fingerprint file while posing as Fritz the janitor in police headquarters.

188. 1939: Late June (4 days)
Title: *Ships of Doom*
Published: November 1, 1939

The plot involved a fictional country called Balthania. A unnamed European power had created a puppet nation, Balthania, out of provinces from a neighboring state. An American company had invested money in Balthania to build ships. It was suggested in the novel that the money had been invested originally in Balthania

before its existence as a puppet state. The ships built in Balthania were being sabotaged after they were delivered to the United States.

Balthania was apparently based on the puppet nation of Slovakia which Nazi Germany created out of the eastern portions of Czechoslovakia. In September 20, 1938, Germany had been awarded the Sudetenland, the western territory of Czechoslovakia, at the Munich conference. By March 1939, Germany had engineered the total dismemberment of Czechoslovakia. Germany occupied the western half of Czechoslovakia and renamed it the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. The nation of Czechoslovakia had always experienced tensions between its two main nationalities, the Czechs, concentrated in the western portions of the country, and the Slovaks, concentrated in the eastern portions. The Nazis manipulated the separatist tendencies of the Slovaks. While the Czechs were ruled directly by the Nazis under the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, the Slovaks were ruled through a puppet government in the supposedly independent nation of Slovakia. With the exception of some territories which were ceded to Hungary, Slovakia consisted of the eastern portions of Czechoslovakia. Recently, the collapse of the Communist Bloc in Eastern Europe re-ignited the tensions between Czechs and Slovaks, and the former Czechoslovakia separated peacefully into two nations, the Czech Republic and a truly independent Slovakia.

It could be pretended that Balthania was Slovakia. I doubt very much that any ships were constructed in 1939 in the landlocked Slovakia. However, there were industrial centers along the Danube River in Slovakia. In theory, ships could have been constructed on the Danube. Upon completion, these ships could have sailed along the Danube to the Black Sea, and then westward through the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean towards the United States.

The underworld dive known as Red Mike's was now located "underground" again (chap. 12). It had previously been located on the second floor of a building in such novels as *The Voodoo Master* and *The Crime Oracle*.

189. 1939: Early July (7 days)
Title: *Shiwan Khan Returns*
Published: December 1, 1939

This was the second battle between The Shadow and Shiwan Khan.

Vic Marquette recalled the events of *Washington Crime*: "I'm here at the suggestion of Senator Releston. Some time ago, Cranston helped us prevent the theft of some important military secrets" (chap. 16). In *Shiwan Khan Returns*, Commissioner Weston resumed his policy of officially maintaining that The Shadow did not exist (chap. 8). However, Weston would continue in later cases (e.g. *Death's Premium*) to privately acknowledge the existence of The Shadow to Lamont Cranston.

190. 1939: Mid-July (6 days)
Title: *Prince of Evil* (TT)
Published: April 15, 1940

This was the first battle between The Shadow and Benedict Stark, the Prince of Evil. Rutledge Mann was abducted in the conclusion of this novel, and he would not be rescued until the next entry, *Murder Genius*

In *Prince of Evil*, The Shadow's thigh was "creased" by a bullet (chap. 5).

191. 1939: Late July (6 days)
Title: *Murder Genius* (TT)
Published: July 1, 1940

Since there was a golf tournament at a country club (chap. 11), the time was probably spring or summer. This was the second battle between The Shadow and Benedict Stark, the Prince of Evil. Rutledge Mann was rescued early in the novel. He had undergone severe torture, an ordeal from which he did not recover until *The Devil's Paymaster* (entry #194).

In *Murder Genius*, a bullet made "a white-hot lash of pain across the flesh of The Shadow's thigh" (chap. 9). Plastic surgery also corrected a burn on The Shadow's hand (chap. 11).

192. 1939: Early August (4 days)
Title: *The Man Who Died Twice* (TT)
Published: September 15, 1940

This was the third battle between The Shadow and Benedict Stark.

The Shadow received minor wounds in gunfights. A bullet made "a bloody furrow" across his forearm (chap. 13). Another bullet "creased" his arm (chap. 15).

193. 1939: August (13 days)
Title: *Death's Premium*
Published: January 1, 1940

About a week has passed since The Shadow's last exploit. Before the novel opened, The Shadow's agents had been investigating reports of seemingly accidental deaths for the past week (chap. 4).

Decorations at the Cobalt Club described in *Wizard of Crime* (entry #182) were recalled in *Death's Premium*: "Remember when the place looked like a tropical garden with palm trees and parrots?" (chap. 15). *Death's Premium* revealed that it was The Shadow as Cranston who had actually engineered Weston's admittance into the Cobalt Club years ago (chap. 3).

The Shadow received a "flesh wound" in the leg (chap. 17), but seemed to have largely recovered from it by the novel's conclusion.

Rutledge Mann was not present in this novel. By this chronological arrangement, he would have been recovering from the torture he suffered at the hands of Benedict Stark.

194. 1939: September (4 days)
Title: *The Devil's Paymaster* (TT)
Published: November 15, 1940

The weather was sultry: "It was a blistering hot day" (chap. 8). There was an apparent reference to World War II, which broke out on September 1, 1939: "Europe was in a mighty conflict" (chap. 8).

This was the fourth and final battle between The Shadow and Benedict Stark. When Rutledge Mann returned to his office, it was mentioned that he had not been there since his rescue from Stark in the earlier *Murder Genius*: "Rutledge Mann has not been there in a long time. He had been severely ill as a result of his kidnapping and torture at the hands of an unknown criminal months before" (chap. 12)

The Devil's Paymaster stated that Benedict Stark and his chief henchman were "the only two criminals who had discovered the identity of The Shadow and five of his agents" (chap. 15). This statement was a mistake by Theodore Tinsley because the criminals in Walter Gibson's earlier *Crime Insured* had gone even further than Stark in learning details about The Shadow and his assistants.

Various injuries were experienced by The Shadow's agents. Clyde Burke received a gash in his scalp from being hit by a gun (chap. 9), and Marsland received a "bloody furrow" on his arm from a knife (chap. 6). The Shadow was burnt by acid on his left arm and wrist (chap. 15). The Shadow and his agents would have quickly recovered from these wounds.

In the Prince of Evil series, Tinsley made various additions to The Shadow's resources. The Shadow had a scientific interrogation room which was featured in *The Prince of Evil* (chap. 6) and *The Devil's Paymaster* (chap. 11). The Shadow owned a seaplane in *The Man Who Died Twice* (chap. 3). The Shadow also owned a series of garages at strategic locations throughout New York (*The Devil's Paymaster*, chap. 11). The mechanics who worked in these garages were operatives of The Shadow. It was probably one of these garages in which a criminal was held captive in Tinsley's earlier *The Fifth Napoleon* (chap. 1).

195. 1939: Mid-September (11 days)
Title: *The Hooded Circle*
Published: January 15, 1940

The Shadow was wounded in the arm by a bullet (chap. 7), but he fully recovered from this injury in the course of the novel.

196. 1939: Late September (8 days)
Title: *The Invincible Shiwan Khan*
Published: March 1, 1940

This was the third battle between The Shadow and Shiwan Khan, and the third appearance of Myra Reldon in the series. Myra left government service to become an agent of The Shadow. A defect in her Ming Dwan disguise, revealed earlier in *The Golden Pagoda*, was corrected in *The Invincible Shiwan Khan*. Myra had been studying Japanese at the International Language Institute (chap. 9) before joining The Shadow's organization. If she had stayed with the FBI, she probably would have been used against Japanese spy rings inside the United States.

The Shadow received a minor knife wound on his arm (chap. 2).

197. 1939: October (17 days)
Title: *The Getaway Ring*
Published: February 1, 1940

Rutledge Mann now had his offices on Suite 618 in the Falcon Building (chap. 8).

198. 1939: Late October (4 days)
Title: *Voice of Death*
Published: February 15, 1940

This novel explained that Commissioner Weston had adopted a public position that The Shadow did not exist even though he privately knew the opposite to be true (chap. 18).

199. 1939: Early November (9 days)
Title: *Masters of Death*
Published: May 15, 1940

This was the fourth and final battle between Shiwan Khan and The Shadow. At least a month has to have passed between this novel and *The Invincible Shiwan Khan* because the Americans who followed the Golden Master to Asia at the conclusion of the earlier exploit were now returning to the United States after undergoing vigorous training there. Although The Americans had left by boat in *The Invincible Shiwan Khan*, they could have rendezvoused at sea with the futuristic aircraft which the Golden Master had constructed in *Shiwan Khan Returns*. Thus, their original journey to Asia could have been very short. In *Masters of Death*, only one American, Felix Bryson, returned to the United States in the novel and he traveled by plane.

200. 1939: November 15-23 (9 days)
Title: *City of Fear* (TT)
Published: October 15, 1940

The novel began with a crime committed in an unnamed western state on a Tuesday (chap. 1). Clyde Burke apparently arrived there the next day because The Shadow as Lamont Cranston was reading Burke's account of the crime in a New York newspaper two days after the felony was committed. This chronological entry starts from Burke's arrival in the western state on a Wednesday.

The novel transpired after the outbreak of World War II in Europe (September 1, 1939). A Duchess' "jewels had been brought from England for safety during the war in Europe" (chap. 12). A guest at a party for the Duchess was the governor-elect of the western state. Since this politician had not been inaugurated as governor yet, the novel probably transpired between early November, when most states traditionally hold gubernatorial elections, and early January, the time most likely for an inauguration.

Harry Vincent's chest was burnt with a hot iron (chap. 4), but he seemed to have quickly recovered from this ordeal.

201. 1939: Late November-Early December (8 days)
Title: *The Veiled Prophet*
Published: March 15, 1940

In *Masters of Death*, The Shadow stopped a crime wave which Shiwan Khan had launched in New York. In *The Veiled Prophet*, he was now combating a new crime wave in which a "dozen" crimes had successfully been committed by agents of Mokanna, the Veiled Prophet (chap. 1). Mokanna must have started his crime wave after The Shadow triumphed over Shiwan. Mokanna would need at least two weeks to commit all these crimes before The Shadow began to interfere with his activities. I have placed Tinsley's *City of Fear* between Gibson's two novels because Tinsley had The Shadow leaving New York to combat crime in an unnamed western state. Mokanna must have taken advantage of The Shadow's absence.

202. 1939: Mid-December (5 days)
Title: *The Spy Ring*
Published: April 1, 1940

An independent espionage network, the Ilsa, was seeking to steal new plans to fortify islands around the United States. This new defense effort by the United States was probably sparked by the outbreak of World War II in Europe (September 1, 1939). President Roosevelt had called Congress into an emergency session in late September.

The Ilsa's leader, B-18, tried to auction the stolen plans to representatives of three unnamed foreign nations. These countries were probably Germany, Italy and Japan. Germany was then at war with Britain and France while Italy remained neutral until the summer of 1940. Japan was still trying to subdue China.

The Shadow posed as a member of a fourth country at the auction. He may have been posing as a representative of the Soviet Union. The Ilsa had suspected that The Shadow was Lamont Cranston, and this suspicion was blunted by The Shadow's summoning of the real Cranston in the course of the novel. At the auction, The Shadow cornered the other participants and dropped his pretense of being a foreign spy. In front of the three foreign spies, he mentioned that the Ilsa's investigation of Cranston had led him to realize the true identity of B-18 (chap. 22). The Shadow may have had good reason for mentioning the Ilsa's surveillance of Cranston. Due to his earlier battles with foreign spies in *Washington Crime* and *Quetzal*, the Cranston identity had been compromised to such a degree that Japanese spies were fully aware of it in *Death Ship*. By now calling attention to the real Cranston, The Shadow may have hoped that to cause the Japanese and their two future allies to doubt any intelligence which had pointed to a connection between The Shadow and the American socialite. This ploy apparently worked because no Axis agents demonstrated any knowledge of the Cranston identity in future novels.

About seven days had to pass between *The Spy Ring* and the earlier chronological entry because Harry Vincent had spent about a week spying on the Ilsa at the International Athletic Club (chap. 5).

The Shadow received a "superficial" knife wound in the shoulder (chap. 14).

Moe's cab, which must be the streamlined model introduced in *The Seven Drops of Blood*, had gadgets which could be used to alter its appearance (chap. 6).

NOTE: In the next chronological entry, *Death in the Stars*, The Shadow as Cranston was returning to the mainland United States from Honolulu (chap. 1). This unrecorded Hawaiian trip must have transpired during late December 1939 and early January 1940.

203. 1940: January 11-17 (7 days)
Title: *Death in the Stars*
Published: May 1, 1940

The novel opened with a character named Lois Melvin returning to the Sierras after a trip to Los Angeles. She returned on the eleventh of the month (chap. 1). January 11 fell on a Thursday in 1940. It was mentioned later that Lois had been in Los Angeles during Tuesday (chap. 14).

The events of *City of Shadows* had transpired "a few years before" (chap. 3). Henry Denwood, a business man from *City of Shadows*, reappeared in *Death in the Stars*.

204. 1940: January 25-29 (5 days)
Title: *Gems of Doom*
Published: July 15, 1940

The novel began on a Thursday (chap. 13). One of the novel's characters was Isak Droot, a criminal wanted in Holland for manslaughter (chap. 14). Since Holland was still free and independent in this novel, its events clearly transpired before the Nazi invasion in the spring of 1940.

205. 1940: January 31 to February 13 (14 days)
Title: *Crime Over Miami*
Published: November 1, 1940

The novel began in January (chap. 1), and Gasparilla Day (chap. 17) was celebrated in Tampa on the novel's penultimate day. The novel covered at least ten days. Gasparilla Day is an actual holiday celebrated in Tampa, Florida. I and Chuck Juzek, a Florida resident and pulp scholar, went through great difficulty determining on what day this holiday would have fallen in 1940. The holiday is traditionally celebrated in February. Chuck learned from the current Chairman of the Gasparilla Festival that the holiday was normally celebrated on the first Monday after the first Tuesday in February in the 1940's. The holiday, however is not celebrated by that criteria today. In 1940, the appropriate Monday would be February 12. The year has to be 1940 because Joe Cardona suspected that crooks were planning to launch a "*blitzkrieg*" (chap. 13). This German word, which translates as "lightning war," became common usage after the Nazi conquest of Poland in the fall of 1939.

Cardona recalled his earlier suspicions that The Shadow was Lamont Cranston (chap. 5). These suspicions had surfaced in *The Yellow Band* and *Voodoo Trail*. Cardona was well acquainted with Florida by the time of *Crime Over Miami*. He had visited there earlier in *The Yellow Band* and *The Golden Vulture*.

206. 1940: February 19-26 (8 days)
Title: *Crime at Seven Oaks*
Published: August 1, 1940

A Saturday fell on approximately the sixth day of this adventure (chap. 10). The *Shadow* magazine was being read by a hotel clerk (chap. 7). By this chronology, the clerk was probably reading *Voice of Death*, the issue dated February 15, 1940.

The Shadow injured his leg and arm in a fall (chap. 7), but he recovered from these injuries .

207. 1940: Late February to Mid-March (17 days)
Title: *The Fifth Face*
Published: August 15, 1940

References to "war-zone troubles" with shipping (chap. 1) indicate that the novel took place after the outbreak of World War II (September 1, 1939). This novel reveals that The Shadow kept a private collection of counterfeit securities retrieved from crooks over the years in Lamont Cranston's estate (chap. 17). The novel also cited that "there had been times when men of crime donned black cloaks and hats, solely to confuse police" (chap. 14). Previous instances of Shadow impersonators can be found in Gibson's *The Cobra*, *The Third Shadow* and *Gems of Doom*. Another instance can be found in Tinsley's *City of Fear* which my chronological arrangement places before Gibson's *The Fifth Face*.

- 207a. 1940: March 22-April 8 (18 days)
Title: *Crime Country* (Entry #1, chapters 1-15)
Published: September 1, 1940

The Shadow returned to Darport, the town from the earlier *Mox*, to help Sheriff Junius Tharbel. The novel began on a Friday (chap. 1). Despite The Shadow's interference, Tharbel was framed for robbery. Tharbel would languish in prison until the next chronological entry for this novel, #209.

208. 1940: April (10 days)
Title: "Q"
Published: June 15, 1940

The plot of this novel involved a fortune in bonds buried in a golf course utilized by wealthy patrons. Since the course seemed to be used frequently by several patrons at the time, the novels probably was set in the spring or the summer.

209. 1940: May (2 days)
Title: *Crime Country* (Entry #2, chapters 16-20)
Published: September 1, 1940

The previous chronological entry for the early portion of this novel was #207a. Junius Tharbel had spent "weeks" in prison before The Shadow could secure his release (chap. 16). Since there was a crime wave in Darport during this gap which would lessen and then start up again, it would seem that Tharbel must have been in prison for about a month. The Shadow did not interfere with this crime wave in Darport. Apparently The Shadow was distracted by other criminal activity during this gap in *Crime Country*. My placement of "Q" between the two entries for *Crime Country* partially explains The Shadow's inability to intervene in Darport.

210. 1940: May (13 days)
Title: *The Wasp*
Published: October 1, 1940

This was the first battle between The Shadow and the Wasp.

NOTE: According to *The Hydra* (entry #262), Margo Lane first met the real Lamont Cranston on a Caribbean cruise (chap. 4). After docking in New York, Margo met The Shadow as Cranston at a nightclub. She then learned of the connection between The Shadow and Cranston, but she never realized that there were two people calling themselves Lamont Cranston.. I place this meeting in May 1940, although Margo would not start functioning as a regular agent of The Shadow until *The Thunder King* (entry #222), a novel placed in November 1940.

211. 1940: Early June (8 days)
Title: *Master of Flame* (TT)
Published: May 15, 1941

The Shadow received a flesh wound in the thigh (chap. 4), but recovered from this injury in the course of the novel. Harry Vincent was not so lucky. He was severely burnt in a fire, and had to be taken to an expert skin-grafter (chap. 7). His recovery required "many weeks" (chap. 9). The Shadow's secret private hospital, which Tinsley had featured in *Foxhound*, reappeared in *Master of Flame*.

212. 1940: June (14 days)
Title: *Xitli, God of Fire*
Published: December 1, 1940

The novel mentioned the nationalization of oil concessions in Mexico (chap. 1). This event happened in 1938. Kent Allard's status as a celebrity had totally evaporated (chap. 1), and he was largely ignored by the rich and famous.

Harry Vincent was absent from this adventure, and this fact could be explained by the injuries received in the previous chronological entry. Vincent would be back in the adventures which I have assigned to July 1940.

According to *No Time For Murder* (chap. 9), a novel which I place in October 1943, The Shadow in his identity of Isaac Twambly had been conducting a correspondence with Colonel Jeremy Tolland, an American financier for a "few years." The correspondence began while Tolland was living in Mexico. Probably The Shadow began communicating with Tolland to gather some information for the Mexican trip which he made at the start of *Xitli, God of Fire*.

213. 1940: Mid-July to early August (20 days)
Title: *Forgotten Gold*
Published: January 1, 1941

"The weather was hot, as it should have been, for this was Georgia in mid-summer" (chap. 1).

214. 1940: August 8-15 (8 days)
Title: *The Shadow, the Hawk and the Skull*
Published: December 15, 1940

The novel started on a Thursday (chap. 1). Reference was made to the German invasion of Holland (chap. 8). This event had occurred in May 1940.

215. 1940: Late August (10 days)
Title: *The Chinese Primrose*
Published: February 15, 1941

The novel's villain was a Chinese pirate who hoped to become a puppet ruler of a province which the Japanese had seized in China. In order to establish the proper credentials for this role, the pirate needed to marry a Chinese princess. Walter Gibson based this plot on the fact that the last Emperor of the ousted Manchu dynasty was being used as a puppet ruler by the Japanese in Manchuria since the early 1930's.

216. 1940: Early September (10 days)
Title: *The Wasp Returns*
Published: February 1, 1941

The Wasp returned for his second and final battle with The Shadow. "Months" had passed since one of the Wasp's agents, Velma Corl, had been contacted by him (chap. 3). Kent Allard's celebrity status was still waning (chap. 9). The Wasp plotted with the representative of an unnamed foreign power to ship munitions to Central

America either to foment a revolution or establish bases for an invasion of the United States. The unnamed power was probably meant to be Nazi Germany. Reference was made that airplane factories were receiving more business due to America's re-armament program (chap. 8).

- 216a. 1940: Mid-September (2 days)
Title: *Mansion of Crime* (Entry #1, chapters 1-9)
Published: March 1, 1941

There is a gap of twelve days before the next chronological entry for this novel, #216c.

- 216b. 1940: September 17-23 (7 days)
Title: *The House on the Ledge* (Entry #1, chapters 1-9)
Published: April 15, 1941

Vic Marquette was back in the Secret Service again for this novel. This would seem to be a temporary assignment because he would be back with the FBI in later novels. He was probably sent back to the Secret Service to help with the difficult counterfeiting case described in this novel.

The fourth day of this novel was a Saturday (chap. 4). The final entry for this novel is #217. A gap of a week now follows.

- 216c. 1940: Late September (1 day)
Title: *Mansion of Crime* (Entry #2, chapters 10-11)
Published: March 1, 1941

The previous entry for this novel was #216a. There now followed a gap of less than 2 weeks. I judge this gap to be ten days. The final chronological entry for this novel is #218

217. 1940: Early October (4 days)
Title: *The House on the Ledge* (Entry #2, chapters 10-18)
Published: April 15, 1941

This portion of the novel transpired during "the racing season at its height" (chap. 10). The racing season had its most important races in October. The previous chronological entry for this novel was #216b.

218. 1940: Early October (2 days)
Title: *Mansion of Crime* (Entry #3, chapters 12-19)
Published: March 1, 1941

219. 1940: October 14-21 (8 days)
Title: *The Time Master*
Published: April 1, 1941

The novel would seem to be set in the fall because it was "this season when nights were long and darkness early..." (chap. 1). The fourth day of the novel was a Thursday (chap. 16).

220. 1940: Late October (7 days)
Title: *League of Death*
Published: May 1, 1941

A reference to fake newspapers exhibited at the New York World's Fair (chap. 6) places the novel after the Fair's opening in April 1939.

221. 1940: Early November (5 days)
Title: *Crime Under Cover*
Published: June 1, 1941

Vic Marquette was now back with the FBI.

222. 1940: Early November (4 days)
Title: *The Thunder King*

Published: June 15, 1941

This novel introduced the character of Margo Lane from the radio show into the pulp series, but no explanation was given of how she first met The Shadow (see my note for May 1940). References to the activity of Fifth Column saboteurs (chap. 15) indicated that the novel took place while World War II raged in Europe.

The Shadow was hospitalized after being caught in a collapsing building (chap. 14), but he recovered from these injuries in the course of the novel.

223. 1940: Mid-November (8 days)
Title: *The Star of Delhi*
Published: July 1, 1941

224. 1940: Late November (8 days)
Title: *Garden of Death*
Published: October 1, 1941

The novel began during "Indian Summer" (chap. 1) which would imply autumn.

225. 1940: Early December (8 days)
Title: *The Green Terror* (TT)
Published: January 15, 1941

Although Kent Allard was no longer treated as a celebrity in Gibson's *Xitli*, *God of Fire* and *The Wasp Returns*, Tinsley's *The Green Terror* (chap. 13) restored Allard's celebrity status. Everyone was willing to cooperate with Allard because he was one of the foremost experts on aviation. Later in *The White Column* (chap. 5), it would be stated that concern about America's eventual entry into World War II had increased the respect with which Allard was treated. The logical way to reconcile Gibson and Tinsley would be to assume that the Nazi victories in Europe had caused the public to re-evaluate Kent Allard sometime after the events of *The Wasp Returns*.

Another major difference between Gibson's and Tinsley's treatment of Allard involved The Shadow's agents. In Gibson's novels when an agent met Allard, he merely assumed that Allard was another one of The Shadow's agents, but Tinsley's novels occasionally put the agents in circumstances where they would have to conclude that Allard was The Shadow. In *The Green Terror* (chap. 13), Moe Shrevnitz saw The Shadow become Allard in the back of his cab. In *The Prince of Evil*, Harry Vincent participated in a complex ruse to convince Benedict Stark that Allard and Cranston were always different people.

In *The Green Terror*, Harry Vincent was tortured with a knife and flames (chap. 5), but he seemed to have recovered from these injuries by the novel's conclusion.

226. 1940: December 13-20 (8 days)
Title: *The White Column* (TT)
Published: March 15, 1941

It was snowing in upstate New York (chap. 1). The novel probably began on a Friday since The Shadow as Lamont Cranston arrived at a friend's house for "a weekend of winter sport" (chap. 2). The novel made reference to the embargo on oil exports due to the war in Europe (chap. 13). This embargo was enacted on July 2, 1940.

The villains in the novels were saboteurs working for an unnamed nation which was meant to be Nazi Germany. Kent Allard now advised the U. S. government on the aviation aspects of its re-armament program.

The Shadow burnt his hands (chap. 7) and received a knife wound in the arm (chap. 13). These injuries were apparently not serious since he could still fly a plane.

227. 1941: Early January (8 days)
Title: *The Blur*
Published: July 15, 1941

World War II was forcing Americans to flee Europe: "They weren't typical New Yorkers, they were people who sojourned abroad spending and gambling fortunes, until the war forced them to return to America" (chap. 1).

228. 1941: Mid-January (5 days)
Title: *The Devil Master*
Published: September 15, 1941

The novel pitted The Shadow against a Japanese agent who was trying to break American arms embargoes (which had been implemented since the mid-1930's), and a Chinese mastermind who was seeking to gain the allegiance of puppet rulers created by the Japanese army inside China. Although the Japanese agent deduced that The Shadow was Lamont Cranston in this novel, the foreign spy demonstrated no prior logic of this fact. The Japanese espionage network must have revised its opinion about a connection between Cranston and The Shadow since the time of *Death Ship* (entry #163). For a possible explanation for why Japanese spies would have changed their minds, see my discussion of *The Spy Ring* (entry #202).

Margo Lane met Myra Reldon in *The Devil Master*.

229 1941: Late January (4 days)
Title: *The Crimson Death* (TT)
Published: August 1, 1941

American rearmament played an important role in this novel, and The Shadow in his Cranston identity was revealed to be a member of the Defense Industry Board (chap. 2). This was the first of Tinsley's novels to feature Margo Lane.

230. 1941: Early February (5 days)
Title: *The Shadow Meets the Mask*
Published: August 15, 1941

Margo Lane began to suspect that The Shadow was not truly Cranston (chap. 6). Rutledge Mann now used the United Investment Co. as the name of his business (chap. 6).

231. 1941: Mid-February (5 days)
Title: *Dictator of Crime*
Published: October 15, 1941

Margo Lane first met The Shadow as Kent Allard in this novel. There were no references to Allard's status as a celebrity.

The country of Centralba in this novel was based on Cuba. The dictator Luis Castenago was based on Fulgencio Batista. During the revolution of 1933, Batista had emerged as the "king maker" of Cuban politics. Although he was the most powerful man in the country, he did not formally assume the title of President until the autumn of 1940. He ruled until 1944 when he was defeated in a fair political election. In 1952, he seized power again in a military coup and remained in power until 1959 when Fidel Castro led a revolution against him.

Also playing a prominent role in the novel was a character called Francisco Peridor. He was the President of Centralba before Luis Castenago. In real life, Batista's immediate predecessor was Frederico Laredo Bru, who led Cuba from December 1936 until October 1940.

In *Dictator of Crime*, the fictional Castenago was apparently shot to death by gangsters, and the way was left open for Peridor to reassume the role of President. Since real events did not follow the novel, some creative speculation may be in order. Perhaps the man called "Castenago" survived the gangsters' bullets because he wore a bullet-proof vest. His brush with death then caused the corrupt dictator to re-think his policies and cut a deal with the opposition being led by "Peridor." In exchange for a moderation of his policies and a promise to hold truly democratic elections when his term expired, "Castenago" was permitted by the opposition to remain in power until 1944.

There were references that The Shadow had been in the fictionalized Centralba before (chap. 12). The Shadow had visited Cuba in *The Shadow's Justice* and *Terror Island*. There was also mention that The Shadow was well known in the Caribbean under the Spanish translation of his name, La Sombra: "Peridor had heard of The Shadow by that title from times when the black-cloaked stranger had visited other Caribbean countries in the interests of justice" (chap. 12). As mentioned in a note before the 1932 entries, The Shadow probably had other unrecorded Caribbean adventures in either 1930 or 1931. The Shadow had also visited Bermuda in *The Broken Napoleons*.

There was some concern expressed in *Dictator of Crime* about Japanese espionage in the Caribbean (chap. 13).

232. 1941: February 24-March 8 (14 days)
Title: *Crime's Stronghold*
Published: December 15, 1941

A Friday was "nearly a week" from the first day of the adventure (chap. 6). Therefore, I judge this case to have begun on a Saturday. Some crooks pretended to be transporting apes to the "winter quarters of a circus" (chap. 11).

233 1941: Mid-March (5 days)
Title: *Gems of Jeopardy* (TT)
Published: September 1, 1941

The novel's plot concerned a fortune in gems accumulated by a European fascist called the Colonel. As leader of a group called the Green Shirts, the Colonel had plundered his country until the German army forced him to flee the country (chap. 4). The Colonel had fled his native land "a month or two ago" (chap. 1). The Colonel was slain early in the novel, and the story then evolved into a struggle for the gems between the Colonel's widow, Princess Zena, and a criminal mastermind, Mr. X.

The Colonel was based on Horia Sima, leader of the Iron Guard, a fascist group in Rumania (also spelled Romania). The Iron Guard were also called the Green Shirts. In an uneasy alliance with the Rumanian military, Sima had accepted the role of Vice-Premier. The true ruler of Rumania was General Ion Antonescu, the Premier. In January 1941, Sima tried to seize power for himself. Since Rumania had joined the Axis, Germany had troops there. With the help of these German troops, Antonescu suppressed the Green Shirts. Sima disappeared. At the conclusion of World War II, Sima re-surfaced in Germany. He had apparently been held under house arrest by the Nazis as insurance against Antonescu's continued compliance with Axis policy. He was never prosecuted by the victorious Allies, even though he was responsible for the murder of hundreds of Rumanian Jews. Horia Sima, the model for the Colonel, died in Madrid in 1993. He had a wife named Elvira, but she doesn't resemble Princess Zena.

Sima was a very obscure figure in European politics. We could have some fun here and pretend that he really died in 1941 (the body of the fictional Colonel was buried in a swamp and never recovered). Maybe The Shadow replaced him with a double who was then dispatched to Europe to spy on the Nazis. After the war, this double continued the masquerade in order to spy on war criminals who had fled to safety.

According to this novel, Moe Shrevnitz had spent a lot of his early life on the docks of New York (chap. 12).

234. 1941: March 19-24 (6 days)
Title: *Death Diamonds*
Published: February 1, 1942

This novel introduced Chance Lebrue, another agent of The Shadow. The second day of the novel was a Thursday (chap. 9). It was the "training season" for baseball, and an exhibition game even transpired (chap. 14). Spring training for baseball began in late February. The fact that wealthy "winter visitors" were still around Florida (chap. 1) does not preclude setting this novel in March. These visitors probably didn't leave Florida until April or May.

Holland had already been conquered by the Nazis (May 1940) because one of the characters was a Dutch war refugee (chap. 17).

235. 1941: Early April (10 days)
Title: *Alibi Trail*
Published: January 1, 1942

236. 1941: Mid-April (5 days)
Title: *The Blackmail King*
Published: November 1, 1941

The fact that the United States was concerned about national defense due to the war in Europe was indicated by the fact that a wealthy industrialist was being framed as a Fifth Columnist (chap. 2).

237. 1941: Late April (6 days)
Title: *The Devil's Feud*
Published: June 15, 1942

It was the "rainy season" (chap. 1).

238. 1941: May (4 days)

Title: *Murder Mansion*
Published: December 1, 1941

A crook named Lippy Carthers "had but narrowly escaped The Shadow on more than one occasion" (chap. 2). Lippy's previous encounters with The Shadow are unrecorded, and could fall in any of the gaps in this chronological arrangement.

The Shadow was injured in a fall (chap. 8), but he fully recovered by the novel's conclusion.

239. 1941: May (5 days)
Title: *Temple of Crime*
Published: November 15, 1941

240. 1941: June (3 days)
Title: *Blue Face* (TT)
Published: February 15, 1942

241. 1941: July (6 days)
Title: *Vengeance Bay*
Published: March 1, 1942

The novel can be placed in the summer of 1941 for many reasons. The story involved the gold bullion which originally was located a foreign ship, the *Dux*, which belonged to a dictatorial nation involved in World War II. Although the nation was never identified by name, it was clearly meant to be Nazi Germany. The *Dux* had been scuttled at the start of World War II (chap. 6), and this event transpired "two years ago" (chap. 23). War broke out in September 1939. The May 1941 invasion of Crete was mentioned (chap. 20). A female character had a "summer tan" (chap. 6), and a man was described as a "summer resident" of New England (chap. 6).

242. 1941: Early August (7 days)
Title: *Formula for Crime*
Published: March 15, 1942

243. 1941: Mid-August (8 days)
Title: *Room of Doom*
Published: April 1, 1942

244. 1941: Late August (8 days)
Title: *The Jade Dragon*
Published: April 15, 1942

The novel was apparently set in the summer since a character named Feldon had a complexion which was "mostly tan" (chap. 2).

245. 1941: Early September (3 days)
Title: *Death's Bright Finger* (TT)
Published: May 15, 1942

Jonas Lee, a tobacco store owner, mentioned that shipments of rare blends were delayed "owing to the war" (chap. 2). The war is clearly World War II, but there are no references to America's direct involvement in this conflict (Tinsley actually submitted this novel before the Pearl Harbor attack). The Shadow as Cranston supposedly visited Lee's store frequently. Lee's tobacco shop could be the same shop located near The Shadow's sanctum in Gibson's *The Wasp* (chap. 7). Lee was murdered and his shop destroyed in *Death's Bright Finger*.

Tinsley was pretty tough on The Shadow's agents in this novel. Margo was branded on the shoulder with a hot poker (chap. 3), and Harry had a bone in his arm shattered by a bullet (chap. 11). The Shadow only had a bullet cut a "shallow furrow" in his shoulder (chap. 10).

246. 1941: Early October (3 days)
Title: *The Northdale Mystery*
Published: May 1, 1942

Reference was made that the war in Europe had caused wealthy European refugees to flock to South America (chap. 13).

- 247. 1941: Mid-October (3 days)
Title: *Twins of Crime*
Published: June 1, 1942
- 248. 1941: Late October (7 days)
Title: *Trail of Vengeance*
Published: November 1, 1942
- 249. 1941: November (12 days)
Title: *The Book of Death*
Published: January 15, 1942

"The weather was frosty..." (chap. 1).

- 250. 1941: Late November (8 days)
Title: *Death About Town*
Published: July 15, 1942

The fact that a wealthy New Yorker was in Florida (chap. 7) would suggest that the weather was cold in New York. Clyde Burke was wounded in the right arm during a gun battle (chap. 12), but was able to function with his arm in a sling.

- 251. 1942: February (8 days)
Title: *Five Ivory Boxes*
Published: July 1, 1942

References to "chilly weather" (chap. 7) would be consistent with winter. There was a rather oblique reference to American entry into World War II: "At present, New York was receiving an influx of Americans who had hitherto lived in the Orient" (chap. 9). It could be assumed that Japanese expansion in the wake of the Pearl Harbor attack (December 7, 1941) caused this "influx."

- 252. 1942: March (7 days)
Title: *Legacy of Death*
Published: August 1, 1942
- 253. 1942: March (5 days)
Title: *Syndicate of Sin* (TT)
Published: September 15, 1942

Inside the United States, The Shadow battled a criminal gang which was peddling works of art stolen from countries conquered by the Nazis. Presumably the gang was in league with either the Nazis or collaborators native to these countries. Although American entry into World War II was not explicitly mentioned by Tinsley, a reference to "war commerce" with South America (chap. 8) would imply that the novel transpired after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor (December 7, 1941).

Margo Lane was tortured in unspecified ways by a female criminal (chap. 6). Although Margo recovered from these injuries in the course of the novel, a bullet slightly "grazed" her face in the novel's conclusion (chap. 25). The Shadow received a more serious bullet wound in the finale. A bullet was lodged in his left shoulder. He traveled to a secret private hospital which Tinsley had mentioned earlier in *Foxhound* and *Master of Flame*. In *Syndicate of Sin*, Tinsley identified Rupert Sayre as the administrator of the hospital.

- 254. 1942: April (7 days)
Title: *The Devil's Partner* (TT)
Published: October 1, 1942

Rutledge Mann was hospitalized due to a gunshot wound (chap. 2). Moe Shrevnitz's hand was slashed with a knife (chap. 3), but Moe seemed to have recovered from this injury in the course of the novel.

255. 1942: April (6 days)
Title: *Death's Masquerade*
Published: January 15, 1943

The novel was set in a fictional industrial city which was holding its annual Pageant of Progress. The Pageant was compared to a Mardi Gras (chap. 5), but this does not necessarily mean that the Pageant was scheduled when Mardi Gras is normally celebrated. More importantly, it was mentioned that the fiscal year had recently ended for the town's leading company (chap. 7). A fiscal year does not necessarily correspond to a calendar year. In cases where it does not, the fiscal year ends in a quarter of the calendar year. Therefore, the fiscal year for this company ended in either March, June, September or December. For most companies whose fiscal year differs from the calendar year, the fiscal year generally ends in March. Therefore, I place this novel in April, the month which would begin a new fiscal year.

Rutledge Mann's absence from this novel will be consistent with the injury he received in the previous chronological entry.

256. 1942: May (11 days)
Title: *Judge Lawless*
Published: August 15, 1942

People were bathing in an "outdoor swimming pool" (chap. 15) and hyacinths were in season (chap. 16).

The Shadow as Cranston asked Margo Lane if she "dents" (i.e. romantically entices) him. She made the following response (chap. 15): "I dent you!...I've been trying to dent you for...well, let's fogged how many years!" By my chronological arrangement, Margo would have been trying to "dent" The Shadow for two years.

257. 1942: Early June (3 days)
Title: *The Black Dragon*
Published: March 1, 1943

A garden filled with flowers (chap. 12) would suggest that the time was spring or summer. Reference was made to the Japanese conquest of Hong Kong in December 1941 (chap. 5).

The Shadow fought the New York branch of the Black Dragon Society. This Japanese secret society actually existed, but pulp novels and B movies exaggerated the scope of its activities. The name of the society was derived from the Amur River, also called the Black Dragon River, along the Russian-Chinese border. The Society originally intended to combat Russian influence in Asia and promote Japanese influence in the northern Chinese provinces.

258. 1942: Mid-June (10 days)
Title: *The Murdering Ghost*
Published: November 15, 1942

259. 1942: Late June (10 days)
Title: *The Vampire Murders*
Published: September 1, 1942

A storm from the opening of the novel was compared to a "hailstorm" (chap. 8) described in the nineteenth century novel *Varney the Vampire*. Hailstorms normally occur in the summer.

260. 1942: Early July (5 days)
Title: *The Museum Murders*
Published: January 1, 1943

The United States was at war because it was feared that enemy bombers could eventually destroy an American museum (chap. 1). The time would seem to be summer or spring because of references to "lawns that were thick with flower beds" (chap. 16). A discussion of criminal gangs peddling art stolen from Nazi-occupied countries in Gibson's novel (chap. 5) fits in with Tinsley's earlier *The Syndicate of Sin*.

261. 1942: Mid-July (5 days)
Title: *Clue for Clue*
Published: October 15, 1942

The plot involved diamonds which disappeared when the Nazis invaded Holland in 1940. The diamonds had been missing for two years (chap. 4) which made the year 1942.

262. 1942: August (19 days)
Title: *The Hydra*
Published: December 1, 1942

The novel contained many references to World War II. The real Lamont Cranton remarked that "world conditions" prevented "globe-trotting" (chap. 4). A fund was being collected for aviators in the service of the United Nations (chap. 13). The war had caused European crown jewels to be sent to the United States (chap. 15). A millionaire had his own private bomb shelter (chap. 17).

Dr. Sayre was now aware that there were two Lamont Cranstons (chap. 9), but Margo Lane remained convinced that there was only one by the novel's conclusion.

263. 1942: Late August (4 days)
Title: *The Money Master*
Published: December 15, 1942

The title character was an evil financier with Axis connections. He came to the United States looking for potential American quislings.

264. 1942: September (16 days)
Title: *King of the Black Market*
Published: October 1943

The novel dealt with the black market that had resulted from World War II shortages.

NOTE: According to *Syndicate of Death*, a novel which I placed in June 1943, some attempt was made to make Harry Vincent run for the office of mayor in Colon, Michigan (chap. 11). This attempt probably had transpired in the early autumn of 1942. Vincent didn't run, and the town's police chief was elected mayor.

265. 1942: October (4 days)
Title: *Young Men of Death* (TT)
Published: April 1943

The weather was "cold" in Chicago (chap. 1). The Shadow had been there "several days" before the novel opened. Reference was made to the fact that Japanese expansion into Asia had cut off American access to supplies of tin (chap. 15).

Cliff Marsland's wrists were slashed, and an artery was cut in one of them (chap. 4). Cliff survived this near fatal injury. Some acid splashed on The Shadow's nose and mouth (chap. 15).

266. 1942: Mid-November (5 days)
Title: *The Devil Monsters*
Published: February 1, 1943

"...this was the late autumn season" (chap. 3). The novel made an oblique reference to World War II: "Already the world was wrecking itself through strife and warfare..." (chap. 18).

The Shadow's wingless autogiro is destroyed in a collision with a winged dinosaur in the course of this novel. The Shadow had an autogiro in the next chronological entry, *Wizard of Crime*. It can be assumed that The Shadow quickly replaced his destroyed aircraft.

267. 1942: Late November (6 days)
Title: *Wizard of Crime*
Published: February 15, 1943

The time must be autumn or early winter since cordwood was being piled in preparation for the winter season (chap. 11). References were made by Joe Cardona (chap. 5) to the crime rings smashed by The Shadow in *Intimidation, Inc.* and *Crime Insured*.

268. 1942: December (7 days)
Title: *The Toll of Death*
Published: March 1944

"...it was winter in New York" (chap. 1). Christmas had not yet arrived (chap. 13).

269. 1943: Early January (2 days)
Title: *The Golden Doom* (TT)
Published: July 1943

There was a reference to an "official brokerage list for 1943" (chap. 9).

Moe Shrevnitz's cab was destroyed in an explosion (chap. 8). One would assume that this was the same cab which Moe had been driving since Gibson's *The Seven Drops of Blood*, which my chronology places in February 1936. Gibson's novels had occasionally damaged this cab, but such damage was not irreparable.

270. 1943: January 20-26 (7 days)
Title: *The Robot Master*
Published: May 1943

The plot involved the feasibility of creating robots to participate in the war effort. Therefore, the novel took place after December 7, 1941. New York was undergoing a "cold spell" (chap. 13). The murder which began the novel transpired on "Wednesday the twentieth," and the twentieth fell on a Tuesday in the prior year (chap. 18). The only months between December 1941 and May 1943 when this happened were May 1942 and January 1943. The cold weather makes January 1943 more likely.

The Shadow had done some preliminary investigations relative to the movements of a scientist "several days" (chap. 1) before this novel actually began. He probably had spent most of the previous week conducting these investigations.

NOTE: See my "Afterword: Apocryphal Shadows" for the possibility that The Shadow spent part of February 1943 in California.

271. 1943: Late February (7 days)
Title: *Messenger of Death*
Published: August 1943

It was noted that The Shadow as Cranston had not been investigating crimes with Commissioner Weston recently until this adventure (chap. 2). Therefore, I have allowed a gap of about a month between this entry and *The Robot Master* (in which Weston appeared).

272. 1943: March 5-16 (12 days)
Title: *Murder Lake*
Published: June 1943

The second day of this adventure was a Saturday (chap. 5). The season was not proper for a fishing resort (chap. 7). In fact, a character remarked that "evenings are very chilly at this season" (chap. 12). Fish were being delivered from state hatcheries to lakes in preparation for the opening of the fishing season (chap. 16). The fishing season in New York began in April. There was a reference to the State legislature opening its session in Albany during the next week (chap. 17). The state legislature opened its session on Jan. 7, 1943. However, placing the beginning of *Murder Lake* before the legislature's opening would have its events begin on Christmas Day, 1942. Nothing in this novel suggested that it began on such a popular holiday. More likely, the Albany reference meant that the state legislature was going to resume its operations after breaking for the weekend.

273. 1943: March (5 days)
Title: *House of Ghosts*
Published: September 1943

"This wasn't the season for picnics..." (chap. 2).

274. 1943: April (9 days)
Title: *The Muggers*
Published: November 1943

The plot involved an organized gang of muggers who were flourishing under World War II blackout conditions. Earlier in *The Robot Master* (chap. 1), the increase in activity by muggers had been noted.

275. 1943: April (9 days)
Title: *Murder by Moonlight*
Published: December 1943

276. 1943: June (9 days)
Title: *The Crystal Skull*
Published: January 1944

The Shadow as Cranston attended a party at a wealthy patron's summer house in New England (chap. 7). The plot involved the theft of art treasures which had been moved from Europe to the United States from Europe due to World War II.

This novel marked the last appearance of Fritz (chap. 17), the janitor in the police station where Joe Cardona worked. The Shadow has occasionally impersonated Fritz in order to spy on police activity. In "Out of the Shadows - Walter Gibson," an interview published in *Duende #2* (Winter 1976-77), a fanzine published by Odyssey Publications, The Shadow's creator told an amusing story about Fritz. Supposedly, Fritz was actually a member of a German-American Bund and The Shadow was actually impersonating him to investigate Nazi espionage inside the United States. Gibson claimed that Fritz had been deported to Germany sometime before the United States entered World War II. Gibson was told this story in a somewhat tongue-and-cheek manner. The fact that Fritz was still at the police station after Pearl Harbor would lead me to treat the story of his alleged Nazi connections as merely an amusing joke by The Shadow's creator.

277. 1943: Late June (4 days)
Title: *Syndicate of Death*
Published: February 1944

The 1939 World's Fair was recalled (chap. 13). The Shadow's "blood streaked face" (chap. 18) would imply that he had been wounded in the gun fights at the conclusion of the novel, but none of these wounds seem to have been serious.

278. 1943: July (7 days)
Title: *Crime Caravan*
Published: April 1944

279. 1943: July 22-August 1 (11 days)
Title: *The Freak Show Murders*
Published: May 1944

The Shadow and Margo Lane became involved in this case one day after a murder was committed. The murder happened on a Wednesday (chap. 5). Therefore, The Shadow and Margo began investigating on a Thursday.

The adventure took place in a traveling carnival. Carnivals do most of their business in the summer.

280. 1943: Early August (4 days)
Title: *Voodoo Death*
Published: June 1944

Outdoor tennis was being played (chap. 8).

281. 1943: Mid-August (5 days)
Title: *Town of Hate*
Published: July 1944

282. 1943: Late August (7 days)
Title: *Death in the Crystal*
Published: August 1944

It was mentioned that war with Japan made it difficult to purchase pearls (chap. 18).

283. 1943: Early September (5 days)

Title: *The Chest of Chu Chan*
Published: September 1944

The plot revolved around an artifact that had been shipped to the United States because of Japanese expansion into Indochina and Malaysia (chap. 2).

284. 1943: September 15-18 (4 days)
Title: *The Shadow Meets the Mask*
Published: October 1944

The story began on a Wednesday (chap. 1).

285. 1943: Late September (7 days)
Title: *Fountain of Death*
Published: November 1944

In the southern United States, Margo Lane was wearing "immaculate summer whites" (chap. 17). The time would either be summer or early fall.

286. 1943: Early October (6 days)
Title: *No Time For Murder*
Published: December 1944

287. 1943: Mid-October (4 days)
Title: *Guardian of Death*
Published: January 1945

The plot involved evidence which would prove that European art treasures sold in the United States were fakes. The influx of art treasures into America had resulted from World War II.

288. 1943: Late October (3 days)
Title: *Merry Mrs. Macbeth*
Published: February 1945

The time would seem to be autumn because a Broadway producer met an actress while she was performing in summer theater (chap. 1).

NOTE: The Shadow seems to have journeyed to France in late 1943 or early 1944 in order to conduct operations against the Nazis. His activities were briefly mentioned in *Death Has Grey Eyes* (chap. 20): "He arrived in Paris before the Nazis were driven out and did much to prevent their taking loot." The Shadow possibly used the right-wing contacts which he had cultivated in Spain (see *The Masked Headsman*) to arrange his passage through Spain into France. See also entry #296.

After Paris was liberated on August 25, 1944, The Shadow made his way to Germany in order to investigate a plot to plant Hitler's possible successor inside the United States (see the next entry).

288a. 1944: Early September (1 day)
Title: *Death Has Grey Eyes* (Entry #1, chapter 1)
Published: April 1945

Inside Nazi Germany, The Shadow assisted an American POW, Dick Whitlock, to escape to neutral Switzerland. After the first chapter, the novel shifted to New York where Whitlock had gone after being discharged from the army. I have allowed 2 months for Whitlock to get back to Allied lines and be eventually decommissioned. The next entry for this novel is #290.

289. 1944: October (10 day)
Title: *Five Keys to Crime*
Published: March 1945

The Shadow unearthed a gang which had sold American torpedoes to the Nazis for use in the Caribbean. It was mentioned that Nazi submarine operations had declined significantly and the sales had ceased (chap. 19). The U-boat threat was blunted in 1943. The year of this novel would seem to be 1944.

290. 1944: Early November (4 days)
Title: *Death Has Grey Eyes* (Entry #2, chapters 2-20)
Published: April 1945

This chronological entry covers the New York scenes of the novel. The prior entry for the first chapter of this novel was #288a.

291. 1944: Mid-November (5 days)
Title: *Tear-drops of Buddha*
Published: May 1945

292. 1944: Late November (5 days)
Title: *Three Stamps of Death*
Published: June 1945

The year in which the novel took place was after 1942 because post-1942 stamps from Bulgaria were mentioned (chap. 15).

NOTE: According to Bruce Elliott's *Reign of Terror* (chap. 11), The Shadow remembered being in a diving bell under the sea during World War II. This unrecorded adventure probably transpired in either December 1944 or January 1945.

293. 1945: February 13-22 (10 days)
Title: *The Mask of Mephisto*
Published: July 1945

The novel began on the last day of Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

294. 1945: March 3-6 (4 days)
Title: *Murder by Magic*
Published: August 1945

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

295. 1945: March (5 days)
Title: *The Taiwan Joss*
Published: September 1945

296. 1945: April (5 days)
Title: *A Quarter of Eight*
Published: October 1945

It was mentioned that the Vichy government was no longer in control in France (chap. 9). Therefore, this novel took place after the liberation of France in 1944.

This novel marked the last appearance of the underworld dive call Red Mike's. By this time, the dive had become so disreputable that only bums were its patrons (chap. 8).

The Shadow had traveled to Martinique and was known as L'Ombre to the local inhabitants (chap. 2). The Shadow could have traveled there during the unrecorded Caribbean trips which I placed in 1930-31. It is also possible that he may have visited there in late 1943 or early 1944 before he journeyed to France to combat the Nazis. References in the same chapter to The Shadow being known as La Sombra in the Spanish-speaking portions of the Caribbean tie in to *Dictator of Crime* (entry #231).

297. 1945: May 21-23 (3 days)
Title: *The White Skulls*
Published: November 1945

The novel concerned a Nazi spy ring which was left stranded in the United States following the defeat of Germany. The German surrender happened on May 7, 1945. The third day of this novel was a Wednesday (chap. 16).

Chance Lebrue, who had been introduced in *Death Diamonds*, was revealed to be an agent of The Shadow in this novel. His absence from April 1941 until late May 1945 could suggest that he had been serving in the United States army.

298. 1945: July 10-12 (3 days)
Title: *The Stars Promise Death*
Published: December 1945

The novel was set in Seaview City, a summer resort based on Atlantic City. The Shadow had visited this place years ago in *Kings of Crime*. The first day of this novel was the tenth of the month (chap. 3). The villains were criminals whom the Nazis had used to stockpile stolen art treasures in the United States. With the Nazi defeat, the crooks were trying to dispose of the stolen goods.

299. 1945: July 14-17 (4 days)
Title: *The Banshee Murders*
Published: January 1946

There were lilacs in Central Park (chap. 1). The second day of this novel fell on the fifteenth of the month (chap. 5).

300. 1945: August (5 days)
Title: *Crime Out of Mind*
Published: February 1946

Val Varno and Glanville Frost, two magicians from *Murder by Magic*, reappeared in this novel. There is a slight contradiction between *Murder by Magic* and *Crime Out of Mind*. In *Murder by Magic* (chap. 5), The Shadow as Cranston claimed to have just joined the Universal Wizards Association (UWA), a society of magicians. In *Crime Out of Mind* (chap. 1), Glanville Frost professed to have seen Cranston at UWA meetings before the events of *Murder by Magic*. Perhaps The Shadow as Cranston had once belonged to the UWA before *Murder by Magic*, and then lost his membership by not paying his dues. Consequently, he then would have re-enrolled in *Murder by Magic*.

Although Theodore Tinsley had temporarily revived Kent Allard's celebrity status in *The Green Terror* and *The White Column*, Gibson had once again relegated The Shadow's true identity to that of a "forgotten skybird" (chap. 11).

301. 1945: August (5 days)
Title: *The Mother Goose Murders*
Published: March 1946

302. 1945: September (4 days)
Title: *Crime Over Casco*
Published: April 1946

"....black September night..." (chap. 1). World War II had ended (chap. 20).

303. 1945: Early October (5 days)
Title: *The Curse of Thoth*
Published: May 1946

World War II had ended before the novel began because a murder victim was a former German spy (chap. 10).

304. 1945: Mid-October (4 days)
Title: *Alibi Trail*
Published: June 1946

One of the characters had fought in the Battle of the Bulge (chap. 2), a conflict which had transpired during the winter of 1944-45.

305. 1945: October 22-25 (4 days)
Title: *Malmordo*
Published: July 1946

The novel began on a Monday (chap. 1). The title character was a master criminal who had worked for the Nazis during the war. With the war ended, he was trying to blackmail American businessmen who had conducted shady deals with the Nazis in South America.

306. 1947: August (5 days)
Title: *Reign of Terror* (by Bruce Elliott)
Published: June-July 1948

As noted in my introduction, this is the only novel by Bruce Elliott which is being included in the chronology. The weather would seem to be warm because pigeons were in Central Park (chap. 9).

The Shadow was so severely injured in this novel that he was unconscious for two days (chap. 14). Beside a bullet in the chest in the final chapter, his hand were burnt by steam (chap. 11) and a battle with lions had left his body raked by claws (chap. 12).

The Shadow's sanctum was now located on the floor of a high office building (chap. 4). Although Gibson would have never placed the sanctum there, The Shadow had been regularly moving his sanctum since the events of *Crime Insured*. It could be speculated that The Shadow was experimenting with a radically new location which was quickly abandoned.

307. 1948: May 10-20 (11 days)
Title: *Jade Dragon*
Published: August-September 1948

The first day of this case was "Monday the tenth" (chap. 5).

308. 1948: June (7 days)
Title: *Dead Man's Chest*
Published: Fall 1948

The year had to be 1948 because the Spanish-American War (1898) had transpired "fifty years ago" (chap. 3).

309. 1948: July (5 days)
Title: *The Magigals Mystery*
Published: Winter 1949

310. 1948: August (8 days)
Title: *The Black Circle*
Published: Spring 1949

It was mentioned that an Indian Rajah was trying to stay independent from United India (chap. 4). India became independent in 1947.

311. 1948: August (2 days)
Title: "The Riddle of the Rangoon Ruby"
Published: *The Shadow Scrapbook* (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc., 1979)

312. 1948: September 7-11 (5 days)
Title: "Blackmail Bay"
Published: *The Duende History of The Shadow* (Odyssey Publications, 1980).

The novel was set in a summer resort. It was either before or after the regular summer season because one of the residents, Lester Blake only stayed there during the "off-season" (chap. 3). The fourth day of the novel was a Friday (chap. 6, misprinted as chap. 4 (IV)).

313. 1949: February (4 days)
Title: *The Whispering Eyes*
Published: Summer 1949

"Fresh white raspberries" were "out of season" (chap. 11). The Communist takeover of Rumania, which transpired during 1945-48, was mentioned. (chap. 13).

314. 1949 (or 1963): Early June (8 days)
Title: *Return of The Shadow*
Published: Belmont Books, September 1963

This novel was updated slightly to modern times. The plot involved the abduction of diplomats from countries represented at the United Nations. References to the nature of the countries would suggest the early 1960's (chap. 11). One victim was from "a newly formed Caribbean nation." In August 1962, Britain granted independence to Jamaica and Trinidad. Some diplomats came from a new but unspecified African Republic." Starting with the independence of the Sudan in 1956 and Ghana in 1957, fully independent African republics emerged. There were also references to "Indonesian nations" which would seem to indicate Indonesia, which became independent from Holland during 1949-50. A fictional country called Nagoba, where there had been a civil war between right-wing and left-wing adversaries, was probably inspired by Zaire, the former Belgian Congo, which had been torn by conflict during the early 1960's. Not all of Gibson's fictional nations were based on newly independent nations. A country called Tyrolia would seem to be based on Italy. Most of the diplomats had served in guerrilla warfare during either their struggle for independence or the civil strife which followed. (chap. 15). "Brainwash," a term which originated in the 1950's, was also used in the novel (chap. 15).

The problem with assigning this novel to the 1960's is that The Shadow and his regular supporting cast would all be in their sixties or seventies by that time. It would be better to view this novel as an "updated" adventure that "really" happened in 1949. It could be theorized that the diplomats seized really came from nations which had been liberated from the Axis during World War II. The diplomats of 1949 would have participated in various resistance movements during the war and would consequently be experienced in guerrilla warfare. It is implied that Communists were behind the abduction of the diplomats. Communist subversion would have been a threat in 1949 as well as 1963.

The summer season was just beginning at the start of the novel. A "service station, closed during the winter season, had not yet reopened for the coming season" (chap. 5). A bridge had fallen due to "the big spring freshet over a month ago" (chap. 6). At a dude ranch, "the season had been getting underway" (chap. 13).

Harry Vincent had been investigating this case for three days before the novel started, and Myra Reldon had been working undercover for "several months" (chap. 13). Myra's last appearance had been in *Jade Dragon* (entry #307).

V. AFTERWORD: APOCRYPHAL SHADOWS

In addition to the true Shadow novels, Walter Gibson's cloaked adventurer has appeared under various guises in other series. I earlier discussed Philip Jose Farmer's *The Adventure of the Peerlees Peer* when creating a chronology of The Shadow's activities prior to the 1930's. In this section, I discuss apocryphal adventures of The Shadow set in the 1930's and 1940's. I mention these apocryphal exploits because they are widely known to pulp fans.

The Shadow and King Kong

In a short story entitled "After King Kong Fell," Philip Jose Farmer had both Doc Savage and The Shadow witness the demise of King Kong in New York during 1931. The story was published in at least two short story collections by Farmer, *The Grand Adventure* (Berkley Books, 1984) and *The Classic Philip Jose Farmer, 1964-1973* (Crown Publishers, 1984). The film *King Kong* was released in 1933, and a novelization by Delos W. Lovelace of the screenplay by Merian C. Cooper and Edgar Wallace was published in 1932. In the novel (but not the film), it was snowing in New York when the story opened. Both film and book mentioned that the *Wanderer*, the ship anchored in New York, had to leave quickly to beat the monsoons which affect sailing in the Pacific. These storms would normally erupt during January-February. Therefore, the early portions of the King Kong story would seem to be set in early January. The ship then traveled to the Panama Canal and across the Pacific to the island where the giant ape known as King Kong resided. After some harrowing adventures, Kong was captured and

brought to New York where he was exhibited in a theater. He then escaped to meet his death on the Empire State Building.

It is not quite clear how much time passed between Kong's capture and his exhibition in New York. It would have taken some interval of time before Kong's captor, Carl Denham, could have arranged to book a theater in Times Square and mount a publicity campaign. Furthermore, American law may have required Kong to spend months in quarantine in order to ensure that he was not carrying any infectious diseases. Such a quarantine was imposed on Chemistry, a rare ape discovered by one of Doc Savage's assistants in South America. In both the film and the novel, the denizens of New York seem dressed for cold weather.

In Farmer's story, people were living in the Empire State Building. The building was officially opened on May 1, 1931. Considering the clothing worn by the New York populace, the time could not be spring or summer. It would have to be autumn. The story was told from the viewpoint of a young boy from Illinois. He was visiting New York with his parents, and couldn't wait to get back home to tell his friends in the seventh grade the sights he had seen. This trip to New York would seem to have taken place during a brief school recess. The most likely time would be during the Columbus Day weekend in October.

I do not have any Shadow novels assigned to October 1931 in my chronology. The Shadow would seem to have visited South America during September-October 1931, but he could have returned to New York briefly in October 1931. In Farmer's story, The Shadow was accompanied by a woman called Margo. This could not be Margo Lane because she didn't meet The Shadow until the 1940's in the pulp novels. The woman must have been someone else named Margo.

It should be noted that if the events of *King Kong* were not judged inside the context of Farmer's story, then the entire story of the giant ape would probably be chronologically placed in January-March 1932.

The Shadow and the Rocketeer

A notable and sporadically published comic book series has been the Rocketeer. In the first serial involving this character, which was eventually published as a graphic novel entitled *The Rocketeer* (Eclipse Books, 1985), Doc Savage was prominently featured in a story set in April 1938. The next serial has yet to be collected in book form, but it was published in three issues of *The Rocketeer Adventure Magazine* by two different publishers during a period of seven years (Comico published the first part in 1988 and the second in 1989, and Dark Horse finally published the concluding installment in 1995). The Shadow was featured under the alias of Jonas, the name on the office used by The Shadow to receive messages in the pulp novels. For copyright reasons, he couldn't be called The Shadow or Lamont Cranston or Kent Allard. He couldn't even wear his hat or cloak.

The story covered a period of three days. As Jonas, The Shadow was a hawk-faced individual who resembled Lamont Cranston. Jonas had hired Goose Gander, a pilot, to maintain a "second" autogiro for him. Gander's autogiro had wings. The Shadow's autogiro, which does not appear in the story, was wingless in the late 1930's. The Rocketeer, a resident of California traveled to New York where he stayed with his old friend who happened to be Gander. Through Gander, The Shadow learned of the Rocketeer's presence and consequently enlisted the comic book hero to aid in an investigation.

Since the first Rocketeer adventure took place in April 1938, then the second exploit involving The Shadow probably transpired also in April. In April 1938, The Shadow would have been returning to New York after the California adventures described in *Shadow Over Alcatraz* and *Death Ship*. In *Shadow over Alcatraz*, the wingless autogiro had been destroyed with Zanigew's ship. The Shadow could have needed a winged autogiro while a new wingless autogiro was being constructed for him. In *Death Ship*, Japanese spies had revealed their knowledge that The Shadow was Cranston. The Shadow could have been experimenting with a new disguise, Jonas, in order to get the Japanese spies off his trail. Since The Shadow is hawk-faced in most of his guises, it was not unusual for this facial trait to be part of his Jonas disguise. At one point in the serial, The Shadow wore a disguise over his Jonas face. In the pulp novels and "Blackmail Bay," The Shadow had worn other disguises over his Cranston disguise. During his adventures in California, The Shadow could even have learned much about the Rocketeer's activities. The Shadow could have learned the Rocketeer's true identity and discovered that a New York pilot, Goose Gander, was a close friend. Therefore, The Shadow's hiring of Goose Gander may be more than the coincidence portrayed in Dave Stevens' story.

The Shadow and the Avenger

In *The Purple Zombie* (Warner Paperback Library, 1974) by Ron Goulart writing under the pseudonym of Kenneth Robeson, a man identified as Lamont Cranston was briefly glimpsed at a Hollywood party. *The Purple Zombie* was an original paperback novel which continued the exploits of the pulp crimefighter known as the Avenger. In my "A Chronology for the Avenger" published in *Echoes* #70 (December 1993), I assigned this novel to

February 1943. The only entry in my Shadow chronology for February 1943 is *Messenger of Death* (#271). I have placed this pulp novel late in February, and noted a reference that Cranston had recently been absent from Commissioner Weston's company. The novel stated that Cranston had been turning down Weston's invitations to visit crime scenes (chap. 2). In the novel, The Shadow as Cranston then began to renew his policy of sticking close to the commissioner. There are two possible explanations for Cranston's earlier refusals: 1) The Shadow as Cranston in New York was involved in some important investigation that did not concern Weston, 2) The Shadow was actually absent from New York, and the real Cranston was turning down these invitations. If the latter explanation was true, then The Shadow could have been posing as Cranston in Hollywood, California, for most of February 1943 before the events of *Messenger of Death*.

VI. Speculation: Who Were The Shadow's parents?

Shadow of the Opera

In Walter Gibson's novels of The Shadow, you will find no explanation given for the noted crimefighter's adoption of a cloak and hat. From interviews given by Gibson, he seems to have gotten the idea for The Shadow's cloak from stage adaptations of Bram Stoker's *Dracula*. In fact, Gibson described his creation as "a benign Dracula." However, Gibson was influenced more strongly by Gaston Leroux's *Phantom of the Opera* (1910). Leroux's title character, also known as Erik, wore a cloak and a soft felt hat when he blended in the darkness. The Phantom of the Opera's facial deformity also probably inspired Gibson to drop hints in his early novels that The Shadow had been disfigured in World War I. Eventually, Gibson would abandon these speculations. The connection between The Shadow and Erik becomes even more intriguing because one of the characters in *Phantom of the Opera* is an enigmatic personage called "the shade" or "the shadow."

Before discussing this earlier "shadow," it is necessary to briefly summarize the events of Leroux's novel. A reference in the novel's prologue (which has been cut from certain editions of *Phantom of the Opera*), claims that the book's events transpired about thirty years before it was published. This statement would indicate that the novel was set in 1881. The Paris Opera House in which the novel transpired is a real place. Planning of its construction began in 1861 and it opened in 1875. Leroux took advantage of two important facts about the Opera House in his novel: 1) an artificial underground lake was created beneath the Opera House and 2) construction was halted during 1870-71 due to the Franco-Prussian War and the subsequent left-wing insurrection known as the Paris Commune.

The novel's chief character was a Frenchman who had been born with a skeletal face and yellow eyes sometime in the first half of the nineteenth century. He fled France to travel around the world. Visiting Indochina, India, Russia, Persia (Iran) and Turkey, the Frenchman gains a complex knowledge of architecture and music. Adopting the name of Erik in his travels, he became a skilled illusionist and an assassin in addition to an accomplished architect and musician. His services are employed by prominent people in Asia most notably the favorite wife of the Shah of Persia. Eventually, Erik fell out of favor in Persia, and the Shah ordered his execution. Due to the sympathy of a Persian police official whom he had befriended, Erik successfully fled Persia.

Sometime during the construction of the Paris Opera House in the 1860's, Erik arrived in France. There he used the wealth accumulated in his travels to become a building contractor. Gaining a contract to work on the Opera House's foundations, Erik secretly built a hidden sanctuary for himself next to the lake underneath the Opera house when regular work on the structure was interrupted due to the violent historical events of 1870-71. When the Opera House was opened in 1875, Erik surreptitiously took up residence there. Under the alias of the Opera Ghost, Erik blackmailed the managing directors of the Opera House to keep a box reserved for him to attend performances. A few employees of the Opera House who incurred Erik's displeasure were murdered by him.

With the possible exception of one other who will be discussed later, only one individual in Paris was aware that Erik was the Opera Ghost. This was the Persian police official who had spared Erik's life years ago. Exiled from his native land, the Persian had taken up residence in Paris. Erik had established contact with the Persian.

By 1881, Erik had become hopelessly in love with an opera singer named Christine Daae. Wearing a mask, Erik trained her to become a versatile singer. Erik developed an insane passion for his pupil. Abducting Christine, Erik held her captive in his underground lair. Raoul de Chagny, Christine's fiancé, was contacted by the Persian who offered to lead him to Erik. When they reached the subterranean quarters, Raoul and the Persian were captured by Erik. Christine persuaded Erik to release her as well as Raoul and the Persian. Shortly thereafter, Erik died apparently from a broken heart.

Gaston Leroux pretended that the events of his novel actually happened. He even claimed to have interviewed the Persian who allegedly died shortly before the prologue to the novel was written. Leroux's "investigations" supposedly led to the discovery of Erik's skeleton under the Paris Opera House. Leroux claimed that it would be impossible to find Erik's secret lair because the Phantom had allegedly blocked all the secret passages under the Opera House shortly before his death.

When the Persian and Raoul were penetrating the cellars of the Opera in search of Christine and Erik, they encountered a mysterious personage. This enigmatic character dressed like the yellow-eyed Phantom of the Opera, but was clearly not Erik:

The two men waited five minutes longer. Then the Persian took Raoul up the stairs again; but suddenly he stopped him with a gesture. Something moved in the darkness before them.

"Flat on your stomach!" whispered the Persian.

The two men lay flat on the floor.

They were only just in time. A shade, this time carrying no light, just a shade in the shade, passed. It passed close to them, near enough to touch them.

They felt the warmth of its cloak upon them. For they could distinguish the shade sufficiently to see that it wore a cloak which shrouded it from head to foot. On its head it wore a soft felt hat.

It moved away, drawing its feet against the walls and sometimes giving a kick into a corner.

"Whew!" said the Persian. "We've had a narrow escape; that shade knows me and has twice taken me to the managers' office."

"Is it some one belonging to the theater police?" asked Raoul.

"It's some one much worse than that!" replied the Persian, without giving any further explanation.

"It's not . . . he?"

"He? . . . If he does not come behind us, we shall always see his yellow eyes!

"He" is Erik, the Phantom of the Opera, but who is "the shade?" Gaston Leroux dropped some hints in a footnote to the previous passage:

Like the Persian, I can give not further explanation touching the apparition of this shade. Whereas, in this historic narrative, everything else will be normally explained, however abnormal the course of events may seem, I can not give the reader expressly to understand what the Persian meant by the words, "It is some one much worse than that!" The reader must try to guess for himself, for I promised Mr. Pedro Gailhard, the former manager of the Opera, to keep his secret regarding the extremely useful and interesting personality of the wandering cloaked shade which, while condemning itself to live in the cellars of the Opera, rendered such immense services to those, who, on gala evenings, for instance, venture to stray away from the stage. I am speaking of state services; and upon my word of honor, I can say no more.

The above quoted passages are from the standard English translation of *Phantom of the Opera*. In a new translation done by Lowell Blair and published by Bantam Classics in 1990, the individual described as "the shade" is called "the shadow."

Since Leroux has left the reader to guess for himself, here are a few suspicions of my own:

1) "State services" strongly implies espionage. This mysterious "shade" was some sort of spy at the very least. The statement that "the shade" was "worse" than the police also opens the door to the possibility that this enigmatic cloaked individual was some sort of independent crimefighter as well. Whatever the activities of this "shade," Leroux suggests that they benefited the French authorities.

2) "The shade" wears a cloak and felt hat like Erik sometimes did. This has to be far more than a coincidence. Apparently Erik has trained this "shade" to wander unseen in the darkness of the Opera. Perhaps Erik has constructed a sanctum for this "shade" under the Paris Opera House. Although "the shade" would seem be some sort of cross between a spy and a detective, this strange character does not lift a finger against Erik's occasional murderous activities in the Opera House. There must be a bizarre alliance between Erik and "the shade."

3) Just as the Persian was privy to Erik's secrets, the Middle Eastern exile knows all about "the shade." Although both Erik and "the shade" dressed alike in cloaks and felt hats, the Persian could tell the pair apart in the darkness because of Erik's yellow eyes. Whether "the shade" also wore a mask like Erik is unknown.

4) At least three different groups of Opera management knew about the existence of "the shade." The Persian mentioned that "the shade" had twice escorted him the managers' office. Presumably "the shade" left the Persian in the custody of the managers. At the start of the novel, two managers named Debienne and Poligny were succeeded as managers by a duo named Moncharmin and Richard, who continued as managers for the duration of the novel. Leroux claimed to have learned the full story of "the shade" from a manager named Pedro Gailhard, who must have secured a management post sometime after Moncharmin and Richard. Gailhard (and possibly the earlier managers as well) had sworn not to reveal the activities of "the shade" to the public.

5) For whatever reason, "the shade" was some sort of outcast who could not openly appear in French society. Its existence under the Opera House was due to some sort of self-condemnation.

6) The emphasis on the word "he" as a reference to Erik in the conversation between Raoul and the Persian may be enlightening. Did Raoul see something in the appearance of "the shade" to suggest that this individual was a "she"?

There is only one reference to the sex of "the shade" in Leroux's novel. This reference is in the following remarks by the Persian (which were brought to my attention by the scholarly Jean-Marc Lofficier):

After avoiding the commissary of police, a number of door-shutters and the firemen, after meeting the rat-catcher and passing the man in the felt hat unperceived, the viscount and I arrived without obstacle in the third cellar, between the set piece and the scene from the Roi de Lahore.

"The man in the felt hat" is meant to be "the shade." However, it could be that "the shade" was generally perceived to be a man, but was actually a woman who disguised her sex. If "the shade" was indeed a woman, the Persian would have known it. Possibly the Persian had his own reasons for pretending that "the shade" was a man.

There is a lot of room for speculation here. Here is my own theory to the riddle of "the shade." Around 1879, a woman was working for the French Secret Service. Inside the Service, she discovered the existence of a French traitor who was working for Germany. The traitor had gone to the Paris Opera House in order to pass information to their German contact. The woman followed the traitor who strayed away from the audience in order to meet the German agent in the cellars of the Opera House. Her intention was to secretly observe the conversation between the traitor and his German contact. Unfortunately, her presence was discovered by the conspirators. They rendered her unconscious, bound her and tied weights to her legs. They then threw her into the underground lake beneath the Paris Opera House. Leaving the woman to drown, the murderous pair then fled.

Unknown to the two would-be killers, their actions had been observed by Erik, the Phantom of the Opera, who had been hiding in the cellars of the Opera House. Erik then rescued the woman and brought her to his underground lair. There he nursed her back to health. When he learned from her the details of her activities, Erik requested the Persian to conduct inquiries among his contacts in the French government. The Persian discovered that the real traitor in the French Secret Service had concocted evidence which pointed to the female spy as being the double agent working for Germany. The French authorities mistakenly believed that this loyal woman had fled France to avoid apprehension. If the woman ever reappeared in public, she would unjustly be arrested for treason.

Erik then decided to assist the woman in clearing her name. He trained her on how to navigate the secret passages which he had constructed under the Paris Opera House. Giving her one of his cloaks and soft felt hats, he taught her how to blend into the darkness. Utilizing the Paris Opera House as her base, the woman conducted a secret campaign which resulted in the downfall of the real traitor. Unfortunately, the woman was unable to prove the falsehood of the evidence against her. She was condemned to a secret existence.

Gradually, she built up a small secret organization of agents solely loyal to her. She conducted campaigns against foreign spies and eventually extended the scope of her operations to combat domestic French criminals. She became feared in the French underworld as L'Ombre, the French word for "the shadow" or "the shade." L'Ombre performed certain services which made the various managers of the Paris Opera House indebted to her. The managers covered up her activities. Eventually certain officials in the French government learned of L'Ombre's existence, but they never suspected her true identity. In fact, nearly everyone thought L'Ombre was a man. These officials sometimes met secretly with L'Ombre in the cellars of the Opera House to request her assistance in delicate investigations.

Erik has set aside part of his secret lair as a personal sanctum for L'Ombre. Erik's interest in L'Ombre was originally paternalistic. It may have eventually become romantic, but Erik then became attracted to another pupil, Christine Daae, the woman he was training to become a leading opera singer.

In exchange for all his assistance, Erik had made L'Ombre swear an oath never to interfere with any of his activities inside the Opera House. Hence, L'Ombre did not punish Erik when he committed the few murders described in *Phantom of the Opera*. In fact, L'Ombre would not even permit the Persian to interfere with Erik's murderous actions. Twice she prevented the Persian from visiting Erik's lair.

Despite their conflict over Erik, L'Ombre and the Persian generally remained allies. With the death of Erik, the Persian was the one person alive aware of L'Ombre's true identity. The Persian occasionally assisted her in her activities against malefactors. Inevitably, L'Ombre decided to retire in the 1890's. It was she, not Erik as Leroux assumed, who blocked all the subterranean passages under the Opera House.

At this point, my theories could be expanded to include a connection between Leroux's "the shade" and Walter Gibson's *The Shadow*. I have discussed *The Shadow*'s early life as gleaned from various references in Walter Gibson's novels in an earlier section. Before proceeding further, I should note some observations about *The Shadow*'s early life:

- 1) *The Shadow*'s real name was Kent Allard. Allard is a French surname.
- 2) Allard must have been born in the early 1890's. I place his birth in 1892,
- 3) Allard became a spy for a European country shortly before the outbreak of World

War I. He was then known as the Dark Eagle. I estimate that Allard became a spy in 1912, and I believe the country for which he worked to be Great Britain.

4) In 1917, Allard transferred to American Intelligence. His face was disfigured in the same year. He used makeup to disguise his facial injuries in order to appear in public as Kent Allard.

5) In 1925, Allard faked his disappearance in Guatemala in order to fight crime as The Shadow. When not The Shadow, Allard employed various other identities most notably Lamont Cranston over the following years. In 1937, he utilized a radical form of plastic surgery to restore his true features and reappeared as Kent Allard.

6) There are no references to The Shadow's parents throughout the entire series.

Now my speculation will resume. L'Ombre retired in 1891 in order to marry a man named Allard. Since she was still wanted on a false charge of treason, L'Ombre and her husband emigrated to the United States. Before leaving France, L'Ombre left with the Persian private annals of all her covert activities as well as a hat and cloak which had been given to her by Erik. Although she had retired, L'Ombre wanted to leave the door open for resuming her activities if an emergency arose. In 1892, her son, Kent Allard, was born in the United States.

L'Ombre had left behind some enemies in France. They were criminals who often conducted free-lance espionage. This gang discovered L'Ombre's whereabouts in the United States. They traveled to America where they murdered both L'Ombre and her husband.

The young Kent Allard was assigned to an American orphanage, but a mysterious wealthy benefactor was able to gain custody of the child. This benefactor was the Persian. The Persian arranged for Kent Allard to be raised in the United States. In 1910, when Allard reached his eighteenth birthday, he was summoned to France where he met the Persian for the first time. Allard learned about his mother's past from the Persian, and received her records, and her cloak and hat. Shortly after this meeting, the Persian died. Allard had learned that his parents' murderers were still conducting espionage activities on the behalf of Germany. In order to gain the means to track down his parent's killers, Allard decided to become the agent of a nation opposed to Germany. His logical choices were either Britain or France. He chose Britain because the French Secret Service had unjustly treated his mother. In 1912 Allard joined the British Secret Service.

In 1917 after transferring to American Intelligence, Allard, now known as the Dark Eagle, finally confronted his parents' slayers. The German spies captured him. Realizing the true identity of their prisoner, the German spies decided to torment their captive by disfiguring his face with acid. If Allard wanted to carry on a legacy started by the Phantom of the Opera, then he should have a hideous countenance like Erik. Allard then escaped and wrecked vengeance on his parents' killers.

In 1925, Allard decided to adopt the old alias of his mother. He became The Shadow. In France, he was feared as L'Ombre. In the words of the Persian, he was viewed as worse than the police.

The Arsene Lupin Connection

As Will Murray and the late Bob Sampson both noted in their excellent studies of The Shadow, Walter Gibson was heavily influenced by another character from French literature, Arsene Lupin. Created by Maurice Leblanc (1864-1941), Lupin was a master thief with a score of false identities. Although a criminal, Lupin often functioned as a detective. He was also intensely patriotic about his native France. In many novels, he combated German spies during World War I.

There are significant chronological differences between the French novels and their English translations. Most of these differences seem to date from the unusual publishing history of a pivotal novel, *Les Dents du Tigre* (*The Teeth of the Tiger*). Although published in an English translation in the United States in 1914, the novel was not printed in France until 1921. The novel opened with Arsene Lupin returning to France as Luis Perenna (the name is an anagram), an identity under which he had spent at least five years in the French Foreign Legion. The English version clearly is set before World War I, but the French version was set after World War I (about 1919). Apparently, Leblanc wrote this novel before World War I, allowed it to be published in an English translation, and then revised its chronological references and allowed it to be published in his native France.

The chronological problems caused by the English version of *Les Dents du Tigre*, may explain another chronological discrepancy. Another Lupin novel, *La Comtesse de Cagliostro* (1924), is set in 1894 when Lupin was twenty years old. Therefore, he was born in 1874. However, the 1925 English translation, published in Britain as *The Candlesticks with Seven Branches* and in the United States as *The Memoirs of Arsene Lupin*, the novel transpires in 1892. Consequently, Lupin's year of birth is changed to 1872.

There is an excellent chronology of the Lupin saga written by Francis Lacassin. "Le Vie Criminelle d'Arsene Lupin de 1864 a 19..," published in volume III of *Arsene Lupin* (Editions Robert Laffont, 1986). The title of the chronology translates as "The criminal life of Arsene Lupin, 1864-19.." Since the chronology clearly states that Lupin was born in 1874, either the title has a typographical error, or an in-joke is being made concerning the fact that Lupin's creator, Maurice Leblanc, was born in 1864, Lacassin's chronology carries Lupin's activities as far as 1928.

Did he have any adventures after that year? If you read one of The Shadow's adventures very carefully, you could conclude that Kent Allard and Lupin once joined forces.

In *Zemba*, a Shadow novel heavily influenced by Lupin's exploits, there is a mysterious French detective named Etienne Robeq. He is the equal of the Shadow in the art of disguise. Together, Robeq and The Shadow defeat Gaspard Zemba, a dangerous master spy. In the novel, whose events I place in August 1935, a French official gives this biography of Robeq (chap. 6):

“Very well, Etienne Robeq is a Parisian. Some years ago, he went to Marseilles; there, he joined the French Foreign Legion. Captured by Tuaregs, he escaped. From then on, he became a lone spy in Africa.

The messages that came from him were amazing. He paved the way to victory for the French campaign. When that was finished, Robeq appeared suddenly in Marseilles. Contacting the police through proxies, he arranged the arrest of *les trois freres Cortonne*, three desperate brothers who had murdered a dozen victims for their money.

His next exploit was the uncovering of a ring of counterfeiters. After that, Robeq disclosed an assassination plot against the president of France. All the while, he has kept himself a hidden factor, but he has communicated with the police at regular intervals, in search of new assignments.”

What was the campaign by the French Foreign Legion to which Robeq supplied valuable information? The reference to Robeq's capture by Tuaregs would suggest that the campaign was directed against those desert people, but the last major campaign against the Tuaregs was in 1917. The statement by the French official implied that Robeq's service was much more recent. On March 24, 1933, the French Foreign Legion finally pacified the Djebel Sagho region of Morocco in a major campaign. It was probably this campaign in which Robeq secured invaluable intelligence. Considering that the length of service in the French Foreign Legion was normally five years, we can speculate that Robeq joined the Legion in 1928. Consequently, we are left with this probable chronology:

- 1928 Robeq joins French Foreign Legion
- 1932 Robeq is captured by Tuaregs. He “escapes” and becomes lone spy in Africa.
- 1933 Robeq helps the Foreign Legion pacify Morocco. In Marseilles, he arranges the arrest of the three Cortonne brothers.
- 1934 Robeq foils counterfeiters and disrupts a assassination plot against the French president.
- 1935 Robeq and The Shadow battle Zemba.

Now consider these facts about Arsene Lupin. His whereabouts after 1928 are unknown. He twice infiltrated the French police by assuming the identities of other men who lived in the French Colonial Empire. Many of Lupin's false identities were Frenchman who secretly die abroad. Lupin was able to impersonate them by getting possession of their identity papers. Lupin was extremely familiar with the French Foreign Legion due to his usage of the Luis Perenna identity. Although a master thief, Lupin functioned frequently as a detective against criminals who were either particularly brutal or working against France's national interests.

There was probably a real Etienne Robeq. He did join the French Foreign Legion in 1928. He was captured by the Tuaregs in 1932, but died at the hands of the desert tribesmen after a brief captivity. The real Robeq lies in an unmarked grave in Africa, but his identity was assumed by Arsene Lupin. Using the Robeq identity, Lupin helped the Foreign Legion in Morocco and became a quasi-official member of the French police.

At the time he assumed the identity of Robeq, Lupin was 58 years old. By the time he and The Shadow fought Zemba, He was 61.

The Sins of the Father

The possibility of a connection between Arsene Lupin and The Shadow may answer a interesting question. Who was The Shadow's father? Certainly Arsene Lupin is old enough to be the Shadow's father. Lupin would have been 18 years old when Kent Allard was born. In his own series, Lupin married four times and had countless affairs. His first marriage yielded two children, a daughter who died shortly after birth (mentioned only in the French version of his adventures), and a son named Jean. He also fathered an illegitimate daughter, and allegedly had an affair with a married Balkan queen that resulted in a son who was publicly hailed as the heir to the throne. However, it is doubtful that Arsene Lupin was The Shadow's father. However, there is the matter of Arsene's own mysterious father.

The first information concerning the senior Lupin appeared in “Le Collier de la Reine” (“The Queen's Necklace”), a story from *Arsene Lupin, Gentleman-Cambrioleur* (1907), a book published in English under such titles as *Arsene Lupin, Gentleman-Burglar, The Seven of Hearts* and *The Exploits of Arsene Lupin*. We learn that the maiden name Lupin's mother was Henriette d'Andresy (also spelt Andrezy), a woman from a wealthy family.

Her family did not approve of her marriage, and cut her off from the family fortune. Supposedly, her husband died shortly after her son's birth, and she reassumed her maiden name. Their son was raised under the name of Raoul D'Andresy. The impression was given that Raoul was the real first name of the future master thief, and that Arsene Lupin was an alias assumed later in life.

We learn in *La Comtesse de Cagliostro* that the story of Arsene Lupin's parents was more complex. Henriette's husband was named Theophraste (Theophrastus in the English translation) Lupin, a professor of boxing and *la savate* (the French art of fighting with the feet), gymnastics and fencing. Their son's real name was Arsene. Theophraste Lupin turned to a life of crime. He was arrested in the United States, and died in an American prison. To avoid the shame of his criminal life, Henriette adopted her maiden name and raised her son as Raoul d'Andresy.

These revelations raised more questions. Did Theophraste die shortly after his son's birth, as did his death occur much later? Francis Lacassin's chronology speculates that Theophraste and Henriette separated in 1880 when she learned of his criminal activities. In "La Collier de la Reine," it was revealed that Arsene Lupin alias Raoul D'Andresy committed his first robbery in 1880 when he was 6 years old. Appalled by the treatment of his mother by her wealthy relatives, Arsene stole a valuable diamond necklace from one of them. Until her death in 1886, Henriette received the proceeds of this robbery in anonymous installments. At Henriette's death, Arsene alias Raoul was raised by Victoire, his devoted nurse. Maurice Leblanc never adequately explained how a young boy could find a means to "fence" this piece of stolen property, but Lacassin theorizes that Arsene was in secret contact with his criminal father, who secretly sold the diamonds. Lacassin further asserts that Theophraste died sometime between 1886 and 1894.

When Arsene Lupin became a household name, the police can't find any clue to his origins. Wouldn't the name of Theophraste Lupin be in the crime files? Even if Theophraste's activities were only recorded in American records, his name would have still become known to the French authorities. Arsene Lupin was a famous figure on both sides of the Atlantic. In "La Arrestation d'Arsene Lupin" ("The Arrest of Arsene Lupin") from *Arsene Lupin, Gentleman-Cambrioleur*, Lupin was spectacularly arrested in New York. Surely some enterprising reporter would have uncovered the earlier story of Theophraste Lupin dying in an American prison and connected it to the recent arrest of Arsene.

It is probable that Theophraste Lupin never committed crimes under his real name. Like his son Arsene, he probably had a string of aliases. The French police probably knew him only by one or more aliases, and never learned his real name. When his wife learned of his criminal life, she assumed her maiden name because she feared that an eventual scandal would erupt if Theophraste was ever arrested. He was later arrested in the United States, but he was imprisoned by the American legal authorities under one of his assumed names. I believe that Theophraste Lupin's American alias was Allard. Arsene Lupin and The Shadow are half-brothers.

The Cagliostro Vendetta

Besides Arsene Lupin, the only other person in *La Comtesse de Cagliostro* aware of Theophraste's death in America was Josephine Balsamo, alias the Countess of Cagliostro. She was Lupin's greatest enemy. Her history is rather complex. There were actually three women who utilized the name of Josephine Balsamo. The original Josephine was born in 1788. She was the illegitimate daughter of Joseph Balsamo, a confidence trickster who posed under the alias of the Count of Cagliostro, and Josephine de Beauharnais, the future wife of Napoleon Bonaparte. In 1816, Josephine Balsamo under the title of the Countess of Cagliostro appeared at the court of Tsar Alexander I in Moscow. A miniature was painted of her at this time. After 1816, the activities of the original Josephine Balsamo are unknown.

In 1870, a woman claiming to be the original Josephine Balsamo appeared in Paris. She bore an uncanny resemblance to the Russian miniature. Joseph Balsamo had claimed to possess an immortality elixir, and this Josephine Balsamo professed to have used it to assure her own agelessness. Actually, the woman is a fraud. She just resembled the original Countess of Cagliostro. It was speculated that the second Countess may have been the granddaughter of the original, but this theory was never confirmed. The second Countess was not only a swindler but also a spy for Otto von Bismarck, the Chancellor of Prussia. She provided valuable information that led to France's defeat in the Franco-Prussian War (1870-71), which resulted in the unification of Germany under Prussian leadership.

The second Countess had a daughter. The father of this child was probably an accomplice known only as Leonard. When the second Countess died of unknown circumstances, her daughter was at her deathbed. The last words of the second Countess to her offspring were "Avenge me." The daughter, who greatly resembled her mother, would be the third woman to adopt the identity of Josephine Balsamo, Countess of Cagliostro. In 1889, the third Josephine Balsamo would play a secret role in the collapse of General Boulanger's *coup d'etat* and the scandalous failure of the Ferdinand De Lesseps' Panama Canal Company. In 1891, she caused Boulanger to commit suicide.

In 1894, the third Josephine Balsamo, professing to be the same person as the two earlier claimants to the title of the Countess of Cagliostro, met Raoul d'Andresy alias Arsene Lupin, then 20 years old. She sought to

enlist him as a lieutenant in her criminal gang. Not only did this Countess of Cagliostro know about Theophraste's death in America, but she also knew about Arsene's theft of the diamond necklace in 1880. Arsene was surprised at her knowledge of the 1880 theft. Realizing that her claims about immortality are false, Arsene suspects that the Countess was twelve years old at the time of the theft. This suspicion would imply that the third Josephine Balsamo was born in 1868 (Francis Lacassin places her birth in 1871, but this assertion was the only chronological argument that I could objectively question in his otherwise flawless biography of Arsene Lupin).

The criminal schemes of the Countess were directed against the family of Clarice d'Etiques, a young woman with whom Arsene Lupin was in love. Although he allowed Josephine to further train him as a criminal, Arsene turned against the Countess due to his love for Clarice. The Countess swore vengeance and disappeared. Under the alias of Raoul D'Andresy, Arsene married Clarice. Without his wife's knowledge, Raoul led the double life of a master thief. In 1899, Clarice died shortly after giving birth to a son christened Jean D'Andresy. Josephine Balsamo kidnapped Jean, and Arsene Lupin would spend almost thirty years searching for his lost son.

Arsene's quest came to the end in *La Cagliostro Se Venge* (1935), a novel never translated into English to my knowledge. According to Lacassin's chronology, the events of the novel were set in 1927-28. In 1912, the third Countess of Cagliostro had moved to Corsica. She was reportedly in a state of semi-madness. She continued to plot her vengeance against Arsene Lupin by scheming to have his son raised as a criminal. She died in 1920 in the presence of a young cousin, Faustine Cortina, but her criminal schemes concerning Lupin's son unfolded from beyond the grave in 1927.

In my earlier speculation concerning the Shadow's mother, I postulated the existence of a criminal gang with ties to the German espionage apparatus. This gang would have existed from the 1870's through World War I. The criminal apparatus established by the second Countess of Cagliostro and subsequently inherited by her daughter would fit that profile. Here is a speculative chronology of the legend of Josephine Balsamo and its involvement in the lives of Arsene Lupin and The Shadow.

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| 1788 | Birth of Josephine Balsamo I, daughter of Joseph Balsamo and Josephine de Beauharnais. |
| 1816 | Josephine I adopts the identity of the Countess of Cagliostro in Moscow. |
| 1868 | Josephine Balsamo II (The granddaughter of Josephine I?) gives birth to a daughter. |
| 1870 | Josephine II appears in Paris |
| 1870-71 | Josephine II spies for Bismarck during the Franco-Prussian War. A secret sanctuary is built under the Paris Opera House by Erik, the man who would be known as the Phantom of the Opera. |
| 1874 | Birth of Arsene Lupin, son of Theophraste and Henriette Lupin. |
| 1879 | Josephine II helps a French traitor inside French Intelligence provide information to Germany. Josephine II and her French contact secretly meet in the Paris Opera House, but they are followed by a courageous young female operative of French Intelligence. Discovering that their activities are being watched Josephine II and her accomplice attack the woman, knock her unconscious, and leave her to drown in the lake beneath the Opera House. The woman is actually rescued by Erik, the Phantom of the Opera, who trains her to be the first Shadow (L'Ombre). L'Ombre tracks down the French traitor and kills him, but Josephine II escapes her vengeance. |
| 1880 | Learning that her husband Theophraste is leading a double life as a criminal, Henriette Lupin leaves him with their young son Arsene. She adopts her maiden name of d'Andresy and changes her son's name to Raoul. She lives off the miserly charity of wealthy relatives. Raoul alias Arsene, age 6, steals a diamond necklace from one of his mother's relatives and contacts Theophraste to fence it. Josephine II learns of the theft and attempts to steal the necklace from Theophraste by ambushing him with her gang. However, L'Ombre uncovers the criminal plot and arrives to assist Theophraste. The robbery attempt is foiled, and Josephine II receives a dangerous wound from L'Ombre during the struggle. Josephine escapes to her headquarters, but her wound ultimately proves fatal. On her death bed, she instructs her twelve-year old daughter to avenge her against L'Ombre and Theophraste. Because they fought as allies against Josephine II, |

- L'Ombre permits Theophraste to keep the stolen necklace. L'Ombre and Theophraste begin to develop romantic feelings for one another.
- 1881 The death of Erik (described in Gaston Leroux's *Phantom of the Opera*) leaves L'Ombre the sole secret occupant of the Paris Opera House
- 1886 The death of Henriette Lupin (D'Andresy) leaves Raoul (alias Arsene) in the custody of his nurse Victoire.
- 1889 Josephine Balsamo III, the daughter of Josephine II, plays a secret role in the failures of the Boulanger coup and the Panama Canal Company.
- 1891 Due to his love for L'Ombre, Theophraste vows to give up his life of crime. Under the alias of Allard, he marries her, and the couple leaves France and immigrate to the United States. In Europe, Josephine III causes Boulanger to commit suicide.
- 1892 Birth of Kent Allard, son of Theophraste Lupin and L'Ombre (now known as Mr. And Mrs. Allard), in the United States.
- 1893 Secretly traveling to the United States with her underlings, Josephine III murders Mrs. Allard and frames her husband for the crime. Under the alias of Allard, Theophraste Lupin is sentenced to death. Unaware of the true identity of his wife's murderer, Theophraste writes his son a letter describing his plight while awaiting execution. Theophraste attempts to escape from prison, but his plan unfortunately results in his death. The mysterious Persian, the confidant of Erik and L'Ombre, assumes custody of Kent Allard and arranges for him to be raised in safety.
- 1894 Back in France, Josephine III unsuccessfully attempts to make Raoul D'Andresy (alias Arsene Lupin) her henchman (described in Maurice Leblanc's *La Comtesse de Cagliostro*). As Raoul, Arsene marries Clarice d'Etigues.
- 1899 Clarice dies giving birth to a son, Jean d'Andresy. Jean is abducted by Josephine III. Arsene begins a search which will last nearly thirty years.
- 1910 The Persian reveals to young Kent Allard the true identities of his parents. The Persian also reveals that his investigations over the years have unearthed that Josephine III and her minions were the people responsible for the deaths of Kent's parents. The Persian arranges for Kent to be trained to follow in his mother's footsteps. Kent swears vengeance against the Cagliostro gang. The Persian dies.
- 1912 Learning that Josephine III has continued her mother's policy of maintaining ties to German Intelligence, Kent Allard joins the British Secret Service in order to track her down. Josephine III has a near fatal encounter with Allard in Europe. She is driven partially insane when he reveals that L'Ombre was his mother. She retreats to Corsica in a semi-deranged state to concoct schemes against both Arsene and Kent. She continues to direct agents whose activities benefit German Intelligence.
- 1914 World War I begins, and Kent Allard becomes known as the Dark (or Black) Eagle.
- 1917 Acting on the instructions of Josephine III, her agents inside German Intelligence capture Kent in Europe and disfigure him. Kent turns the tables on his captors and kills them, but he is unable to find any clues to Josephine's whereabouts.
- 1918 World War I ends, and Kent continues to search for Josephine III.
- 1920 Josephine III dies in Corsica in the presence of her cousin, Faustine Cortina. There is a rumor that Josephine's final illness resulted quickly after she suffered shock during a midnight visit from a shadowy cloaked figure who mocked her with laughter. This story is

denied by Faustine's account of Josephine's death, but Faustine doesn't have an impeccable reputation as a purveyor of truth.

1927-28

Arsene Lupin learns of Josephine's death and is confronted with her final plan of vengeance directed against his son Jean (Leblanc's *La Cagliostro Se Venge*).

Author's Note

Chronology of Shadows was first published by Fading Shadows in 1995. The current text has been revised to include a new section, "Speculation: Who were The Shadow's Parents?" This section incorporates an article, "Shadow of the Opera," which had been printed in *Echoes* #92 (April 1997).