



Tom Thunder



ADVENTURES

THE SECRET SOCIETY

©

DISCLAIMER

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“Keep Jumping Fences and Stay One Step Ahead Of The Yard Dogs”

Pop Thomas

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EPIISODES

1. The Post Card
2. The Meeting
3. The Hidden Chamber
4. The Fall Out
5. The Discovery
6. The History Lesson
7. Holy Moly
8. Jig's Up

THE CAST

Tom Thunder – Man of Action

Birdie – Thunders Gal Pal and Business Partner

Lightning – Thunder's Loyal Side Kick and Wonder Dog

The Thunderbolts – A select group of experts in a multitude of disciplines and dedicated to the mission.

GUEST STARS

- The Professor - Introducing the esteemed Doctor Michelangelo Hardino, PHD, ADD.

PRELUDE

Our hero Tom Thunder is once again called upon to defend the nation and its citizens against evil doers. His sworn mission is to protect the values and freedoms of this great nation we call the United States of America. The discovery of a hidden chamber results in a call to activate Tom Thunder and his loyal band of Thunderbolts.

It has long been suspected that there was an organization, referred to only as the "Secret Society". They are believed to be behind many of the devious and criminal activities trying to disrupt, dismantle, and destroy the American way of life. Its members are well hidden amongst the population and have chosen to live in the darkness of shadows to conduct their sinister operations. It is time that they are exposed to the bright light of American justice.

Come with us now as we join Thunder in his adventure and his quest to expose and crush once and for all the existence of this elusive group. A group hell bent on the destruction of the greatest nation on earth.

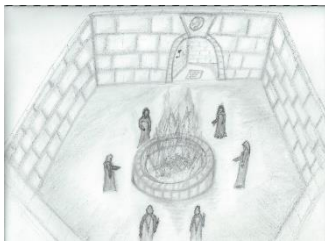
Now on to the - **"Case Of The Secret Society"**.



THE SECRET SOCIETY



The flickering light cast off from candles provided a warm but ominous glow throughout the long hallway leading deep down the winding path to the Grand Hall chambers. The only discernable sound was that caused by the rustling of loose garments and the sound made from soft soled shoes as they shuffled across the floor surface. The prospective candidates were blindfolded and being led along the narrow path by the Sergeant-at-Arms. They had been arranged in single file, each having their right hand extended and resting on the shoulder of the unknown person in front of them. The Grand Hall was constructed of ancient cut stones four feet thick and capped with a dome ceiling. As they entered, only muted voices could be discerned over the droning of an incantation being chanted somewhere off in the distance. A slight echo was created as the sound from the spoken words resonated off the rock walls.



Inside the secret chambers of the Grand Hall they were positioned into place. Each instructed to stand silently at attention and to draw back the sleeve of their right arm exposing the flesh. They were then commanded to extend their arm in front of them palm side up. The heat emanating from a large fire located in the center of the room could now be felt on the faces of the obedient and hopeful postulants who encircled it. Thoughts of second guessing their voluntary decision to join this Society crossed the minds of those about to take the lifelong oath of membership. The stark awareness of their situation was interrupted by the sound of a gong being struck six times. Symbolic of the six core values and mission of the Society. This in turn represents the six branches or houses that makes up the organization. Hence, was the design and shape of the chambers itself. A large six sided hexagon room with only one way in, and one way out.

The participants were ordered to repeat the oath now being recited by the Grand PooBah. Once this oath is taken there is no going back, no way to rescind it. One will live by the rules or die by the rules. The only exit is the eternal and final exit from this world.

The conclusion of this ceremony is completed with the marking of the body. The sizzling sound and the smell of burning flesh filled the air as each new member was branded with the symbol of the Secret Society on their right forearm. It cannot be washed off or removed as it is burned onto them and becomes part of their physical body and their eternal soul.

Loyalty to the oath above all else.

THE ADVENTURE BEGINS

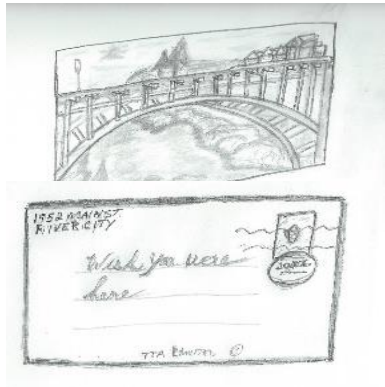
EPISODE 1 – The Post Card

It was early Tuesday morning and the weather was predicted to be another scorcher. Valley temperatures to reach somewhere in the low-hundreds. It was nothing to be alarmed about, as global warming was not the culprit. It was just your stock model heat wave typical for the valley region for this time of year.

Taking advantage of the cool delta breeze of the morning, Thunder sat outside on his balcony patio. The balcony overlooked the street below and provided the high ground vantage point in two directions. He would often enjoy the peace and quiet of the early morning hours as the city slept and before the heat of the day settled in.

Perched in his nest above the street he enjoyed a cup of fresh brewed coffee made from ground French roasted beans. As he sipped his morning eye opener he was looking over yesterday's mail. Then he saw the post card.

He looked at the picture on the front. It was an iconic picture of the historic Rainbow Bridge with the old Town Hall on Sutter Street in the background. Both of these were located just east of Capital City along the Highway 50 corridor in the town now known as Lakeside.



He flipped it over to read what was inscribed on the opposite side. There was simply a handwritten message in black ink. It read, "Wish you were here.". It was post marked from two days ago with no name or return address shown.

To the casual onlooker it was nothing more than a simple correspondence among friends. However, it was much, much more than a friendly note from an acquaintance on holiday. For Thunder the message was very clear, loud and clear in fact, as to what the senders true meaning intended. The use of black ink also told him it was to be a hush, hush black ops meeting.

He set down his cup and picked up his copy of the Capital City Wasp. It was the only game in town when it came to local newspapers. If you could still classify what they printed as news reporting. The best thing about this "newspaper" was the rubber band that came with it, and maybe the daily Lotto numbers. It was extremely one sided and very slanted politically, but they did run the obituary column and that is what Thunder needed to see.

As he surveyed the list of the recently departed he found the name he was looking for. That of one Mr. Al Gormortis. There was no accompanying photo of Mr. Gormortis, only a brief description of him with a date and time for upcoming services.

That was all the information Thunder needed. He now knew the where and the when to meet his contact person. The location was indicated by the photo depiction shown on the post card. The date and time of the meeting was that of the upcoming scheduled service for one Mr. Al Gormortis.

A headline story on the front page had caught Thunder's eye and he proceeded to read it. It was about the lowering of the water level in the Lakeside reservoir for maintenance and the new construction of a much needed overflow release side channel system. The article pointed out that construction was to take several years for its completion.

Back when the dam was first constructed the subsequent filling of the river gorge with water submerged entire towns, homesteads and many of the gold claims and mine shafts that were located along the river. These encampments, some of them dating back more than 200 years, included those of the indigenous Native Americans, early settlers, and gold prospectors that flocked to the region during the big gold strike of 1849. The lowering of the water back down to the original river level had now exposed some of these old ruins that had been entombed under hundreds of feet of water.

The article spoke about a local historian who had been hired by the Army Corp of Engineers. He was being allowed to explore and document some of the historical sites and artifacts now being resurrected. He was described as the foremost authority in local history and folk lore of the surrounding area. He had a doctorate in history, and they referred to him only as the esteemed Doctor Michelangelo Hardino, PHD, ADD.

Thunder had to laugh to himself when he read who they had hired to conduct the exploration of the site. Because, the esteemed Doctor Hardino was well known to Thunder. He in fact was one of Thunders resource field operatives and part of the Thunderbolts. The man had skills.

When it came to quietly gathering background information and you didn't want to be electronically tracked or leave a digital footprint, then you used books rather than Google to acquire that information. That's where the Esteemed Doctor Hardino PHD, ADD came in. He had an extensive personal library and volumes of ancient books and manuscripts.

The man was a walking, breathing computer all by himself. In fact, Thunder described him as C3-PO on steroids. He looked similar in stature and appearance to the cowboy in 'Toy Story', and it would be hard to tell them apart if it wasn't for the safari jacket and fedora hat that the Professor wore. Because of this uncanny resemblance his Thunderbolt code name was 'Woody'.

The article stated that all blasting for the project was being temporarily halted so the esteemed Doctor could work safety in the blast zone. Thunder was thinking that sounded a little fishy, stopping a Billion-dollar Federal project for something like that. It wasn't adding up, and he wondered if this story had anything to do with his cryptic post card.

He suspected that somehow the post card and the news story were tied together. Of course it might have been a coincidence. But, it was Thunder's experience that it usually wasn't and he trusted his gut feelings more. He would soon be able to confirm it. In fact, unless he missed it altogether he expected to get a phone call on 'Line 2' (the secured line) sometime today.

He grabbed up the newspaper and his cup of joe and headed downstairs to the office. Lightning, who had been sleeping under the table jumped up and followed Thunder. As they entered the office area Thunder flicked on the lights and tossed the paper onto Birdie's desk.

Thunder walked out into the shop and looked at Lightning and said: "Time for some tunes Buddy".



He had just recently installed a vintage Vector Juke box and upgraded it with Bluetooth capabilities. Today would be the first time he used it. He looked over the selection list and hit D9. The mechanical arm slid over to the corresponding 45 LP and dropped it on the turntable.

The shop came alive with the rocking sound of Roy Orbison singing "Pretty Woman".

'Oh Pretty Woman Walking Down The Street – Pretty Woman the kind I would like to meet – pretty woman I don't believe you – you want the truth – no one can look as good as you'

Just then Birdie entered the front office. Thunder had to smile because Birdie was so good looking that even storefront dummies would turn their heads when she walked by. It was the perfect song to start the day.

Birdie looked at Thunder and said; "Good morning. So what's up?".

Thunder gave her that smile that always gave him away. Birdie knew that look. Thunder was about to take on another case.....

To be continued.....

END EPISODE ONE



Tom Thunder



ADVENTURES

THE

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RECAP OF EPISODE 1

Thunder has received a post card with a picture of the old Rainbow Bridge on it with a coded message on the back. The message was validated with further instructions via the obituary column in the daily newspaper. The upcoming scheduled services for one Mr. Al Gormortis gave him the time and date he was to meet up with the mystery contact person. The location of the meeting was shown on the face of the post card.

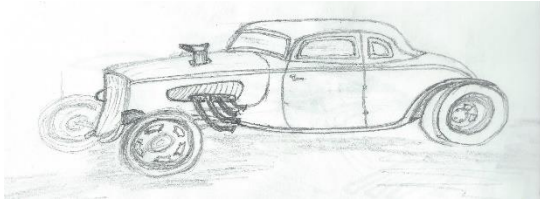
While reading his morning newspaper an article regarding work being done on a new overflow project at the Lakeside Dam reservoir had caught Thunders attention. It described how the lowering of the water level had exposed much of the long forgotten history of the area. All work had been temporally suspended by the Army Corp of Engineers so that a local historian, described only as the Esteemed Professor, Dr. Hardino PHD, ADD, could document the artifacts being uncovered.

Thunder suspects that the post card, the obituary for Mr. Al Gormits and the news story are all tied together somehow. Of course it might have been a coincidence. But, it was Thunder's experience that it usually wasn't and he trusted his gut feelings more. Thunder questions just what have they uncovered that would cause them to halt such a massive Federal project costing billions of dollars.

Something is definitely fishy.

Now on to Episode 2 – The Meeting

EPISODE 2 – The Meeting



Thunder was out in the shop with the latest project, it was a 1932 Ford. It had already been done as a hotrod but the owner now wanted to chop the top and put in a Hemi monster motor. He was about to put it up on the rack to get a good look at it when

he heard Birdie's voice on the overhead squawk box.

"Thunder – Phone call on line 2", is all she said.

This was the call Thunder had been expecting. It would be the final validation for the requested meeting.

He picked up the phone and spoke: "This is Thunder".

A voice on the other end replied with: "Happy trails to you".

Thunder quickly gave his response: "Until we meet again"

There was a moment of silence and then the voice said: "Response verified".

Thunder: "Okay, now that we got all the cloak and dagger crap out of the way what do you want?".

The voice: "Did you get your mail and the daily news?"

Thunder: "I did."

The voice: "Any questions?"

Thunder: "Not a one. I'll be there for Mr. Al Gormortis."

With that Thunder hung up the phone. He had already packed his Go Bag. It was Thunder's practice to be ready just in case he had to leave on a moment's notice.

Thunder was thinking: "Al Gormortis was good cover name for a fake dead guy. Algor mortis is one of the four stages of rigor mortis. Hey, if the shoe fits, right?".

He walked into the front office smiling and stopped short of Birdie's desk.

Thunder said: "Good morning babe, I got to go on a parts run into Lakeside today. I won't be gone long. Can you call in Fat Arm and Rat Rod Rodger for me? See if they are available to help chop the top on the 32. I got the build plan all drawn up and it's sitting on my workbench. I'll check in with you, latter on today. Okay?"

Birdie: "Sure thing Thunder. I can do that no problem. See you when you get back."

She was really thinking, parts run – ya right. She saw the post card and although she didn't know exactly what it meant, she knew something was up. The phone call on line 2 confirmed it. This had to be more than a coincidence. She and Thunder were on the same page when it came to coincidences – there aren't any. Two plus two still added up to four in her book, no matter what the new 'Core Math 'system said.

Thunder headed back out into the shop and whistled for Lightning. Lightning was way ahead of him and was already sitting in the 'California Girl' riding shotgun.

The California Girl was Thunders classic 1966 Thunderbird convertible. It was all stock except for a few minor modifications that Thunder had equipped her with. There was no way this sweet lady could compete with today's horsepower and performance of new cars. He had to level the playing field so he installed a few "extra special "upgrades. Now, if push comes to shove, this shining example of American made rolling iron could hang with the best of them.

Thunder chucked his Go Bag onto the rear seat and fired up the T-Bird. That mellow sound of duel exhaust with resonators, filled the shop. He backed her out of the service bay and headed for the street

The shop was located at the corner of Main Street USA and Home Town Boulevard in the small town of River City. It was in the center of town with freeway access close by. He left the parking lot turning right onto Main Street USA. Then headed for the nearest freeway onramp heading East on US 50, also known as the Lincoln highway.



As he entered the onramp he punched it full throttle. The big 390 V8 dropped the tail end down as the rear tires grabbed the road. It looked like they were being launched from the

Kennedy Space center. This Thunderbird could fly.

He merged into traffic and made his way over to the car pool lane. The law says you need at least two passengers to drive in this lane. So, Thunder reached over and put his 390 Boys hat on Lightning and a pair of cheap dark sun glasses.



Thunder looked at Lightning and said: "Good disguise buddy. You are a real sharp dresser now. Just sit tight and make like a passenger".

Lightning took one look at himself in the rearview mirror and barked his approval. Thunder accelerated and off they went. Next stop, Exit 27 and Lakeside City, estimated time of arrival was forty-five minutes.

Thunder said: "Hit the Boom Case Buddy".

Lightning smacked the Boom Case and off they went cruising down the highway to the sounds of ZZ Top singing 'Sharp Dressed Man'.

" Top Coat, Top Hat...Black Shades, white gloves Looking Sharp and lookin' for love They come runnin' just as fast as they can.... **CAUSE EVERY GIRL CRAZY 'BOUT A SHARP DRESSED MAN...**"

Exit 27 was the next one coming up. Thunder hit the sequential turn signals and exited. They got off the freeway and drove into the old section of town. The location of the meeting was shown on the Post Card. But, it wasn't the old historic Rainbow Bridge, as one might think. It was the building shown in the far background of the photo. This was standard procedure when this type of communication was utilized to setup a meet. It was always the building in the far background, and in this case it was the old City Hall on Sutter Street.

Thunder and Lightning rolled up into the parking lot of City Hall. They were a bit early as Thunder had planned. He wanted to get the lay of the land and to find the best tactical spot to park. Something that would give him the full view of the front of the building.

He found one under a shade tree that sheltered them from the blazing sun and was somewhat concealed from view by a row of hedges. It faced directly towards the front steps of the building. From this vantage point he could see everybody coming or going without sticking out like a sore thumb.

Thunder and Lightning just sat there and people watched for a while. Then he saw his contact person step from around the corner of the building and stand directly under the plaque emblazoned with the City emblem. Thunder recognized him. It was Agent Gene Pool from the Northern Division of the Department Of Protection, Enforcement and Security (DOPES). Thunder thought this must really be big if they sent one of their best DOPES to meet with him.



Thunder looked at Lightning and said: "I'll be needing my hat and glasses back buddy. You stay here and Bird watch."

He got out of car and walked up the stairs to the front of the building and stood next to Agent Pool.

Agent Pool recognized Thunder right away by his signature 390 Boy's hat, custom made Rayban shades, and his huge Pop Thomas style stach.

Agent Pool just looked straight ahead not acknowledging Thunder.

Then he spoke: "Who's the leader of the band, who is made for you and me?"

Thunder replied: "Mickey Mouse. Mickey Mouse."

Agent Pool: “Sorry for all the formalities Thunder but protocol is demanded here. We can’t take any chances on this one. That’s why we reached out to you. We have to stay off the books and out of the lime light while we conduct this investigation.”.

Thunder: “Sounds intriguing. So, what’s all the hub bub, Bub?”.

Agent Gene Pool began by telling Thunder that a hidden chamber had been discovered, totally by accident by a local amateur archeologist. He stopped talking for a moment and looked at his note pad for the name, then continued – a Professor Dr. Hardino.

Apparently, he had been exploring the area that had been exposed by the lowering of the water level for the construction of the new dam overflow. They suspected that the recent blasting in the construction zone weakened an exposed outer wall of the chamber and opened a small section of the wall. That’s how it was discovered. When Hardino found it he thought it might be an old mine shaft. But, after he entered and saw what was inside he immediately reported it back to the Army Corp Of Engineers head supervisor, who then contacted my office.

We instantly came up with a ‘Fake News Story’ and shut down the operation and put both the Supervisor and Professor, Dr. Hardino on ice. Until we get a handle on what this is we’re keeping a lid on it.

Thunder: “What the hell did you find a UFO?”

Then Agent Pool pulled out a photo from his inside sport coat pocket and said: “All I can show you for now is this.”.

Thunder took one look at the photo and said: “I can vouch for Hardino. Get him out now and I mean right now! Tell him I said hello.

Agent Pool: “Okay, no problem. Take it easy. What about the Army Corp Engineer Supervisor? You want him too?”.

Thunder: “Don’t know him – don’t need him – Can’t vouch for him - He’s all yours.”.

Thunder knew the find was big – real big. He was thinking it was like the proverb says, a picture is worth a thousand words. This picture could fill a library full of words and then some.

Taking the picture from Agent Pool he started back towards the car.

He looked at Agent Pool over his shoulder and said: “This meeting is over.”

END EPISODE 2

TO BE CONTINUED.....

COMING NEXT – EPISODE THREE - THE HIDDEN CHAMBER

STAY TUNED.



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RECAP OF EPISODE 2

Thunder has met up with his contact person at the designate meeting place. He is joined by an Agent Gene Pool of the Department Of Protection, Enforcement and Security (DOPES).

Agent Pool gives Thunder the 411 (information) on what was discovered by the esteemed Professor, Dr. Hardino, PHD, ADD. Thunder takes one look at a photo that Agent Pool shows him and knows that the find is big, real BIG! As far as Thunder is concerned the meeting is over at this point and he takes the photo from Agent Pool.

Thunder will need the help from a select group of Thunderbolts and has to get the ball rolling right away. Thunder tells Agent Pool to release the esteemed Professor, Dr. Hardino PHD, ADD immediately from their custody and to make sure to tell him that Thunder say's hello. Little does Agent Pool know, but the esteemed Professor Dr. Hardino, is one of Thunder's many Thunderbolts. Because of his uncanny resemblance to the cowboy in the movie 'Toy story' Dr. Hardino's code name is 'Woody'.

Thunder heads back to the parking lot where Lightning has been waiting and keeping a watchful sharp eye on the T-Bird while he was away.

Let's pick up where we left off.

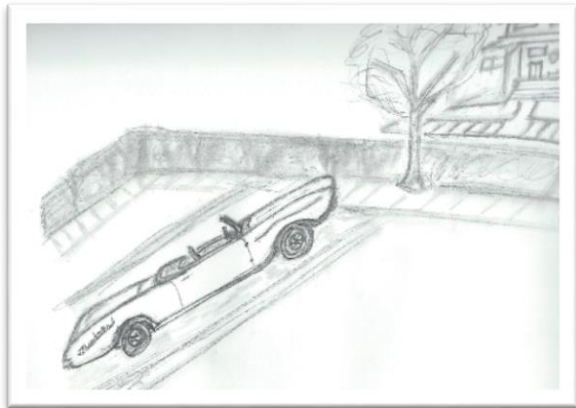
Now on to the action.....

On to Episode 3 – The Hidden Chamber

EPISODE 3– The Hidden Chamber

It was a short walk back to where he had strategically parked the T-bird. It was under a nice shade tree and somewhat concealed from view by a row of hedges. He had told Lightning to stay and 'Bird Watch' while he was gone. He knew no harm would come to the car as long as he had Lightning diligently standing guard.

Thunder walked around the last set of hedge rows and saw the car. Something was amiss. Where was Lightning? He knew Lightning would never abandon his post. Could this be something brought on by the discovery of the hidden chamber? Could they already be in jeopardy this soon?



He approached the car with great caution. His adrenaline was pumping and he was on high alert. His eyes were scanning the entire area in spilt second speed. He was searching, but searching for what? It could be anything that might be out of place, no matter how slight or insignificant.

His hearing was acutely sensitive now to the slightest sound. A sudden twig breaking, the sound of rapidly approaching footsteps. His side to side vision was ready for the flash of metal from a gun barrel or the glint of steel from the blade of a knife. As he slowly crept up to the driver's side of the vehicle, he peered in over the side of the car, ready to pounce. Then he saw it and got his answer!

Lightning was sprawled out in the comforts of the tuck-an-rolled wrap around rear seat of the 1966 T-Bird convertible. Laying there on his back, paws facing up, and completely in deep rem sleep. He must have been dreaming of chasing something. Thunder watched as Lightning laid there yipping and moving his legs as if running.

Thunder stood there and smiled as he watched this blissful sight.

Then he reached in and honked the horn and yelled out: "WAKE THE HELL UP!!"

Lightning flipped over barking and jumped from the rear seat into the front seat and then from the front seat to the rear seat. Leaping out of the car he ran around it as fast as he could go, barking the whole time. It wasn't until his third lap around before he realized that Thunder was standing next to the driver's car door. He hit the skids and stopped running and sat down in front of Thunder panting looking straight at him.

Thunder: "Do you know what the punishment is for sleeping on guard duty fella?"

Lightning just looked at Thunder with drooped ears and gave a single bark in reply.

Thunder: "Well good – I hope so - Now get in the car you knuckle head"

Thunder needed to get back to the shop pronto. He had a team to assemble but first he needed to hook up with Scon (AKA -Sax) at the Corn Doggie Diner. There might be some things he was going to need to outfit his team. Being in a hurry he didn't want to be bogged down in the typical red tape Bureaucrat System, otherwise known as BS.

That's where Sax comes in. He can get things done in a hurry with no questions asked. The man has skills.

The ride back to River City was pretty much uneventful but it gave Thunder time to think about his game plan. His mobile phone started to ring so he hit his hands free button that he had installed in the console.

Thunder: "This is Thunder"

Professor Dr. Hardino: "I was told you said hello".

When Thunder left the meeting with Agent Pool he gave him instructions to tell Dr. Hardino that 'Thunder says hello'. It wasn't to be a cordial greeting from a friend, it was a coded message meant for Dr. Hardino to contact him as soon as he was released. It was message received.

Thunder: "I see Agent Pool delivered my message. Good. So, how was your stay at the Federal Hilton?"

Professor: "It was tolerable, but thanks for getting me out of there. We need to talk Thunder. When can we meet?"

Thunder: "I got some things to nail down first but be ready to move. I want to see this in person. From here on out use your code name (Woody). I will send word with instructions."

Woody: "Will do"

Thunder and Lightning made it back to River City and headed straight to 18th Ave and the Corn Doggy Diner. Thunder parked in the rear lot by the kitchen door. He got out of the T-Bird, told Lightning to 'Bird Watch' and headed in.

Business was slow this time of day, so Sax was sitting in the main dining area practicing on his horn (saxophone).

When he saw Thunder he stopped playing and said: "Thunder – how the hell are ya man – you hungry – want a corn dog?"

Thunder: "I'll take one to go for Lightning. But, I got a list of stuff I need you to get for me right away."

Thunder handed him a list of items he needed. Sax looked it over and said: "Shouldn't be problem – by the end of day OK?"

Thunder: "Perfect, let me know when you got it all. Can't stay, I got to fly."

Thunder headed for the back door through the kitchen. He grabbed up one of corn dogs on the way out. When he got back to the car he saw Lightning taking care of business 'Bird Watching'.

Thunder acted like he was ready to accept the snap of a football from the center. He dropped back and made the pass. The corn dog flew in the air in a perfect spiral to his intended receiver. As the projectile cleared the windshield Lightning leapt up and snagged it.

Thunder shouted out with his arms raised up like a goal post: "Touch down!! Good Boy – Now don't get any on the seats!"

Thunder fired up the Thunderbird and the sound of the big block 390 echoed off the wall of the diner. He put it in drive and punched it. The tires spun-out kicking up a little gravel as he left the parking lot. He was headed for Main Street USA and the Thunder City Garage. He checked his 'six' (behind him) in the rearview and spotted the tail.

Thunder said to himself: "That's Interesting, probably just some DOPES – minor detail"



Thunder made it back to the shop and checked in with Birdie. He got her update on Fat Arm Frankie and Rat Rod Rodger. Both were on board for the custom chop job on the 32 and would be showing up soon to get started.

Thunder told her he would be working out of town for a while. Birdie knew what that meant. Thunder was on a case. She would take charge and oversee the

project from here on out.

Thunder: "Got to take care of business babe".

He went straight upstairs. He already had his team picked but needed to contact each one of them. The first call he made was to Woody and setup the time to meet at the site. They would join up at 0700 hrs. first thing in the morning.

The next morning bright and early Thunder was at the construction site at the job shack of the Army Corp of Engineers. There he met with Woody.



Woody was all dressed in his safari jacket and fedora hat. The hat had one of those elastic bands with a flash light on it. He had his Thunderbolt pin fixed to the snakeskin hat band. He looked part Jungle Jim and Indiana Jones combined.

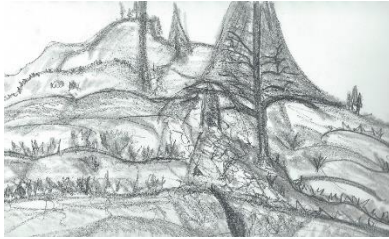
Thunder: "Quite the fashion plate there professor"

Woody: "Real funny Thunder – let's get moving".

Thunder threw his fully stocked gear bag that Sax had provided into the back bed of the six wheeled all terrain Gator.

Thunder said under his breath: "Nice going Sax -The man has skills".

Lightning jumped in and laid down on top of it. Woody took the wheel and off they went. They drove down into the gorge and followed along the river's edge. After about fifteen minutes Woody stopped the vehicle and pointed to the uphill side of the gorge towards the tree line. Thunder was looking up to where he was pointing but could not see anything that remotely looked like an opening.



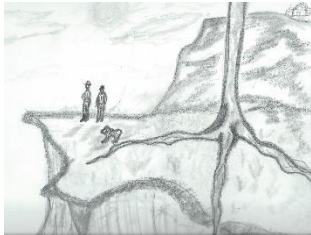
Woody: "We're here. We got to climb now."

Thunder: "I still don't see what you are looking at."

Woody: "I know it's almost invisible from this angle. But, look at that big Digger Pine, it is just below that on the face of the cliff wall. You really can't tell from here but there is a ledge up there.

The crack is just underneath that ledge. A good portion of the hillside collapsed after they drained the water and started blasting."

So the trio ascended up to the top, they had to make several switch backs but the climb was relatively easy. It was more like a steep hike than a true climb.



When they reached the top of the plateau they walked over to where the opening was. Thunder peered over the edge and saw the hole in the wall. He had a puzzled look on his face.

Then he said: "How did you get in there by yourself?"

Woody: "Oh, I used the other entrance."

Thunder: "Other entrance?"

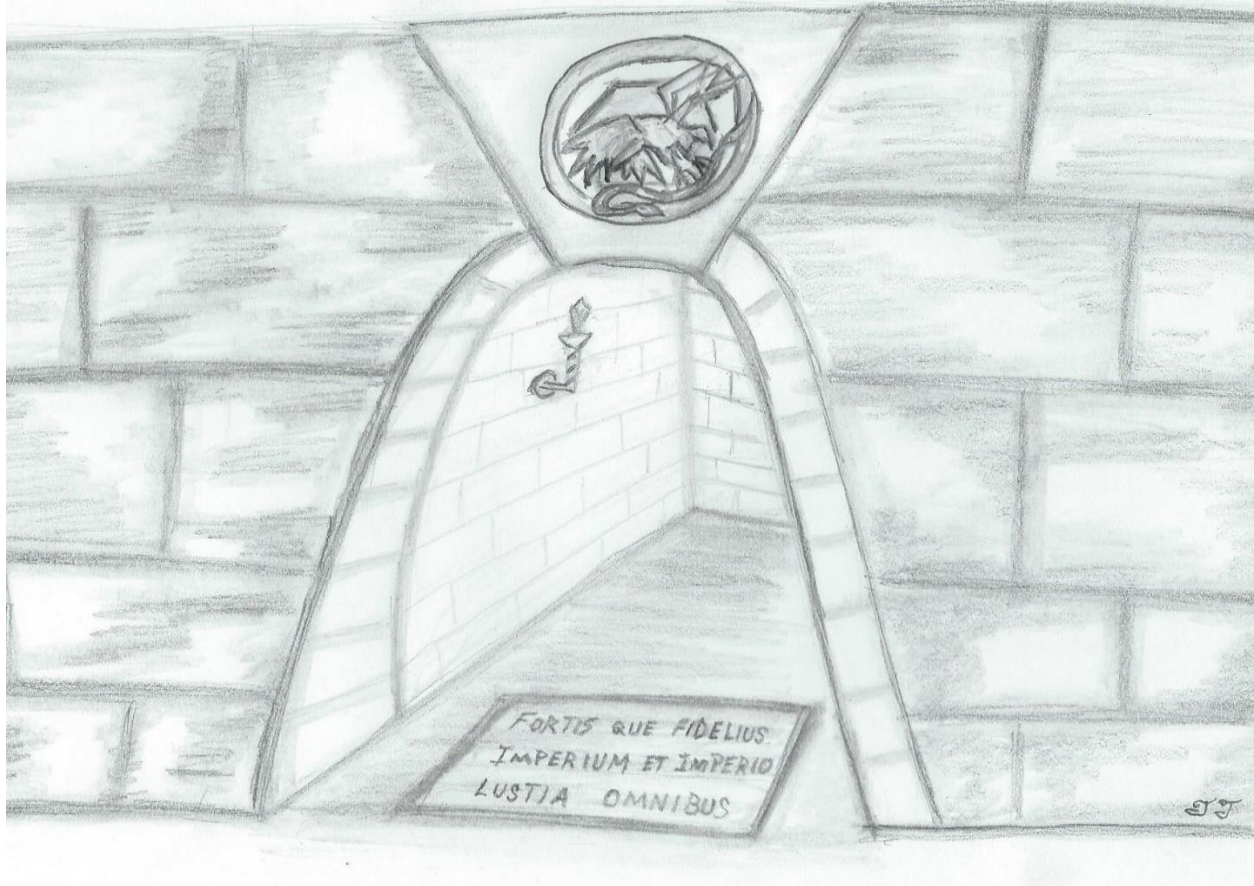
Woody: "Ya, it's just over there behind that clump of manzanita and that granite bolder. It was the crack in the wall that made me think that it might be an old mine shaft. That's what brought me up here in the first place. Then I started looking around and as luck would have it, I discovered this way in.

The opening was totally hidden from view. It wasn't more than a small crawl hole in the rock. It looked more like a den for some kind of animal. They both got down on their hands and knees and squeezed into the opening.

Little did the two men know that they were being watch from across the canyon. A high powered pair of binoculars had been trained on them ever since they left the job shack. They now had the exact location to the entrance to the lost chamber.

Woody clicked on his head lamp and belly crawled along leading the way. It took about five minutes before they came into what appeared to be a hallway. What they had just crawled down was obviously some sort of air shaft that was cut in for ventilation. They stood up and Thunder reached into his bag and pulled out the 6000 lumens Nitecore TM28 flashlight, and clicked it on. The place lit up like a night game at the River Rats stadium.

They followed along down the hallway and stopped short of the entrance to the chamber. Thunder directed the beam straight at the wall. It had a large circular symbol above the entrance carved out of stone with what appeared to be an eagle or hawk, with a snake in its talons. It was beset or framed inside a hexagon shape. On the floor leading into the chamber was an inset stone with words carved into it.



Woody: "Shall I interpret it for you Thunder?"

Thunder: "No need Professor. I think I can handle it. Let's see.."

Fortius Quo Fidelus – Strength Through Loyalty

Imperium et Imperio - An Empire within an Empire

Lustita Omnibus – Justice for all

Woody: "I'm impressed Thunder. Where did you learn the old Latin?"

Thunder: "Oh, just something I picked up during my misguided youth and the classroom of Sister Mary Whoopurassia, from the school of The Blessed Saints of Come Hell or High Water."

They headed into the chamber. It was a large room with six sides. There appeared to only be one-way in. Once inside they stood there taking it all in when all of a sudden Lightning started barking the alarm. They were no longer alone. The sound of voices and the chambering of a round in a Kimber 1911, 45 cal. semi-auto pistol, could be heard echoing off the stone walls. They were getting close.....

END EPISODE 3

What are Thunder and the Esteemed Professor Dr. Hardino PHD, ADD, (AKA Woody) going to do!!

Are they trapped like rats in a box, or should we say Hexagon??

TO BE CONTINUED.....

COMING NEXT – EPISODE FOUR - THE FALL OUT

STAY TUNED.

(Thunderbolts – secret message attached – send two thumbs up for further instructions)



Tom Thunder



ADVENTURES

**THE
SECRET SOCIETY**

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“Keep Jumping Fences and Stay One Step Ahead Of The Yard Dogs”

Pop Thomas

THE CAST

1. Tom Thunder – Man of Action
2. Birdie – Thunders Gal Pal and Business Partner
3. Lightning – Thunder’s Loyal Side Kick and Wonder Dog
4. The Thunderbolts – A select group of experts in a multitude of disciplines and dedicated to the mission.

GUEST STARS

- Thunderbolt Woody – The Esteemed Professor, Dr. Hardino PHD, ADD

RECAP OF EPISODE 3

Let's pick up where we left off....

Our heroes have located a concealed air shaft connected to a hallway that leads to the 'Hidden Chamber'. They use this air shaft as an entry point tunnel to make access to the subterranean compound. Little do they know they are under surveillance by an unknown team located across the river canyon. By using a high powered pair of binoculars equipped with a GPS range finder, they are able to pinpoint the exact location of the tunnel entrance.

At the end of this air shaft/tunnel it drops into a hallway. Thunder and his sidekick Lightning, along with Thunderbolt Woody, now move along the hallway until they come to the entrance of a chamber. They cross the threshold and are now standing in a large hexagon shaped room. It appears there is only one-way in and one-way out.

Suddenly, Lightning begins to sound the alarm as his acute hearing detects intruders. The sound of the chambering of a round into a Kimber semi-auto pistol, is clearly heard as the slide action slams shut on the weapon.

Thunder and the Esteemed Dr. Hardino, PHD,ADD – code name Woody, can detect voices coming from behind them in the hallway. They're trapped with an unknown number of armed adversaries blocking their only retreat. Thunder needs to act fast.....

ARE OUR HERO'S DOOMED!!!

ARE THEY TRAPPED LIKE RAT'S IN A BOX OR SHOULD WE SAY HEXAGON!!!!

Let's find out.

Now on to the action.....

On to Episode 4 – The Fall Out

EPISODE 4 – THE FALL OUT

Thunder did a quick scan of the area. Then he did a mental evaluation of what equipment he had in his Go Bag. He told Lightning to 'quiet- and guard'. Lightning immediately stop barking and ran towards the entrance and laid flat ready to pounce. He looked at Woody whose eyes were as big as 9 inch pie pans and was starting to hyper-ventilate.

Thunder said: "Easy brother – I got a plan. Just do what I say and we'll get through this."

Woody: "Plan – You got a plan – That's good – That's good. What's the plan? What's the plan?"

Thunder knew he only had a few seconds before their unwanted guests would be crashing the party. He saw what looked like some kind of fire pit in the middle of the room. He led Woody over to it and told him to get inside and duck down behind the wall. He handed him the 6000 lumens, Nitecore TM28 flashlight. He set it to strobe light function and then turned it off. He instructed Woody to point it towards the doorway and when he shouted "NOW", to click it back on and keep it pointed at whoever was standing there.

Thunder had his GO BAG in his hand and set it down and unzipped the left-hand side pocket. He reached in and grabbed a hand full of miniature flash bang pellets. He was thinking to himself- Thanks Sax- The man has skills.

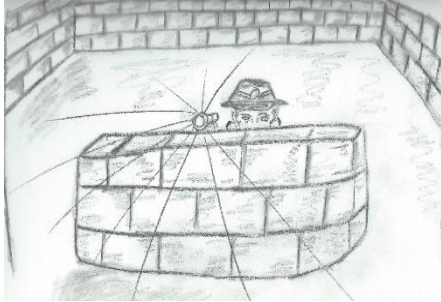
He was banking on the surprise counter attack using the strobe light to disorient and overcome his opponents. They obviously were not aware of the Thunder and Lightning Storm they were about to be in.

Unless, he missed his guess they would be wearing infrared low level light, night scope head gear. Even if they weren't the direct blast of 6000 lumens to the retina was enough to temporarily blind them, giving him the chance to cross the room and take them out. He would start the party off with a little head fake by tossing the flash bang pellets to the far side of the room. Hey, fireworks are always fun at a party.

There they were, all in the dark waiting for what was to come next. They didn't have to wait long. The first one entered the room and as Thunder had surmised he was wearing night vision head gear. He was followed by three more. Perfect Thunder thought – we have a PAR (Personnel Accountability Report).

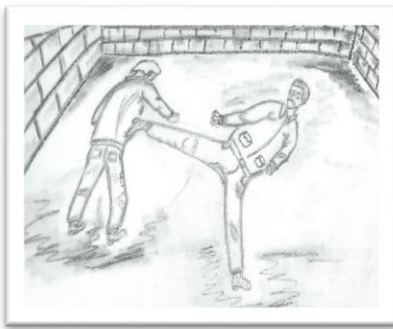
Thunder tossed the flash bang pellets up high into the air and as they began randomly hitting the floor it looked like the Fourth of July.

They all turned towards the sound and Thunder shouted out: "NOW!"



Woody's head popped up from behind the cover of the fire pit wall and clicked on the Nitecore TM28 flashlight. He hit his target with all 6000 lumens. The strobe light effect made them look like they were in some kind of macabre disco. The men screamed as they grabbed for the head gear and tried to cover their burning eyes. A split second thought about Woody ran through Thunder's mind – The Man Has Skills

Thunder covered the distance faster than a Jack Rabbit at a Bob Cat convention. He was in a full on Gosoku Ryu Karate charge. He took the first guy out with an Oi-zuki (Lunge Punch). He connected with the man's nose and dropped him right there.



That left him in perfect position to do a Yoko Geri (Side Kick), into the ribcage of the second man who was standing behind the first guy. Thunder delivered the kick and then spun on the ball of his foot. He now faced him straight on and as he was doubling over from the massive blow to the ribcage, Thunder hit him with a Tate hiji-ate (Upward Elbow strike). He smashed the man's jaw and he dropped to the floor unconscious.

The third man was over more to the left so Thunder did a Mawashi Geri (Roundhouse kick), hitting the man on the side of the head with the heel of his foot. He stumbled and dropped to one knee, paused for a moment and then collapsed.

As the fourth man raised up his pistol, Thunder hit his hand with a Cyaku Mawashi Geri (Reverse Roundhouse kick), knocking it out of his hand. Then stepping forward, Thunder performed a Kakomi (Front Thrust kick) the most powerful of all the kicks. He hit his target dead center of the man's chest, knocking him straight backwards and sending him smashing into the stone wall. Upon impact he bounced off and face planted in front of Thunder.

Thunder heard the words: "Hand's Up!"

There was an unexpected fifth player on the field. He must have been waiting in the wings out of sight. Now with the drop on Thunder, he told Woody to lose the light. Woody did as he was ordered, and then slowly climbed out of the fire pit and stood next to Thunder.

Thunder stood there next to Woody with his hands up but had a huge smile on his face. The man looked around the room at his downed team members.

Then he said: "You think this is funny Thunder?"

Thunder replied: "No, not at all"

Gun man: "Then what's with the smirky smile?"

Thunder: "Because, I know something you don't"



Just then the man with the gun felt his wrist being crushed in the lock jaws of Lightning. He was being pulled down to the ground. The more he struggled the harder Lightning squeezed his wrist in his teeth. The man screamed out in pain and turned loose of the gun.

Once on the ground Lightning stood on the man's back and clamped the back of his neck with his mouth. The man froze as he felt the sharp canine teeth

against his jugular veins.

Thunder walked over and picked up the gun. Just as he suspected, it was a Kimber model 1911, 45 caliber. It makes a very distinctive sound when its cocked and that was the sound he heard coming from the hallway.

Woody followed suit and went about collecting up the firearms that were all over the floor. Some of the men were starting to wake up and were groaning in pain. Woody grabbed out his roll of nylon para cord from his safari jacket pocket. He started tying up the four men Thunder had knocked out.

Thunder stood over the man on the floor, still under Lightning's control, and looked down and said: "Don't you know that when you call down the Thunder Storm you're going to get Lightning too."

Woody just stood there and rolled his eyes at hearing that one. But, he had to admit the man had skills – serious skills!

Thunder: "Who are you guys anyway?"

The man on the floor was afraid to speak with Lightning's jaws clamped around his neck so he made a hand gesture pointing at the dog.

Thunder gave the release command and Lightning let go of the man's neck, but continued to stand on his back, pinning him down.

Thunder: "Start talking"

Man: "I am Agent Dan Bury from Headquarters."

Thunder: "Headquarters? What Headquarters?"

Agent Bury: "You know – THE Headquarters?"

Thunder: "Never heard of you. Who sent you?"

Agent Bury: "We were sent by the Department Of Protection, Enforcement and Security, to guard this place. We were alerted by motion sensors that an entry had occurred. We didn't know it was you and nobody informed us you were coming today."

Thunder: "Sounds like a typical D.O.P.E.S - 'Bass Ackwards' - operation."

Agent Bury: "Look Thunder how about you turn my guys loose and we pick up and get out of here. No harm - no foul – no fall out."

Thunder agreed. The team picked up their gear and limped out with Lightning following behind as escort. Thunder and Woody took the time to finish doing their survey of the chamber. Woody photographed everything in the room. Thunder was getting an uneasy feeling. It was his gut instinct telling him it was time to beat feet and get out of there.

They grabbed up all the equipment and headed for the tunnel.

Woody: "Thunder – who is THE headquarters?"

Thunder: "Beats me, I never heard of them before. I think the guy made it up. I doubt they even exist."

Woody: "What! You acted like you knew who they were! Then why did you let them go?"

Thunder: "Ya, I played along with it. I didn't want him to think I was wise to his ruse. Think about it – what were we going to do with five prisoners, that and I wanted to get this survey done ASAP. If we had called in for help that would be the end of our time in here. Besides, they were obviously under orders from somebody, and they didn't want to take the chance of being exposed. It was to their benefit to clear out in a hurry. I knew they wouldn't be back. But, that's not what bothers me."

Woody: "What then?"

Thunder: "Two things. One, did you notice the brand on his forearm?"

Woody: "I did- so what, a lot of people have tattoos and things these days."

Thunder: "True, but his matches the symbol above the doorway into the chamber. A bird of prey framed by a hexagon. I don't believe in coincidence's. That means something."

Woody: "Wow! I didn't see that. What's the second thing?"

Thunder: "He used the term 'Fall Out'"

TO BE CONTINUED.....

END EPISODE 4

WHAT HAVE THUNDER AND THUNDERBOLT WOODY STUMBLED INTO?

WHO WERE THOSE GUY'S?

WHAT DOES 'FALL OUT' MEAN – IS THERE MORE TROUBLE ON THE HORIZON?

STAY TUNED MORE ACTION TO COME IN EPISODE 5

NOW FOR THIS WEEKS SECRET MESSAGE – GO TO THE FAN CLUB PAGE- USE TEXT NUMBER FOR FUTHER INSTRUCTIONS. TEXT TO SAY – 'EPISODE 4'.



Tom Thunder



ADVENTURES

THE SECRET SOCIETY

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- Thunderbolt Woody – The Esteemed Professor, Dr. Hardino PHD, ADD

RECAP OF EPISODE 4

Let's pick up where we left off....

Woody has met up with Thunder at the job shack of the Army Corps of Engineers. From there he takes Thunder out to the location of the find and where the entrance of the hidden chamber is located. Unbeknownst to them, they are under surveillance and being watch from across the canyon by some unknown observers with high powered binoculars.

While inside the hidden chamber they are surprised by unwelcome intruders. They are trapped with no way out. They are out gunned and out manned. Thunder thinks fast and puts together a counter attack plan. With his loyal side kick Lightning, and the help of Thunderbolt Woody, they pull the '**ol' switch -a – roo'**, and take down their armed adversaries.

After the scuffle, Thunder sorts out who the intruders were and why they were following them. The leader identified himself as Agent Dan Bury, from THE Headquarters. Thunder plays along with the man's ruse and lets them all leave.

Thunders gut feeling tells him they need to get out of there quick and get back to Thunder City Garage to sort this all out.

Thunder points out to Woody that the brand on Agent Dan Bury's arm is the same symbol that is **etched in stone** above the door of the hidden chamber. But, what really has the hair standing up on Thunder's neck is the term Agent Bury used - "**FALL OUT**".

WHAT HAVE OUR TWO HEROS FALLEN INTO?

WHO WERE THESE GUYS REALLY AND WHO DO THEY WORK FOR?

IS THERE REALLY A - T.H.E. HEADQUARTERS?

WHO IS WATCHING THEM FROM ACROSS THE CANYON KEEPING THEM UNDER SURVEILLANCE? ARE THEY FRIEND OR FOE?

Let's find out.

Now on to the action.....

On to Episode 5 – The Discovery

EPISODE 5– THE DISCOVERY

Thunder, Woody and Lightning are headed for the one and only doorway out of the hidden chamber. Thunder stops short to take one more look around before they leave. He notices something that catches his trained eye and makes a mental note of it. There was no time to lollygag around and they needed to get out of there pronto. His gut feeling was telling him they were still in danger. Sticking around to investigate it at this time was not an option.

They retraced their steps back the way they had come to the air shaft that leads to the outside. Agent Bury claimed his assault team was alerted to Thunder and Woody's presence inside the chamber when they had tripped one of the motion detectors that they had installed. Thunder had been scanning the area for any signs of these motion detectors or hidden cameras along the pathway as they walk along.

Thunder didn't spot anything obvious, but that's not really saying much with what they have today. The miniaturization of these types of devices could be the size of a dime and be made to look like a small pebble.

But, two could play that game. Thunder reached into his GO BAG and pulled out his own custom made top of the line wireless WiFi motion sensors with built in low level light cameras. They were about the size of a cat eye marble. He grabbed a handful and dropped them like breadcrumbs along the pathway. Anybody or anything would now be captured on "Thunder Vision". Alan Funt would have been jealous.

Once outside they scrambled back down to where they had left the Gator. They made it back to the job shack. Thunder tells Woody to hit the books and find anything he can about what they had seen inside the chamber and who may have been the occupants. He also wants to see all the photos that Woody had taken of the area. Woody and Thunder part ways.

Woody: I'll get on it right away. I will attach all the photos and send them to you via email."

Thunder: "Perfect. Let's plan on getting together later tonight and go over what you find out. I will give you call later."

Thunder and Lightning jumped into the T-Bird and punch it. Unless Thunder misses his guess he would be followed again. So, Thunder wanted to make it easy for them to spot him leaving by kicking up a little dust on the way out of the parking lot.

It didn't take long. Even before he crossed the Dam Road heading for the freeway he spotted the three car tail.

Thunder said out loud: "That's interesting"

He diverted into Old Town Lakeside. He wanted to find an alley where he could pull into and check for a bug. He knew the perfect place on Woolen Street. As he came up to a red light on

Sutter Street he stopped. The lead tail car was about five cars back. Thunder was the second car in the line behind a sweet little old gray haired lady in her 1980 tan Camry.

He looked over at Lightning and said: "Hold on! It's time to fly."



Thunder put his foot down hard on the brake pedal and pushed the throttle down until it hit metal. The all American Made, big block 390 V8 roared as the RPMs ramped up. This bird of prey wanted to be released from its restraints.

The tach started to hit red line '**Danger Zone**' when Thunder took his foot off the break.

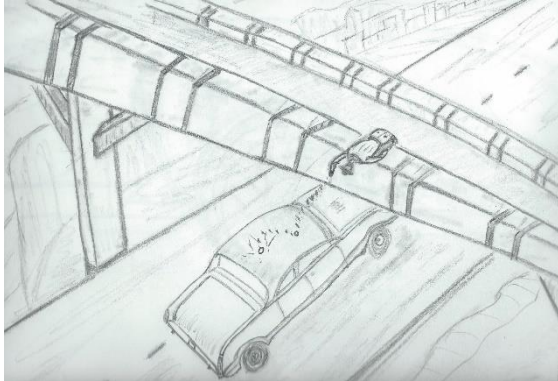
The Thunderbirds rear tires spun and smoked as it fishtailed out of the lineup and into oncoming traffic. Thunder did a full EVOC (Emergency Vehicle Operations Course) maneuver and slid past the now oncoming approaching cars. Just to be a little more dramatic he pushed his 'cover smoke canister', that he had custom equipped the car with for just such occasions.



The lead tail car was lost in the ensuing chaos at the intersection. They were unable to move and blocked in by the traffic jam. It took about fifteen minutes for the smoke to clear out and that was plenty of time for Thunder to get to the alley. He pulled in, and after a quick search he found the tracking device. It was about the size of a quarter and magnetic. They had placed it on the inside of the real USA steel metal, real chrome bumper, of the T-Bird.

Now what to do with it. Then it hit him. He told Lightning to stay with the car and 'Bird Watch'. He ran down to the end of the alley and out on to the pedestrian bridge that crosses over Sutter street. The tail car would have to drive under it to get past the traffic jam. He got there just in the nick of time and made it out to the center of the bridge. There he spotted the lead tail car, it was heading right where he wanted it. His timing would have to be perfect.

Then as luck would have it the stop light at the intersection turned red and all the cars came to a halt. That put his mark directly below him.



Taking careful aim he dropped the device over his target saying: “Bombs away’.

It bounced when it landed and began to roll off. Then it started to wobble and fell over, coming to rest and firmly attaching itself to the roof top of the car.

Thunder said: “Nice – direct hit!”.

He jogged back to the T-Bird and made a U-Turn and drove out of the alley. Now keeping off the main drag and taking only the neighborhood side streets, he headed back out of town.

His plan had worked. The other two cars that were part of the procession following him, now honed in on the signal being transmitted from the tracker device attached to their own lead vehicle. They literally drove around in circles through the town chasing their own tail. They didn’t figure it out for hours.

Now that Thunder had successfully ditched his tail and sent them on a sightseeing tour of Old Town Lakeside, he was free to head back to the nest.

Thunder said out loud: “Wow! It’s been one hell-of-a morning! Hidden Chambers, fights with bad guys, car chases – What’s next?”.

Lightning just looked at Thunder with his big dopey eyes and huge tongue flapping in the wind. Then he let out a bark as if to agree with him.

It was pushing 1:00 and the temperature was pushing back at 101 degrees. It was going to be another hot time in the Ol’ Town today.

Thunder said: “We need some traveling tunes. - Hit the ‘**Boom Case**’ Buddy”.

Without hesitation Lightning smacked the ‘ON’ button with his paw to the new addition of the ‘Boom Case’ – (The Boom Case is a portable sound system made here in the USA). As he did the sounds of the ‘Lovin Spoonful’ filled the air.....

**“Hot town, summer in the city -- Back of my neck getting dirty and gritty ----
Been down, isn't it a pity --- Doesn't seem to be a shadow in the city.....**

**All around, people looking half dead---
Walking on the sidewalk, hotter than a match head.....”**

Thunder had to laugh after he heard that lyric line - **“Hotter Than A Match Head”**. He was sure those guys he left behind chasing their own tail were going to be mad as hell, and ‘Hotter Than a Match Head’, - once they figured out what happened to them.



The hour ride back into River City was uneventful. Thunder got off at Exit 30 B and he noticed the population sign – River City was growing. It listed the current population at **362,636**. Thunder smiled as he gave that number some consideration.

Then he said: “River City you are my kind of Town and my kind of Lady, if you were a lady, all **36-26-36** of ya.”.

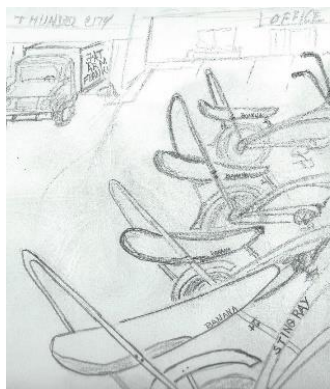
Next stop was Thunder City Garage at the corner of Home Town Blvd. and Main Street USA.

Thunder pulled into the parking lot and spotted Fat Arm Frankie’s’ mobile service truck. Rat Rod Rodger and Fat Arm Frankie were unloading tools, equipment, and sheet metal for the 32 Ford’s chop job.

Birdie’s 1968 little Red Corvette was parked in front of the office. In the bike rack were four Stingray bicycles. That meant that the Keyhole Gang was there doing their chores and helping out Birdie. That was what kept these future “Captains Of Industry” out of serious mischief.



“All’s well at Thunder City Garage”, Thunder said to himself.



He walked into the office and upon entering Birdie looked up from her desk. She looked cool, calm and collected. Not to mention gorgeous as all get out.

Then in rapid succession, as if she was on the firing line, she said:

“Thunder! It’s about time you got back!! -- The phone has been ringing off the hook for you.-- There have been two thug types in here asking questions about you.-- Fat Arm and Rat Rod have been bringing stuff over all morning.-- I got the gang doing the yard work out back and sorting parts.-- We need to get to COSTCO we are running low of office supplies. ---You need to sign this so I can pay the vendors.....”.

Birdie always got a little anxious when she knew Thunder was working on a case. She tends to talk fast.

Then she took a long deep breath and calmly asked: “So, how was your morning?”.

Thunder: “Oh you know, the same ol six, seven’s, eight’s and nine’s. Nothing big.”

Birdie didn’t believe a word of it, but she was relieved that he was back and seemed to be no worse for wear. She looked around for Lightning, he was laying over in the corner of the office licking himself.

Birdie took one look at that stood up and pointed her finger towards the door and said: “Lightning! That’s enough of that buster! Outside with that!”

Lightning dropped his ears and slinked out the door into the shop.

Thunder said laughing: “Ahh – It’s good to be home.”

For the next couple of hours Thunder spent time getting caught up on everything in the shop. He questioned Birdie about the two thug types, and what questions they had asked. By her description it sounded like the two guys he saw following him the day before when he left the Corn Doggie Diner. He didn’t believe they were part of the group he had tangled with earlier in Lakeside. These dudes sounded a bit rougher around the edges. He wasn’t going to take anything for granted so he asked Fat Arm and Rat Rod to stay close.

His cell phone was pinging like a low octane gas mix in a high performance engine. It was the Esteemed Professor, Doctor Hardino, PHD, ADD (AKA Woody). He was sending the photos he had taken at the hidden chamber.

Thunder went upstairs and fired up his computer monitor. He downloaded all the photos and started to print them off. He got out his magnifying glass and started examining the area that had caught his eye.

Then Thunder stopped and looked up from the photo. Then he looked back down at it again.

Then he said: **“HOLY MOLY !!!”**

Just then he got a text from Woody, it read. ‘I think I’ve DISCOVERED something of interest – we need to talk!’.

Thunder replied ---‘I’m on my way now!’.

TO BE CONTINUED.....

END EPISODE 5

SEE NEXT PAGE..

**WHAT HAS THUNDER SEEN IN THE PHOTO THAT MAKES HIM SAY – ‘HOLLY MOLLY’
???**

WHAT IS THUNDER BOLT WOODY’S - ‘DISCOVERY’ ???

WHO ARE THE TWO THUGS THAT VISITED BIRDIE????

STAY TUNED MORE ACTION TO COME IN EPISODE 6

NOW FOR THIS WEEKS SECRET MESSAGE – “TAHW RAEY RAC SI EHT DRIBREDNUHT”

If you can crack this secret code send your answer on the official Thunder Bolt email -

thunderboltfanclub@gmail.com

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK !!

Want to know more about “Boom Case” – check out their website - www.TheBoomCase.com

They are made in Sacramento, CA by local homegrown boys. Very cool !!





Tom Thunder



ADVENTURES

**THE
SECRET SOCIETY**

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The Thunder Bolts – A select group of experts in a multitude of disciplines and dedicated to the mission.

GUEST STARS

- Thunder Bolt Woody – The Esteemed Professor, Dr. Hardino PHD, ADD
- Jack Crevalle – Detective first grade, River City PD

RECAP OF EPISODE 5

Let's pick up where we left off....

After wrapping up their expedition into the hidden chamber Thunder and Woody part ways. Woody is heading back to his personal library to research his extensive archives and get as much information as he can regarding the former occupants of the chamber.

Thunder and Lightning pick up a tail immediately upon leaving the job shack of the Army Corps of Engineers. After a series of driving moves to evade his unwanted appendage, he successfully pulls the '**O! Switch – A- Roo**'. He is able to place the very same tracking disc on the lead car that was following him. They now chase their own tail, as Thunder and Lightning head back to River City, both tail and care free.

Back at the Thunder City Garage, Birdie brings him up to speed on what has been happening while he was off on his adventure. Birdie tells Thunder two thugs were in asking about him. Thunder asks Fat Arm and Rat Rod Rog to stay close for a while until he sorts it out.

It doesn't take long after he arrives back at the shop when he receives via email, all the photos that Woody had taken inside the hidden chamber. Thunder proceeds to examine them, especially one area in particular that caught his trained eye. Under high magnification Thunder spots something and exclaims "**Holly Moly!**" Just then his phone rings. It's Woody and he says he has 'discovered' something and needs Thunder to come over right away!!

WHAT HAS THE PROFESSOR, DR. HARDINO, PHD,ADD - AKA 'WOODY' DISCOVERED?

WHO ARE THE TWO THUG TYPES ASKING ABOUT THUNDER?

WHAT DID THUNDER SPOT IN THE PHOTOGRAPH THAT MAKES HIM SAY "Holly Moly"!

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG NOW?

Let's find out.

Now on to the action.....

On to Episode 6 – The History Lesson

EPISODE 6 - THE HISTORY LESSON

Thunder hangs up the phone. He folds up the printed copies of the photos he printed off and stuffed them into the inside pocket of his jacket. He runs down the stairs and into to office area and right out the front door. Lightning who had been snoozing by the shop door popped his head up as Thunder passed him.

Thunder looked at him and said: "Load up".

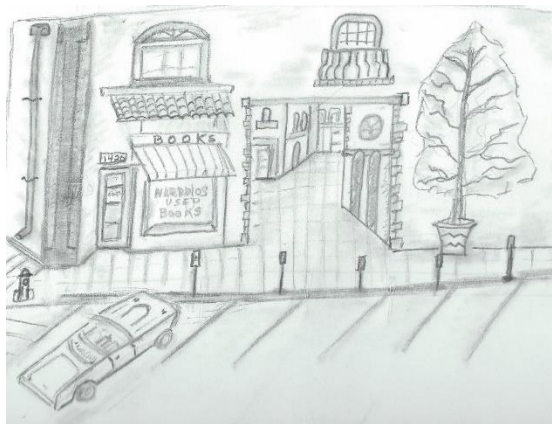
Lightning ran for the car, jumped in and was riding shotgun. Birdie was watching the whole thing and knew Thunder was in a hurry and didn't have time to chat. He fired up the 'T-Bird' and the big block V8, 390 responded with a roaring growl. Both Fat Arm Frankie and Rat Rod Rodger looked up when they heard that 'All American' sound. Thunder waved to them as he took a hard left on Hometown Boulevard and headed for Hardino's place.

Just up the street were the two thug types that Birdie had described to Thunder. These were the same two mooks Thunder had made following him after he left the Corn Doggie Diner the day before. They had been watching the place and when they saw Thunder leave, they started to follow him. They made it to the first stop light when a local PD patrol car hit them with their light bar rollers.

Thunder laughed and said to himself: "Thanks Jack"

Thunder had called in a favor from his old pal from the River City PD, one Detective First Grade, Jack Crevalle. He didn't have time to waste on these two Yahoos, he knew they weren't involved with this operation. So he had Jack arrange to pick them up. Detective 1st grade Jack Crevalle, would get to the bottom of it for him and find out why they were hanging around.

Now that Thunder was clear of this nuisance he headed straight for Hardino's Used Books. Hardino needed a way to offset his passion for collecting old books and manuscripts so he opened up a used book store for a tax write off.



The book store was located in the old part of town in Cap City. It had a certain charm about it but not a lot of foot traffic. The best thing about this location was it was cheap rent. The Tower of Books didn't have anything to worry about with competition coming from here.

It was after 6:00 pm, so the parking meters were free. Thunder pulled in and parked right out in front of the book store. Lightning was sleeping in the back seat so Thunder decided to leave sleeping dogs lay and headed for the front door. He saw that the lights were still on upstairs in the shop. He had to ring the doorbell several times before Woody came down to let him in.

The inside of the shop had that musty smell of old damp paper. The store shelves were piled high with old books, magazines, periodicals, documents, old maps, postcards, you name it, he had it.

Thunder: "So, what did you find out?"

Woody: "Let's go upstairs to my office. You are not going to believe what I found."

Both of them walked up the stairs to Woody's 'office'. It was a huge open space. It was as if a warehouse and a library got together over a cheap bottle of gin and hatched part museum and part storage unit as an offspring.



In the center of the room was a table with an open book on it. The book was the size of a Huckelberry Finn raft, all it needed was a paddle.

Woody pointed to the open page. There was the exact emblem that was etched inside the chamber and also branded on Agent Bury's forearm.

Woody proceeded to tell Thunder that there was a secret society of men that had come into being sometime after gold was discovered in Coloma in 1848.

This was their book of rules describing the mission and philosophy of the Secret Society. It contained the membership ceremony and the oath taken by its members.

Thunder: "How did you come by this book? I mean if it's all secret – how did you get it?"

Woody: "Believe it or not, it was part of an estate sale. I buy up all the old books I can get my hands on."

Thunder: "Impressive – The man has skills".

Woody: "But, that's not all. I also started looking into who might have owned the property where the chamber was discovered, but I was coming up empty. There is no official legal deed on file. So, on a hunch, I started to dig through some of the archived mining claims registered in the area during the gold rush and 'BINGO'! I found it.

Thunder looked at Woody and said: "Okay - So, give me the Cliffs Notes version."

Woody: "Well, this particular group of men, six to be exact, and who would later become known as the 'Big Six', had taken out a claim on the land where the hidden chamber is located. They struck it rich and were literally sitting on a gold mine.

But, as the gold played out they needed to go deeper and deeper to chase the gold vein. Not having the expertise, they hired Cornish Miners, who were skilled in tunneling deep into the hard rock of the hillside. I believe it was these very miners who they used to construct the hidden chamber.

As gold started pouring out of the mine, they went deeper and deeper. The stamping mills were going 24 hours a day crushing the ore. They had amassed a fortune and along with it power. They expanded their empire and had their hands into everything.

But, gold wasn't the only thing pouring out from the mine. Rumors of a secret society of men plotting to overthrow the government, and start their own sovereign state, started to spread throughout the mining camps. The rumor was, it was the Big Six. Their trademark was an eagle with its talons wrapped around a snake, framed by a six sided hexagon. Each side of the hexagon represented a member of the 'Big Six'. That would also explain the configuration of the six sided hexagon shape of the chamber itself.

Then it seems they fell off the map. Everything stopped in 1906. The mine was closed and left abandoned, the original gold claim expired. The stories of the 'Secret Society' just faded away."

Thunder: "So what happened in 1906"

Woody: "Well... a little seismic event known as 'The Great 1906 San Francisco Earthquake'. Not many people know, but this whole area shook and shifted as well. I came up with a theory and started researching old geological reports of the area from back then.

I think I might have the answer."

Thunder: "Let's hear it"

Woody: "Well, from looking at the geological survey drawings prepared after the quake in this area, there was a huge shift in a nearby underground water aquifer. This shift in the underground channel cracked opened directly into the tunnels and mine shafts, flooding them permanently.

There was no way they could pump out an entire underground river. Their golden goose was dead. That's what shut down the mining operation. They lost all their money and influence, and as near as I can tell the 'Secret Society' disbanded and disappeared.

But, in 1914 during World War I, they seemed to have reappeared and re-invented themselves. They became black marketers and sold arms and ammunition to the highest bidder. During the war they increased their fortunes and their membership grew once again. This carried over into WW II, but when that war ended they had again disappeared and covered their tracks. The trail runs cold after that."

Thunder: "Humm, maybe even colder than you think. But, I got a question? If the shafts and tunnels were flooded by the shift of the aquifer. Then why is it dry now?"

Woody: "Two things. First, I believe there was another seismic event in 1989, the Loma Prieta earthquake. It shifted the aquifer back to its original path and channeled the underground river back to its original course. Second, once they drained the lake level down and started blasting in the area the exposed outer wall of the chamber split open, and drained the tunnels."

Thunder: "Interesting. So, who owns the property now?"

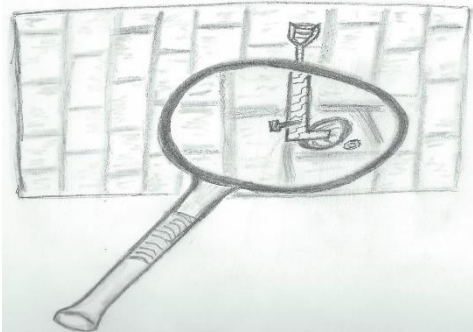
Woody: "The Federal Government owns all of it. They took the land by eminent domain when they built the Dam in 1955. They did lease back a large section that sits on top of the hill directly above the canyon where the entry hole was found. The property is being used as a winery and vineyard. It is owned by a Corporation. Not much else is available on it.

So what did you find out?"

Thunder pulled out the photos he had in his pocket. He showed the one of main interest to Woody. It was a picture of one of the six walls inside the chamber. Woody stood there looking at the photo but didn't really see anything in particular.

He looked up at Thunder and said: "What am I looking for? I'm not seeing it."

Thunder picked up the magnifying glass off the table and handed it to Woody. He then pointed to the area he was concerned about. Woody put the glass up over the photo and began to examine the area where Thunder was pointing. It was the light torch mounted on the wall.



At first Woody didn't see what Thunder was making such a big deal of.

Then all of a sudden he yelled out "Holy Moly!"

Thunder smiled and said: "That's exactly what I said."

Woody: "You think it might be?"

Thunder: "Well there is only one way to find out. If you are all through with your 'history lesson', - I say let's hit it!"

TO BE CONTINUED.....

END EPISODE 6

'HOLLY MOLY' - IS SOMETHING BIG ABOUT TO HAPPEN!!!
FAST ACTION IS COMING FOR OUR HERO'S IN - EPISODE 7
SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT!!!
STAY TUNED THUNDER BOLTS !!!!!

NOW FOR THIS WEEKS SECRET MESSAGE – “ACIREMA DNAL FO EHT EERF”

If you can crack this secret code send your answer on the official Thunder Bolt email -

thunderboltfanclub@gmail.com - OR – text line - **9167183543**

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK !!

Want to know more about “Boom Case” – check out their website - www.TheBoomCase.com

They are made in Sacramento, CA by local homegrown boys. Very cool !!





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**THE
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RECAP OF EPISODE 6

Let's pick up where we left off....

Thunder calls in a favor from his old pal Detective 1st Grade Jack Cravalle. He intercepts the two unknown thug types that have been following Thunder around River City. Jack will get to the bottom of why they have been stalking Thunder.

Thunder heads into Capitol City to meet with Woody. Woody has made a discovery regarding information they collected during their site visit at the hidden chamber. He gives Thunder a full background 'History Lesson' about the past and who operated the now abandoned gold mine.

He explains that there once was a secret society of men (The Big Six), who were rumored to have plotted to secede from the government and start their own sovereign state. They were thought to have disbanded and no longer in existence. But, it seems they have resurfaced and have ties to black market activities during WWI and WW II.

Thunder shows Woody what he spotted in one of the photos that was taken inside the chamber. Woody examines it under high magnification and exclaims – **"HOLY MOLY"....!!!!**

They jet out of the door of Hardino's Books, and head back to the Hidden Chamber to see if what they now suspect is true...

WHAT HAS THUNDER AND THE PROFESSOR, DR. HARDINO, PHD, ADD - AKA 'WOODY' SEEN IN THE PHOTO THAT MAKES THEM SAY "HOLY MOLY"?

WHAT WILL THEY FIND BACK AT THE HIDDEN CHAMBER?

WHO MIGHT BE WAITING FOR THEM THIS TIME???

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG NOW?

Let's find out.

Now on to the action.....

On to Episode 7 – HOLY MOLY!!!

EPISODE 7 – HOLY MOLY

Thunder and Lightning along with Thunder Bolt Woody are on their way back to the site of the hidden chamber. As they cruised down the highway heading for Lakeside the east bound traffic was beginning to thin out. They should arrive at the job shack in about forty-five minutes.

It was day light savings time in the valley, so they still had a few hours of daylight left. In typical fashion it was starting to cool down as the sun was starting to set and early evening was beginning to turn to night.

When they arrived at the front gate of the parking lot, where the temporary job shack and office for The Army Corps of Engineers was located, they had to show their security pass to get in. Thunder didn't have one, but Woody did. The guard verified the pass and they were admitted into the secured area.

The Gator was sitting out front where they had left it earlier that day. They all hopped in and headed for the opening into the tunnel.

Meanwhile, back at the security gate, the guard was lifting up the receiver of the telephone and was placing a call. As he rolled up the sleeves of his Red Kap, security guard uniform shirt, a very prominent brand on his forearm was now in plain view. It was the mark of the 'Secret Society'.

The trio arrived at the base of the hill and prepared to make their climb up to the plateau. Thunder thought it might be a good idea if they stashed or hid the Gator this time. So Woody drove it up and behind a clump of manzanita.

They then went to the opening that leads to the chamber. Woody had his Jungle Jim style hat on with his headlight fixed to the hat band. He turned it on and took the lead.

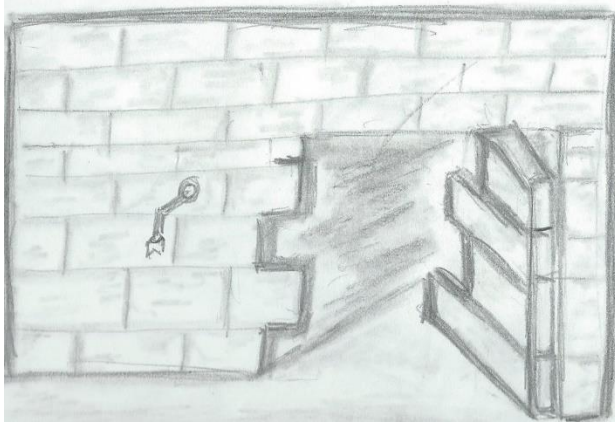
Just as before they had to belly crawl down the narrow opening until they reached the hallway. They dropped down into it and stood up, Thunder clicked on the TM28 flashlight and the pathway was illuminated. Knowing that the place was wired for sound, as per Agent Bury, they quickly headed for the chamber. They knew they would be joined shortly by the response team again. This time their little offensive ploy would not work. They had to hurry.

They got to the doorway and entered the chamber. They quickly went to the wall that had captured their interest. It was the fire torch mounted on the far wall that had caught Thunder's eye. There was something a little different about it. It had a small, but recognizable chiseled recessed emblem of the Secret Society carved next to the base plate of the torch.

Thunder looked at Woody and said: "You ready to give this a try?"

Woody: "That's what we came here for."

Thunder took out his Leatherman multi-purpose tool and used it to push in at the center of the emblem. As he did they heard a distinctive click sound, like something being un-latched. Then Thunder reached up and grabbed the stem of the light torch. Using it as a lever he turned it clockwise and brought it down as far as it would turn. They could hear what sounded like tumblers being rotated from inside and behind the wall.



Then a section of the wall itself started to move inward, opening up to a large entryway. It was pitch black inside. Thunder shined the flashlight into the opening. They stepped through the opening and were now standing in an anti-chamber. It was at the bottom of what appeared to be a stairway made entirely out of stone. As they stood there taking it all in, Lightning began to give his alert growl.

Thunder's phone also began to vibrate. He looked at the screen. It was lit up and was displaying in real time video who was coming down the pathway leading to the chamber. The signal was being broadcasted from one of the motion sensors and cameras that Thunder had dropped on the way out of the chamber earlier in the day.

Woody: "What are we going do?"

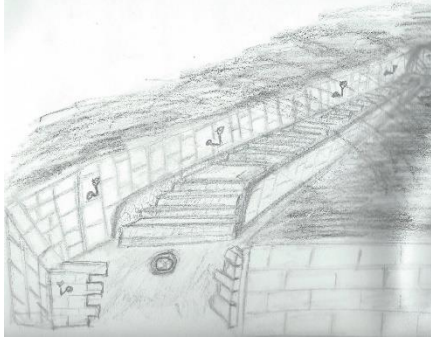
Thunder: "Simple."

He reached up and pulled on what was obviously the release chain for the now opened hidden door. As he did the wall section slowly closed and reset itself. They were now behind the wall, completely hidden.

The response team entered into the chamber, guns drawn and at the ready, they spread out quickly. Not wanting to make the same mistake twice, they were now prepared for the sneak attack of Thunder and Lightning. But, to their surprise the chamber room was empty, there was nobody there.

The leader called an 'ALL CLEAR' and the response team stood down. They turned on their lanterns and did a complete sweep of the area. They found no trace of intruders. The leader dismissed the motion alarm activation as possibly some kind of animal triggering one of the sensors. The team left and returned to their staging area. The team leader radioed in to give his report to his superior. When he told him they found nothing inside the chamber, they were ordered to go back and check the area again.

They had been tipped off by their inside man at the guard shack and knew that Thunder and his crew had driven out to the site and had to be somewhere in the vicinity.



Meanwhile, Thunder, Lightning and Woody had been watching on the screen of Thunder's phone. They waited quietly as the response team left the room and made their way back down the hallway to the opening.

Now that they were gone, Thunder pointed the light beam of the TM28 flashlight towards the stairs and was amazed at what they had found. At the base of the steps, carved into the floor, was the symbol of the 'Secret Society'.

Woody said: "Looks like we're in the right place."

Thunder answered: "Let's hope it's not at the wrong time."

Along the wall were fire torches spaced out in intervals. Thunder took out his zippo lighter and tried to light one of them. The years of being under water had left them useless, there wasn't any oil left in the reservoir cup. They would have to use the flash light and Woody's hat lamp to proceed.

Thunder pointed the light beam at the stairs. It was evident that they were on an incline. The tunnel stairs looked steep, and the light beam seemed to go on forever as they looked up into the unknown.

They started to climb the stairs and as they did one could not help but admire the craftsmanship of those who had constructed them. They walked straight up for about fifteen minutes and then came to a flat level floor area.

They had entered into an immense subterranean open room chiseled out of solid granite. It appeared that this level was never under water. Off to the sides were large iron doors imbedded directly into the walls. As Thunder scanned his light around the room, he could see that each door was identified with a large number posted above it. Thunder turned his beam toward a door that had a sign hanging in the middle of it.



They walked closer to see what the sign said and abruptly stopped short.

Staring back at them, posted on the door, was the placard symbol for nuclear radiation.

Looking at each other they said: "HOLY MOLY !"

As they looked around the area they noticed it was equipped with electricity and there were overhead lights hanging from the ceiling. Woody found a light switch and turned it on, the whole area was now lit up.

Thunder: "Let's see what's behind door number one Gene"

Woody: "Hey, I remember that show. The contestants usually got the skunk prize more often than not. Are you sure you want to do this?"

Thunder grabbed the handle of the door. It took all he had to get it to start moving. As it did the rusted hinges started to squeal and creak (eeeeeeaaaaakkkkkkk). It sounded like the opening moments of the old time radio show, 'Inner Sanctum', with E G Marshall'.

He swung the door to its full open position, the room smelled of stale air and was pitch black inside. There was a light switch next to the opening, so he flicked the switch to the on position and instantly the room was bathed in 100 watts of bright light.



He stood there in disbelief. He was looking at very large bomb sitting on a cradle. Woody walked up and stood behind him and looked over his shoulder.

Both men, in unison, said out loud: "HOLY MOLY!!!"

Woody: "Is that what I think it is?"

Thunder: "Oh ya – it's a bomb - it's the missing Boogie Man Bomb"

Woody: "What the hell is the Boogie Man Bomb?"

Thunder: "The Boogie Man Bomb was the third Atom bomb intended to be used during WWII. It was only to be used in the event that one, or both, of the other two that were sent failed to reach their targets. It was their back-up plan.

However, it disappeared in route to the secret air base where it was to be loaded onto the plane for its payload delivery. The mission was so secret that no one person really had all of the information or details pertaining to the transportation of the bomb for security sake.

Once they discovered it went missing, the whole operation was hushed up, and complete deniability was put out to cover it up. They neither confirmed or denied its very existence.

In the Post War days that followed, the various Intelligent agencies started in-fighting for more power during the cold war. Rumors then started to spring up about a missing nuclear warhead, and the bungled mission known as Operation Boogie Man.

So, a special investigative group was commissioned and tasked to solely search and run down any and all leads to find the missing bomb, if there ever really was one. They have been searching for it ever since.

Over time the Boogie Man Bomb became more of an urban legend, a myth, just a big ghost. It was as much of a spook story as the spooks that were tasked to find it.”

Woody: “You think this is what that Agent Dan Bury was referring too when he said ‘fall out’?”

Thunder: “That’s what I’m thinking. But, I also think Agent Bury is part of something else. Remember he said he was from THE Headquarters. Well, after we got back I made a few calls to some of my back channel sources. One of them came through. Apparently there is a section made up of a small group of highly trained agents. Only it’s not THE its T.H.E.E., and it stands for Thermal nuclear, Hydrogen, Explosive, Enforcement (T.H.E.E).

They have been rolled into the now Homeland Security Division. My source also told me they believe that the group had been compromised and has infiltrators imbedded into the group. That’s why they have never been able to find the missing bomb. I believe that to be correct. You saw that brand on Agent Burys forearm. It’s the same symbol as the ‘Secret Society’. Coincidence? I doubt it, and you know what I think about coincidences.”

Woody: “Wow – so what do we do now?”

Thunder: “I think we beat feet and get out of here pronto. I need to get this info back to Agent Gene Pool of the Department of Protection, Enforcement, and Security (D.O.P.E.S). It’s up to them now. Just as Thunder said that, his phone started to vibrate and the screen lit up. Back at the hidden chamber there was activity. The response team had obviously found where they stashed the Gator and they were now back inside the chamber blocking their retreat. They could not return the way they had come.

Thunder scanned the room and found what he was looking for, it was another way out. Over in the corner of the room was a half ramp and half stairway.

Thunder pointed to it and said: “There’s our highway to heaven buddy. Let’s roll”



Our trio ran for the stairway and ascended to the top where it came to a quick halt. They were now standing under what appeared to be a hatch door. Thunder pushed up on it slowly, and all three of them peeked their heads up over the rim. They were now inside what looked to be a wine cave storage room.

The next thing they heard was – “**FREEZE !!!!!**”

TO BE CONTINUED

END EPISODE 7

HOLY MOLY !! – WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT TO OUR THREE HERO’S?
WHERE DID THEY END UP – IS THIS THE END OF THE TRAIL FOR THEM?
WHO HAS CAPTURED THEM?
STAY TUNED FOR THE NEXT))))) **ACTION** ((((((PACKED EPISODE !!!
THIS WILL BE THE FINALE !!!!
DON’T MISS IT THUNDER BOLTS !

NOW FOR THIS WEEKS SECRET MESSAGE – “TAHW SEOD REDNUHT LLAC SIH RAC”

(* Hint - think backwards)

If you can crack this secret code send your answer on the official Thunder Bolt email -
thunderboltfanclub@gmail.com

SEE YOU SOON !!

Want to know more about “Boom Case” – check out their website - www.TheBoomCase.com

They are made in Sacramento, CA by local homegrown boys. Very cool !!





Tom Thunder



ADVENTURES

**THE
SECRET SOCIETY**

©

DISCLAIMER

Note to the reader from the Author

This short story (quick little yarn really) is intended to be taken with a grain of salt and enjoyed for what it is – no more and no less. At times it may be cornball and maybe a bit rude, but never crude. It is in keeping with the old adventure serial dime store novels of yesteryear. If you are too young to know or understand what that means, then hopefully you are in for a treat. If at times you find this “politically incorrect”, or laden with “micro aggressions”, then good you have come to the right place for your cure.

However, you can rest assured that this is all organic 100% gluten free, and absolutely no animals were harmed during the writing of this magnificent manuscript. Global warming was not impacted or a factor in its development. The sun still rose in the East and set in the West, before, during, and after every Chapter/Episode.

Tom Thunder is a free spirit and loyal Freedom Loving American and says things as he sees it. He enjoys the freedoms this great nation offers its citizens to succeed. He won't lie, cheat or steal from you. He will back your play if he feels you are in the right. But, if he thinks you are in the wrong he won't hesitate to tell you so, and if necessary go toe to toe with you.

Some of what you are about to read actually happened and is 100% true. This would be discoverable under oath during cross examination in a court of law. The rest of it is full on embellishment. Which is a legal definition derived from the Old Latin term Bullistshitcus.

Remember this is all in fun and all the characters are fictitious. Even if you think they are you, they are **not!!!**

“Keep Jumping Fences and Stay One Step Ahead Of The Yard Dogs”

Pop Thomas

THE CAST

Tom Thunder – Man of Action

Birdie – Thunders Gal Pal and Business Partner

Lightning – Thunder’s Loyal Side Kick and Wonder Dog

The Thunder Bolts – A select group of experts in a multitude of disciplines and dedicated to the mission.

RECAP OF EPISODE 7

Let's pick up where we left off....

Thunder, Lightning and Woody travel back to the hidden chamber after Thunder sees something of major interest in one of the photos that Woody took of the area. The thing that caught Thunder's interest is a small carving next to just one of the several fire torches on the wall. It appears to be a release button, and on a hunch, Thunder pushes in on it. He was right! A secret door opened and they stepped into the adjoining room to find a stairway leading upwards. They are interrupted in their discovery by the same intruders they had dealt with earlier in the day. To avoid detection and capture, Thunder activates the release mechanism for the door and they find themselves safely hidden behind the wall. The search party finds no evidence of their presence and declares an 'ALL CLEAR' and leave. Thunder, Lightning and Woody now proceed to ascend the stairway to see where it might lead. What they find is a large subterranean room. But, more important than that, they find the missing 'Boogie Man Bomb'!!

Thunder's phone alerts him of the return of the search team back to the hidden chamber which now blocks their retreat. The only option for escape available to them is to go forward into the unknown. There is an exit ramp way at the far corner of the room which they take only to come to a halt at the top of the ramp. They find themselves standing beneath what appears to be a trap door. They lift up the trap door and are now peeking and looking inside another room when they hear 'FREEZE' !!!

HOLY MOLY! IS THE JIG UP FOR OUR HERO'S??

WHO HAS THE DROP ON THEM NOW ???

HOW WILL THEY GET OUT OF THIS ONE !!!

Let's find out.

Now on to the action.....

EPISODE 8 - The Jig's Up

Thunder, Lightning and Woody pop open the trap door and peek in to what appears to be a wine cellar or large storage room. As they do they hear the command to 'Freeze!' The trap door is lifted fully open by their captors and they are ordered, at gun point, to get out of the hole in the floor.

It is Thunder's 'old pal' Agent Dan Bury. He and his men have Thunder, Lightning and Woody dead to rights. Thunder knows this is not the time to resist and he and his team step out of the hole and stand up.

Agent Bury: "The Jig's up Thunder! Get your hands up and keep them where I can see them, and no funny stuff!"



All three complied with the order including Lightning.

Agent Bury looking at the dog sitting there with his hands, or paws up, started laughing.

Then he says: "Damn, Thunder. That is one smart dog you got there."

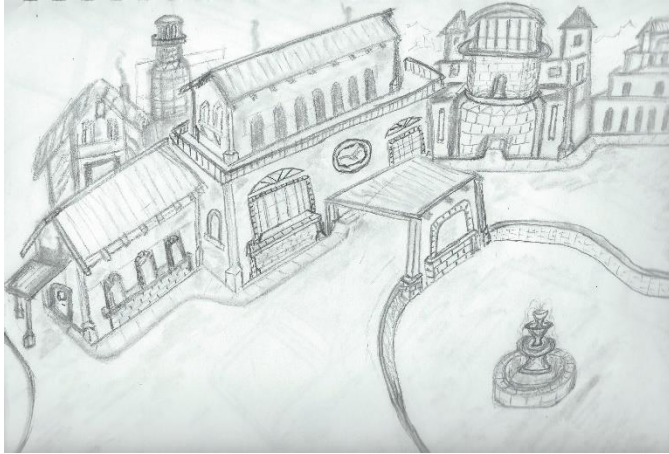
Thunder: "Smarter than you think."

Agent Bury: " Ya-How's that? And what the heck is your dog whinning about?"

Thunder: "I guess he knows something you don't. There is a Thunder and Lightning storm coming, and the 'Storm Clouds' are gathering as we speak."

Agent Bury: "Is that right? Nice try Thunder. You can't bluff your way out of this one. I got you, your dog, and Hardino over there dead to rights. No sneak attack from that dog is going to save you this time. So, what's with that smirk and smile of yours - again? "

What Agent Bury didn't know was outside was a **RIT** team (Rapid Intervention Team) of twelve highly trained Thunder Bolts, in three black attack helicopters, headed this way. They were the storm clouds that Thunder was talking about.



It would only be a matter of minutes before Agent Bury and his band of followers would feel the 'shock and awe' of an All American strike team. Their primary target was the Winery at the top of the hill overlooking the canyon. The secondary drop point was at the entrance to the tunnel leading to the entry site of the hidden chamber.

Thunder had a miniature sized body camera equipped with a microphone clipped to his jacket. A small earpiece was

plugged in to his ear. The assault team could see and hear everything that Thunder did and he could hear them. Thunder knew they were coming to the rescue.

As Thunder stalled for time, two of the black helicopters were flying into the LZ (landing zone) at the Winery, each carrying four Thunder Bolts. They were being lowered down to the front grounds of the complex where their signal was honing in on Thunder's transmitter.



The second team made a coordinated assault on the hidden chamber to capture the team that had blocked Thunder's retreat.

Just then, to Agent Bury and his teams surprise, in rushed the RIT team (Rapid Intervention Team). They announced their arrival with flash bang canisters of smoke and quickly surrounded Agent Bury and his men. They were totally caught off guard and clearly no match for the Thunder Bolts. It was over in a flash faster than one of the flash bang canisters. They didn't stand a chance.

Thunder had activated the 'GO' signal for his Thunder Bolt Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) the minute he heard 'FREEZE". If you remember there was an unknown group watching Thunder, Lightning and Woody from across the canyon with high powered binoculars. That was the RIT team that Thunder had assembled and had on standby. They were Thunder's crack team of Rangers. Thunder had thought it a wise thing to do from the minute he saw the original photograph Agent Gene Pool showed him on that first day in front of City Hall. Thunder was always a careful man and one step ahead of the game. The man has skills.

Woody looked at Thunder and said: " I thought we were cooked. How did you know to have a team ready?"

Thunder smiled and said: "That's what you call staying one step ahead of the yard dog."

The Thunder Bolts secured the area and placed all of the the combatants in restraints. Then as if on cue, in walked Agent Gene Pool, with his cadre of agents from the Department Of Protection, Enforcement and Security (DOPES). Thunder had informed Agent Pool that he should be ready to activate at a moments notice. They had set up a surveillance team on the Winery and were ready to move in on Thunder's comand. When they saw the helecopeter strike teams they moved in.

While the prisoner's were placed into custody and being escorted out of the area, Thunder proceeded to tell Agent Pool about what he and Woody discovered down in the lower hidden room where the bomb was located.

Pool didn't act surprised and thanked Thunder and said: " The Government thanks you for your service. We'll take it from here".

Woody: " That's it? That's all you are going to say? Didn't you hear what we found?

Thunder didn't even blink an eye, that's what being off the books is all about. As far as he was concerned he and Woody were never there. He just nodded and then walked over to where Pool's men were standing. He asked who the second in command was.

A younger man in about his early thirty's stepped forward and said: "That would be me Thunder. My name is Agent Tom Collins. What can I do for you?"

Thunder looked at him, and then looked him straight in the eyes and said: "Are you a loyal American?"

The man answered: "Yes"

Then Thunder said: "Good, then you won't mind showing me your right forearm?"

The man was hesitant. Thunder could see the fear in his eyes. He was having thoughts of bolting from the room. His service weapon was a Kimber 45 cal., just like the ones that Bury and his men carried. He maneuvered his gun hand slowly positioning it in place for a quick draw. Then he heard the deep growl of Lightning, who had sliently moved next to the man. The dog has skills.

Thunder said : " The Jig's up. Don't make it worse for yourself."

The man realized that he had been made and raised his hands. Thunder rolled down the shirt sleeve of his right arm and there was the mark of the Secret Society. Thunder recognized the man's face as the person who had let them in at the front gate earlier that evening. He was posing as the security officer at the guard shack of the Army Corps of Engineers. That's how Bury knew to assemble his men to capture Thunder.

Agent Pool wanted to know what was going on. Thunder explained that he had a double agent who infiltrated into his team. Agent Pool was shocked, but put the man in handcuffs and placed him under arrest.

Thunder had suspected that there was a leak in Pool's organization. He planted a false narrative that only Pool and his team would have access to. When the two mooks showed up soon after and started following Thunder, and then also went to the Thunder City Garage, he knew he was right.

But, it wasn't until Detective Jack Carvale had picked the two mooks up and detained them for Thunder, did they learn that both men had the mark of the Secret Society on their forearms. They were still sitting in the city lock up waiting for their one phone call. Unfortunatly for them the phones were temporarily down for the next twenty four hours. Agent Pool would be their next visitor.

It took about another hour to finish up at the Winery. Thunder and Lightning hitched a ride back to his car on one of the helicopters. Hardino was riding back with his new best buddy Agent Pool. They had a lot to talk about.

Thunder fired up the T-Bird and looked at Lightning and said: "Hit the Boom Case Buddy".

Lightning smacked it with his paw and out boomed the song from Erick and The Animals 'We Got To Get Outa This Place'.

"We Gotta Get Out Of This Place .. If It's The Last Thing We Ever Do.. We Gotta Get Out Of This Place ... Girl Theres's A Better Life For You And Me..."

Thunder punched it, and the all American Made V8, 390 blasted off like a missile. His target was Rivercity, at the corner of Main Street USA and Hometown Buleavard.

SIX MONTHS LATER

ALL THE LOOSE ENDS

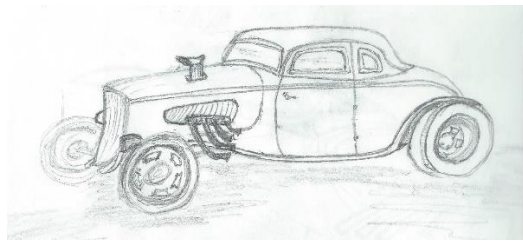
Agent Pool and the War Department recovered the Boogie Man Bomb and quietly relocated it back to a secured Government compound. They didn't want to panic the civilian population with the news that an atom bomb had been lost and sitting in a cave for the last 50 plus years in the middle of a residential community. So, it was all done under the cover of night.

Agent Pool was promoted for his excellent job in recovering the Boogie Man Bomb and finally crushing the Secret Society, once and for all. He is now the Head Director of the newly formed department of **Securty Team Office Of Government Enforcement Service (STOOGES)**.

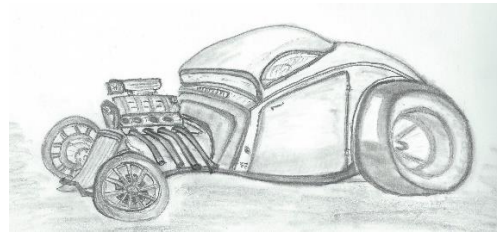
The Government confiscated all of the Winery grounds and all of the buildings that sat on it. Then they closed it down and put out a fake news story about how it was donated back to the State and was going to be made into a museum. It was going to be set up as it originally was during the gold rush when it was one of the largest producing gold mines in the area.

The new History Curator for the the museum was going to be none other than the Esteemed Professor Dr. Michaglo Hardino, PHD, ADD. It was either that or he was going to be invited to stay as a permanet guest at one of the Federal operated black sites. It was because of his knowledge of the Boggie Man Bomb. Even though Thunder vouched for him, it was way above his pay grade. He took the deal.

The chop job for the 1934 Ford, back at the Thunder City Garage that Birdie, Fat Arm Frankie and Rat Rod Roger were working on was completed.



before



after

It took first place at the Capital City Autorama.

Thunder and Lightning went back to being just that, Thunder and Lightning. Living above the office of the Thunder City Garage in the sleepy little town of Rivercity – for now anyway.

Epilogue

Six men are seated at the boradroom converence table in an office high above the city in a skyscraper that over looks the night lights of Capital City. They are discussing the recent setbacks they had suffered during the last business cycle. To them it was just a mere inconvenience, a minor detail. The company was soild, no one was talking. As one of them said it was - Loyalty Above All Else.

The clock on the wall struck twelve midnight, it was time for them to join the ceremony that was about to begin. They take the one and only elevator that goes down to the lowest level of the building. They change into their garments and enter into a six sided chamber where there is a large blazing fire in the middle of the room. Six new candidates are positioned around it. The sound of a gong is being struck six times as they, the candidates, are instructed to repeat the oath of membership.....

Meanwhile, Thunder is siting out on his balcony enjoying the cool early morning Delta breeze. He is sipping on a fresh cup of coffee and looking over yesterdays mail. There was a small package in the pile. Thunder opened it up to find a fishing lure inside.

There was no other information as to who had sent it to him. There was only a barcode tag stuck to the bottom of it. Thunder took out his cell phone and used his barcode reader App.. The numbers were '33040'. Thunder had his location, now all he needed was the when.....

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT EXCITING “*TOM THUNDER ADVENTURES*” – STAY TUNED !!!

NOW FOR THIS WEEKS SECRET MESSAGE

This week's message is a real challenge for you Thunder Bolts - If you can crack this secret code and can answer the question below – then send your answer in on the official Thunder Bolt email

thunderboltfanclub@gmail.com

Good Luck !!!

Question – What does the number 33040 – represent?

“Tinh - ti si a noitacol – kinht sserdda”

(* clue – words are backwards)

SEE YOU SOON !!

Want to know more about “Boom Case” – check out their website - www.TheBoomCase.com

They are made in Sacramento, CA by local homegrown boys. Very cool !!

