VIVETTE

ontimed his intention to shoot now held his throat in a vice-like grip that shut from his lungs the living air and sapped his great strength. With a desperate effort he swung the automatic up and pulled the trigger but Roy's steel wrist twitched und the bullet struck the green bomb in the girl's hand, passed through it and pierced her breast.

A blinding flash of light struck Roy's unprotected e, es, exerulating pain shot through them as all turned black and slekening fumes filled the room. The automatic fell to the floor, as the free hand of the signaller clutched and pulled at the throttling hold on his throat. The hand that left the signaller's wrist became a elinching fist that swung with sledgehammer force to the nape of his neek, and the throttling hand shoving back to meet the impact, the cord of life snapped with the spinal column, and Roy threw the limp form from him.

Freed of his opponent Roy dropped on his hands and knees, exeruiating pain knifting his eyes, nauseating fumes tilling his lungs. He realized that he must get out of the room quickly but his mind flooded with thoughts of the girl and his groping hands enne in contact with a warm streamlet on the floor that guided him to its source, the wound in her breast.

In a semi-delirlons state he took the dead giri in his arms and swayed back and forth, crooning a luliaby. Semi-deliring gave way to madness 25 he heard footsteps hastening up the stairs. The sound was lost in the tangle of his senses and he became a maddened tiger standing in the tall jungle grasses with his stain mate at his feet. Blinded and furious he leapt at the Secret Service man who rushed into the room and tried to stay his lithe form as he dashed about it.

The men who entered the room had been led to the signalling station by the woman who had met Vivette and then followed her, and Roy who had not been notified of their plan of action. His plunge through the window occurred at the moment they were to raid the station. They had seen the tragle end of the struggle in the upstalr room and as the occupants of the basement came out by the front door they were made prisoners by two of the Secret Service men, the remainder running npstairs to the bomb room,

Realizing that Roy's mind was unbalanced, one of the men sprang to a eilach with him, narrowly escaping the teeth that snapped at his throat, assalled and assallant failing down an open stairway and becoming separated by the fall.

Roy sprang to his feet and blindly rushed along a corridor at the foot of the stalrs, staggering from side to side as he swerved against the side walls. A door at the end of the corridor was opening and Roy collided with the one who to him was responsible for the death of his mate. He sprang forward to where he sensed

33