

Outline

THE NUMBERS MAN

Episode One: Sheik, Rattle and Roll

1. In a hotel suite in London Charles Makepiece is selling something - we don't know what - to Gamal Ramir. Ramir agrees a price but says that 'His Holiness' (whom we never will meet) must approve the deal. Leaving, Makepiece turns to the closed door and whispers: 'Mug.'
2. Titles.
3. Towards the end of a dinner party at the flat, a guest begins to question Richard about his business, and finally says that he knows an Arab who might have need of Richard's services.
4. An unexplained shot of Makepiece firing a gun. 'Very impressive,' he says for no apparent reason, and laughs his head off.
5. A vast limousine (don't worry, we'll use it again) draws up outside Richard's office.
6. He is summoned to see Gamal Ramir. The chauffeur makes eyes at Miss Monkton.
7. Ramir tells Richard that His Holiness plans to invest in a ~~small~~ small property company. However, he must be sure that the company is thoroughly respectable, financially and otherwise. Richard is to investigate.
8. A close shot of Makepiece counting money. Pull back gradually to reveal great piles of cash.
9. The usual inquiries reveal that London Leasing Ltd (or whatever) is sound, although surprisingly small: they own a block of flats, two nightclubs, and some industrial property.

Richard a little suspicious.

Richard a little [unreadable].

10. Richard and Nutsy visit one of the clubs. It is a distinctly louche joint. Nutsy decides to do a story on the 'hostesses'.

11. Richard tells Ramir that London Leasing is sound, but perhaps not the ideal company, from a moral point of view, for His Holiness to invest in. Ah, says Ramir, but are they involved in anything illegal?

12. In conversation with Nut~~sy~~, Richard says he is going somewhat outside his normal territory now, but he is ve y keen to get in with the Arabs.

13. Nutsy gets a job as a hostess in Makepiece's club. She is fascinated to discover that the hostesses get no salary, only a commission on every bottle of bad champagne they persuade the customers to order.

14. Richard tries to make her give up this investigation, without success.

15. Makepiece brings a bun~~ch~~ of drunken friends to the club, apparently after closing a deal with one of them, Peters. Nutsy hosts Peters. The friends mention 'the warehouse.' Peters gets annoyed because Nutsy won't go home with him, and says: 'Your boss won't be pleased - I went to a lot of trouble to get those shooters for him.' Nutsy gets him to ~~give~~ reveal the location of the warehouse.

16. Richard checks and finds that the warehouse is owned by one Timothy Silvester, but heavily mortgaged to Makepiece.

17. Richard visits the warehouse, posing as an arms buyer. Makepiece says the guns are sold, really, but he could~~d~~ possibly extract a few from the consignment, if the price was right. Richard carefully notes the make and type of gun.

18. Miss Monkton checks out the gun.

19. Richard visits Ali. These people are arms dealers. Ah, says

Ramir, then I shan't do business with them. Yes you will, says Richard: it was guns you were after all the time - you used me to check that the guns were real. Well, I have one more piece of information for you. You've been conned. The guns are obsolete. Oh, they work all right - but you can't buy ammunition for them.

20. Meanwhile Nutsy, bold as brass, interrogates Makepiece about hostesses and guns. He sends her packing, pretending unconcern, but says to a sidekick: 'Follow her and give her a good frightening.'

21. The sidekick in his car drives Nutsy (on her motorcycle) off the road. She is badly injured.

22. Ramir, wearing traditional Arab robes, headdress, and sunglasses, goes to the nightclub and is admitted to Makepiece's office.

23. Richard, at Nutsy's bedside in the hospital, gets a ~~xxx~~ note.

24. Ramir leaves Makepiece's office.

25. Richard's note reads: 'Revenge has been taken.'

26. A hostess enters Makepiece's office. Scream. 'He's dead!'

27. The limousine drives off into the night.

28. Close in the hospital.

End

Ken Follett 2/8/78

No direct confrontation Nutsy - Makepiece.
At some point Nutsy thinks: There's more to Makepiece
than homework. Might : more to Makepiece
immigration?

No direct confrontation Nutsy - Makepiece.

At some point Nutsy thinks: There's more
to Makepiece than [unreadable.] Illegal :
immigration?