

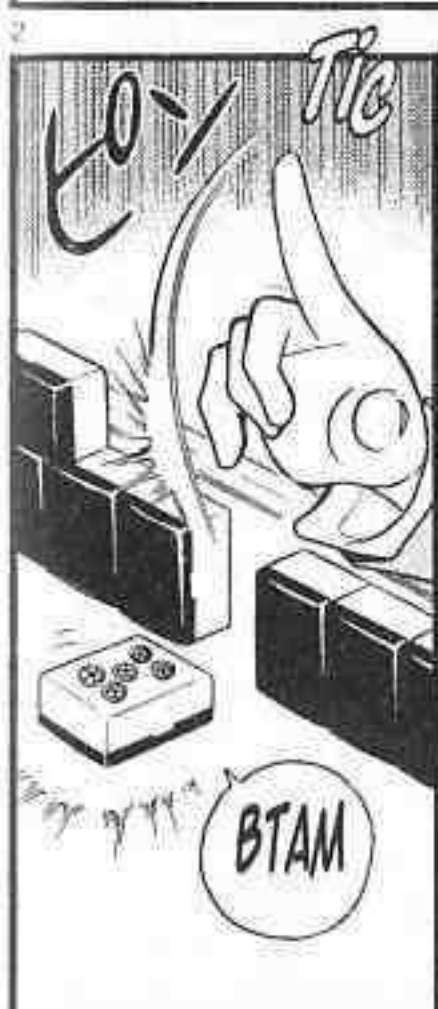
# ***File 7***

## ***Lick your thumb***





HMM!





HE BREAKS THE AMBIANCE ...

PFFF... I WISH THIS KID WENT BACK HOME

SHIT! "TOUCHED CARD, PLAYED CARD". NEVER MIND! I PLAY THIS ONE



YOU HAVE TOUCHED MY CARDS AGAIN WITHOUT MY PERMISSION!

AAAH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

FLEE



LON !!



AT LEAST WE NEED A BIT OF DIFFICULTY

IT'S NOT THAT GRAVE! MORI IS LUCKY TODAY



BRAVO!

BAIMAN

CHI... CHI ITSU IPEKO DORA, CHI ITSU IPEKO DORA

EH ?



YES, HE WORKS IN THE OPPOSITE BUILDING

H I D A ?



LET'S CALL MR. HIDA

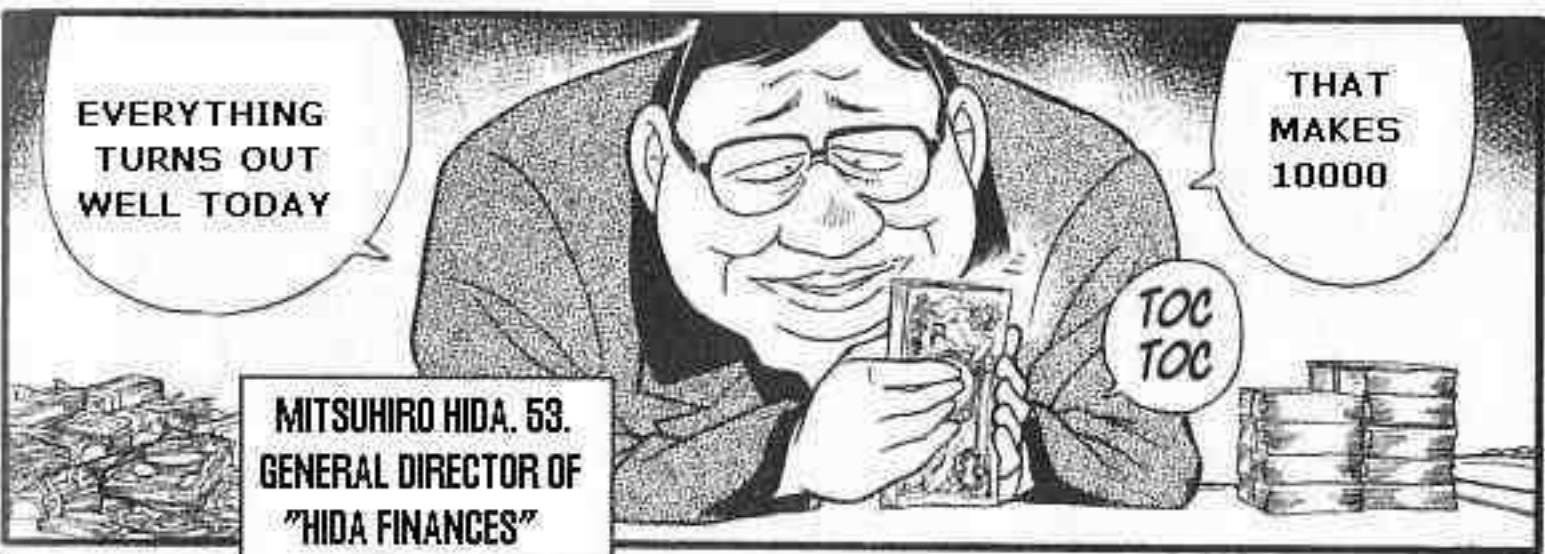
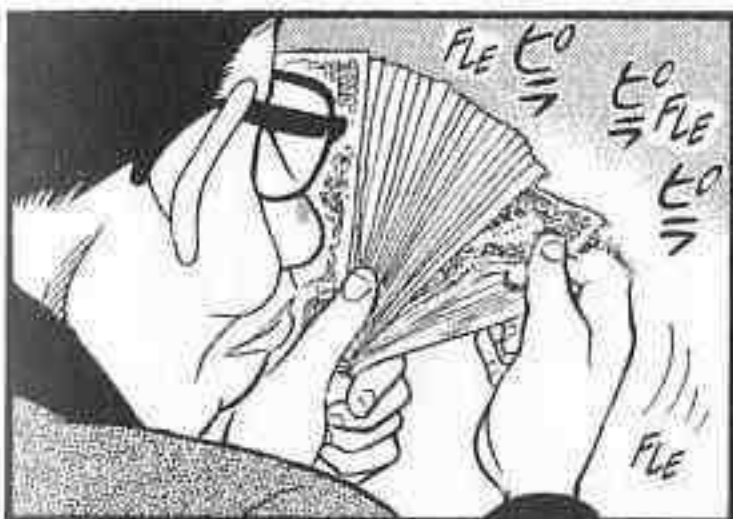
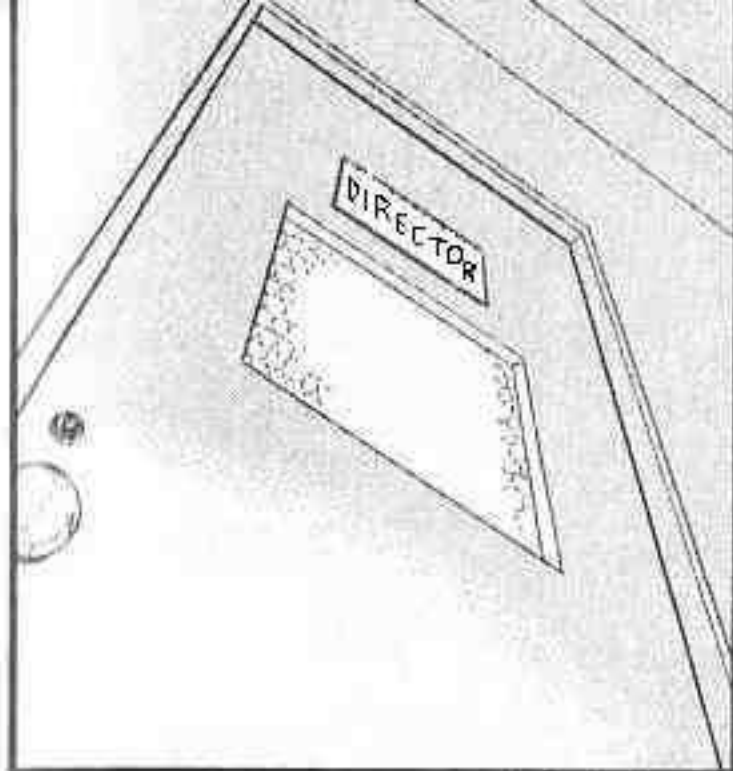
AND HOW ARE WE GOING TO REPLACE HIM?



YES. LUCK IS NOT ON MY SIDE TODAY

OKANO, ARE YOU LEAVING?

OH! I DON'T STOP WINNING!







I...  
I THOUGHT IT  
WAS RIGHT TO  
TEACH HIM  
CHINESE  
NUMBERS AND  
CHARACTERS

CONAN IS  
JUST A  
SCHOOLBOY.  
DON'T TEACH  
HIM HOW TO  
PLAY  
MAH-JONG



RAN?

PFFF...  
I WAS WORRIED  
BECAUSE CONAN  
WAS LATE... AND IT  
WAS JUST BECAUSE  
YOU HAD BROUGHT  
HIM HERE



BUT, TELL ME,  
RAN, WOULDN'T  
YOU LIKE TO  
PLAY WITH US?

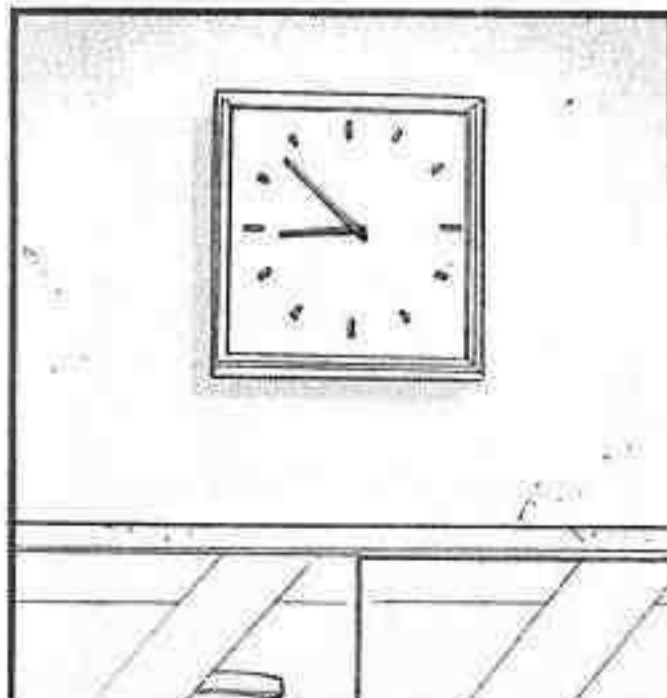
EH...  
OH...

LET'S  
GO,  
CONAN!  
WE'RE  
LEAVING!



I'LL NEVER PLAY A  
GAME LIKE THAT.  
IT'S BORING AND  
OLD-FASHIONED!

NO  
WAY!

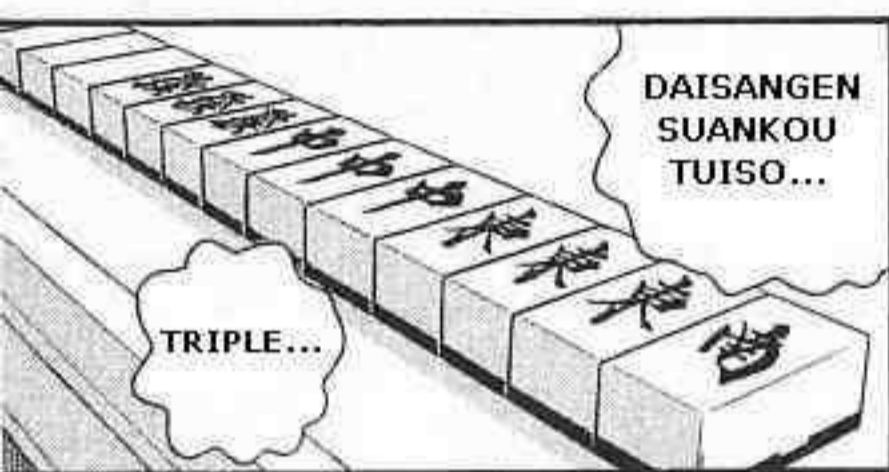




AH...

LOOK!  
THIS TIME  
THERE ARE  
ONLY CHINESE  
CHARACTERS.  
ISN'T IT NICE?

EH?  
AGAIN?



DAISANGEN  
SUANKOU  
TUISO...

TRIPLE...



LON!



YES...

OF  
COURSE,  
HAVING  
SUCH A  
GOOD  
LUCK...

I'VE  
WON  
AGAIN!

TRIPLE  
YAKU-  
MAN!



A THIEF,  
PERHAPS?

LET'S GO  
AND  
SEE...

NOW THAT  
YOU  
MENTION  
IT, HE  
DIDN'T  
SEEM  
VERY  
QUIET  
WHEN I  
TALKED  
TO HIM



THAT'S WEIRD...  
THERE'S STILL  
LIGHT BUT HE  
DOESN'T  
ANSWER THE  
PHONE

MAYBE  
SOME-  
THING'S  
HAPPEN-  
ED TO  
HIM AND  
HE CAN'T

R  
I  
N  
G

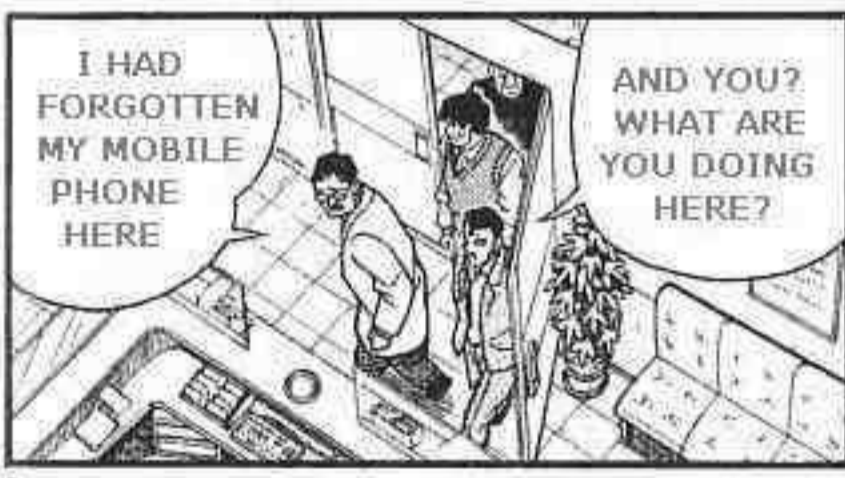
R  
I  
N  
G



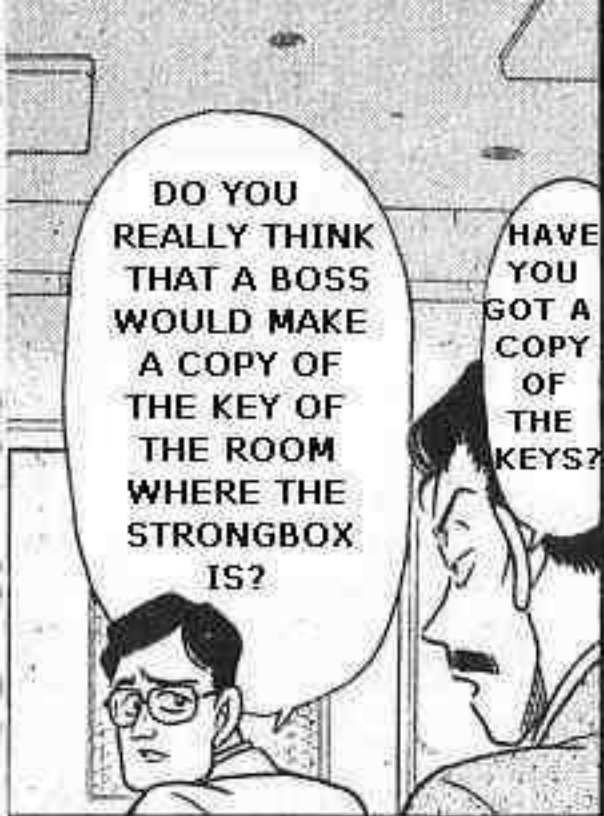
WELL,  
I'LL  
PHONE  
HIM  
AGAIN

MR.  
HIDA'S  
TAKING  
HIS  
TIME...

TU  
TU







DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT A BOSS WOULD MAKE A COPY OF THE KEY OF THE ROOM WHERE THE STRONGBOX IS?

HAVE YOU GOT A COPY OF THE KEYS?



WELL, YES... IF THERE'S STILL LIGHT. MAYBE HE'S JUST FALLEN ASLEEP LEAVING THE LIGHT ON AND THE DOOR LOCKED

IS HE REALLY IN THERE?

CLAC

CLAC



BOSS?

BOSS?

TOC

TOC



WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

BOW

IN THAT CASE, WE'LL HAVE TO ENTER BY FORCE



ZBOW

TOC



MISTER ...

!?

!?

**MISTER  
HIDA!**



**STAY  
WHERE  
YOU ARE!**

**BOSS!**

**BUT...**



**HE  
DOESN'T  
BREATHE  
...**

**IT'S  
TOO  
LATE...**

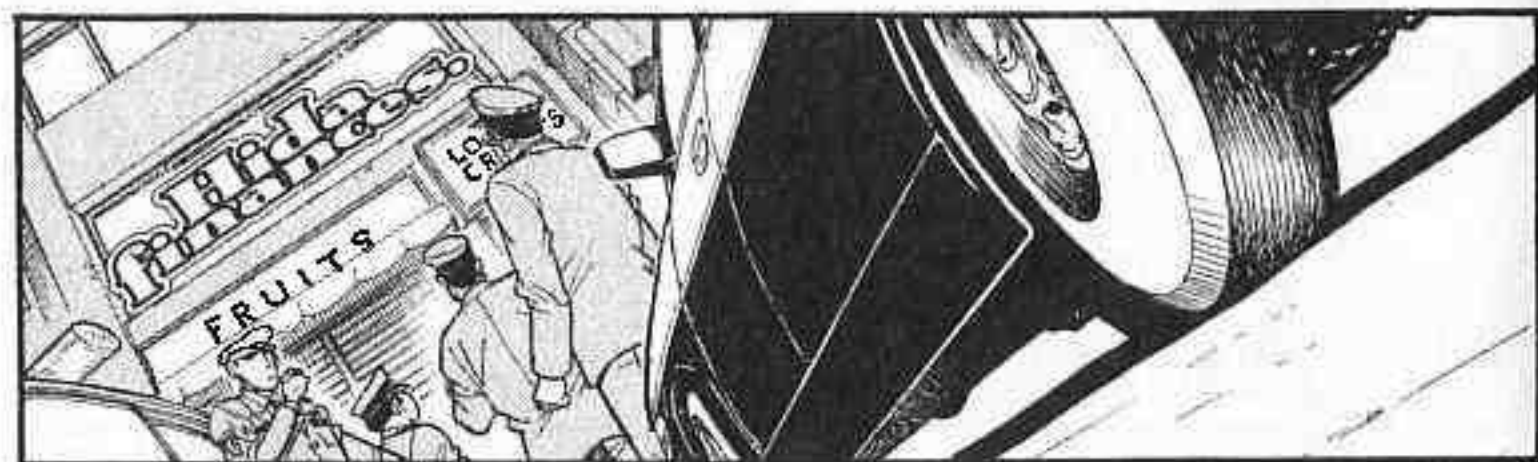
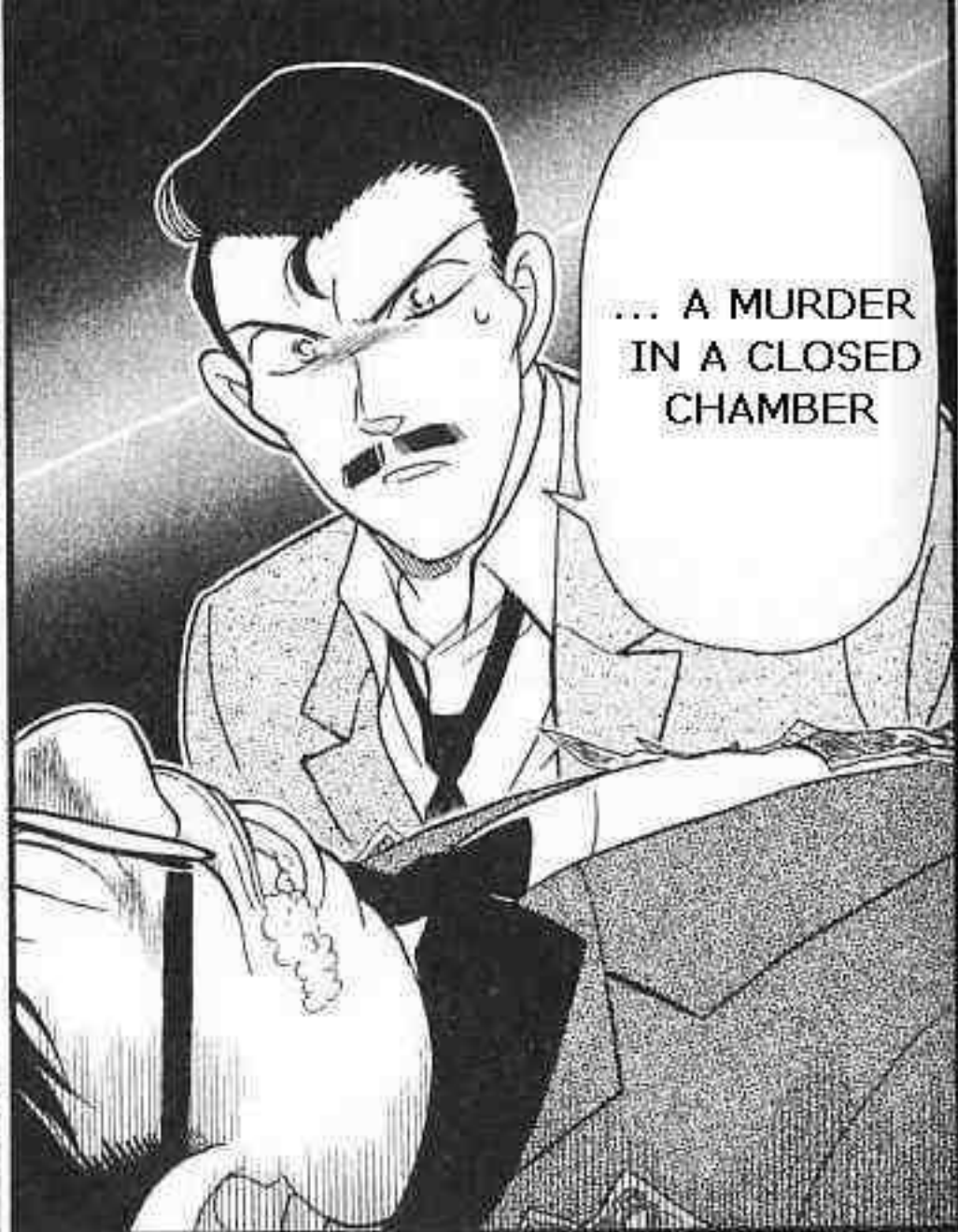


**BECAUSE  
PERHAPS  
THIS IS...**

**I DON'T  
WANT  
ANYONE  
TO ENTER  
THIS  
ROOM**

**CALL THE  
POLICE**









IT'S  
19.04 H

OH,  
THAT'S  
WHEN  
YOU LEFT  
THE  
OFFICE



YES, IF  
SOMEONE'S  
ENTERED,  
WE'LL KNOW  
IT BY  
WATCHING  
THE VIDEO

IS  
THAT  
TRUE?



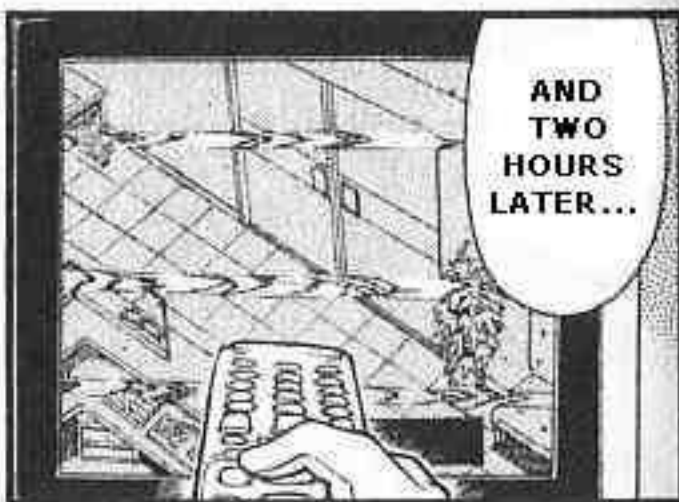
AND HE  
WENT  
BACK  
TO HIS  
OFFICE TO  
FINISH HIS  
ACCOUNTS

AFTER  
THAT,  
THE BOSS  
HIMSELF  
LOCKS  
THE  
DOOR



NOBODY  
ELSE HAD  
COME BACK  
INDEED...

MR. MORI  
ARRIVED  
WITH  
YOU...



AND  
TWO  
HOURS  
LATER...



IT'S  
US!



AND  
THOSE  
WHO LEFT  
WITH YOU?

IN THAT CASE,  
NOT ONLY HAVE  
WE A CLOSED  
CHAMBER, BUT  
A WHOLE  
BUILDING

OH,  
THEY  
ARE...



YES...

IS THERE  
ONLY ONE  
DOOR  
HERE?



HAS  
SOMETHING  
HAPPENED?

SO WHAT? WHAT'S  
GOING ON? I WAS  
AT THE KARAOKE  
WITH SOME  
FRIENDS HAVING A  
GREAT TIME AND I  
RECEIVED A  
MESSAGE!

HIROSHI IINO. 31.  
EMPLOYEE AT "HIDA  
FINANCES"

TAKAKO FUJI. 29.  
EMPLOYEE AT "HIDA  
FINANCES"



PFF...


WHY HAS  
HE BEEN...

BUT...



EH?

YOUR  
DIRECTOR  
HAS JUST  
DIED BY  
POISONING




...COULDN'T  
BE LUCKY  
ALL HIS  
LIFE.  
THAT'S ALL

THAT  
CROOK...


FLE

14



REALLY? DO YOU  
THINK A MAN  
WHO IS ABOUT TO  
COMMIT SUICIDE  
WOULD ACCEPT  
TO PLAY  
MAH-JONG?

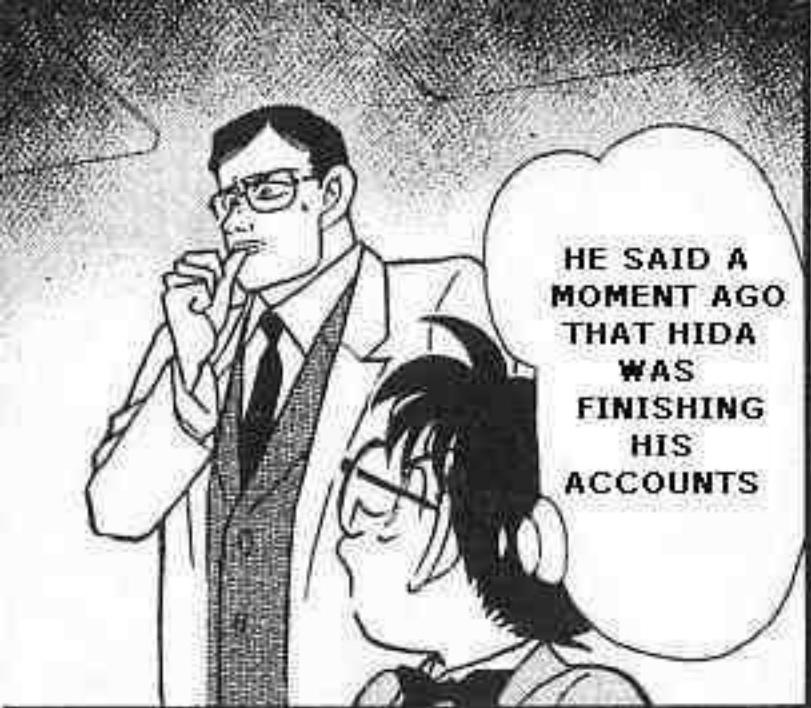
LOCKED  
FROM  
THE  
INSIDE?



HOWEVER,  
THE DOOR  
WAS  
LOCKED  
FROM THE  
INSIDE,  
WASN'T  
IT?

SO,  
YOU...

PFFT



HE SAID A MOMENT AGO THAT HIDA WAS FINISHING HIS ACCOUNTS



THERE'S A LOT OF MONEY ON THE FLOOR

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M TRYING TO DISCOVER

IN THAT CASE, CAN YOU EXPLAIN HOW THE MURDERER MANAGED TO POISON HIM?



HMM?



A TIC?

IS IT A TIC?

HE'S BITING HIS NAILS



...HIS LEFT THUMB, LIKE THIS



NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, HE USED TO MAKE A FAN OF BANKNOTES AND HE LICKED...

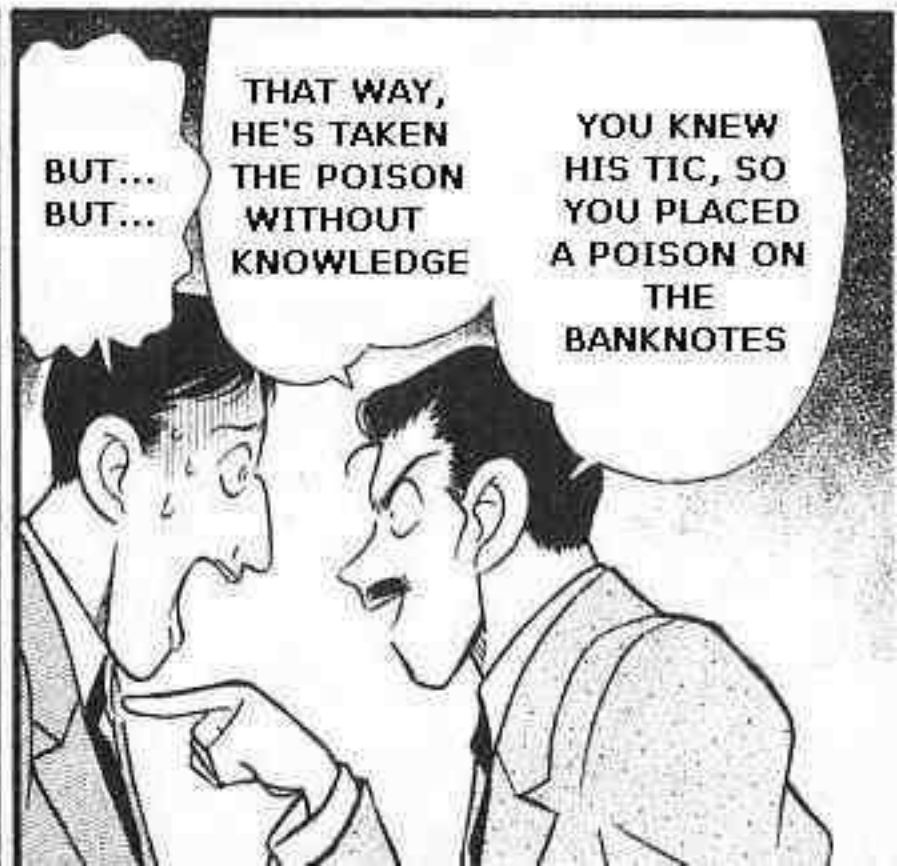
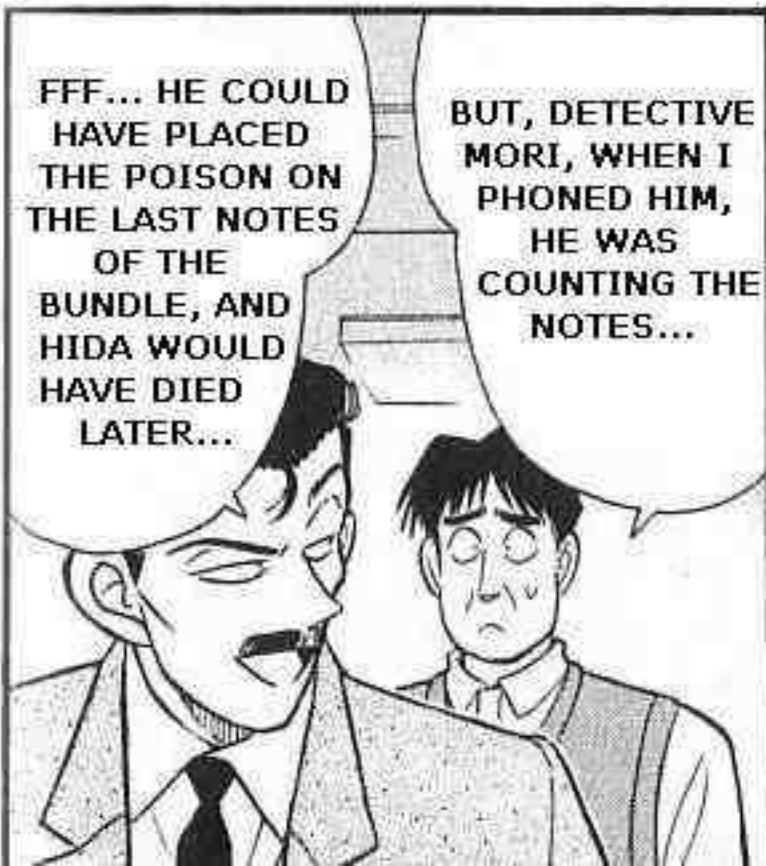
YES. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN HE COUNTED HIS MONEY OR...



CONAN!

A TIC?

TELL ME... DID HE HAVE ANY TIC?





BUT CONSIDERING THAT THE POISON ON THE NOTES HAS THE SHAPE OF HIS THUMB, NO DOUBT IT WAS PLACED AT THAT MOMENT

EH?

ARE YOU LISTENING?

AS DETECTIVE MORI SAID, WE'VE FOUND TRACES OF POISON BOTH ON THE VICTIM'S THUMB AND ON THE NOTES...

WHICH ARE THE RESULTS OF THE FIRST ANALYSES?

I ALWAYS MAKE COFFEE FOR EVERYBODY...

YES, I GAVE IT TO HIM BEFORE LEAVING THE OFFICE

COFFEE?

HMM?

ABSOLUTELY

ARE YOU SURE?

YOU'VE PLACED THE POISON ON THE CUP HANDLE AND...

EH?

HERE WE HAVE OUR MURDERER!

TWO OTHER PLACES?

THE POISON'S BEEN FOUND ON THE THUMB, ON THE NOTES AND ALSO ON TWO OTHER PLACES

OH, WELL...

NO, NO TRACE OF POISON HAS BEEN FOUND IN THE COFFEE NOR ON THE CUP



**WHAT?**

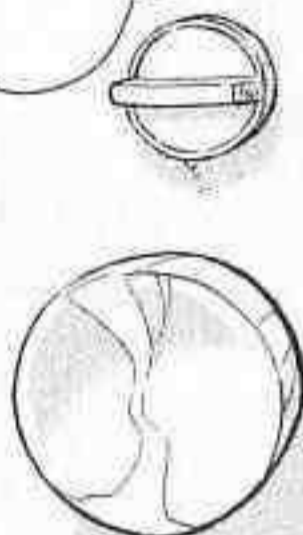
AND ON  
THE LATCH  
OF THE SAME  
DOOR, JUST  
ABOVE THE  
HANDLE

ON THE  
HANDLE OF  
THE DOOR,  
INSIDE THE  
ROOM...



HE WAS IN  
A HURRY  
WHEN WE  
PHONED  
HIM...

BUT, HERE, THE TRACE  
OF THE POISON HAS  
THE SHAPE OF HIS  
THUMB TOO. IT WAS  
HIM WHO PLACED  
THE POISON THERE



MAYBE, OUTSIDE  
HIS OFFICE, HE  
TOUCHED  
SOMETHING ON  
WHICH THE  
POISON WAS  
PLACED...

PERHAPS HE LEFT  
HIS OFFICE WHILE  
HE WAS  
COUNTING THE  
BANKNOTES...



AND HOW DID  
THE  
MURDERER  
MANAGE TO  
DO IT?

BUT WHAT  
COULD HE  
TOUCH?