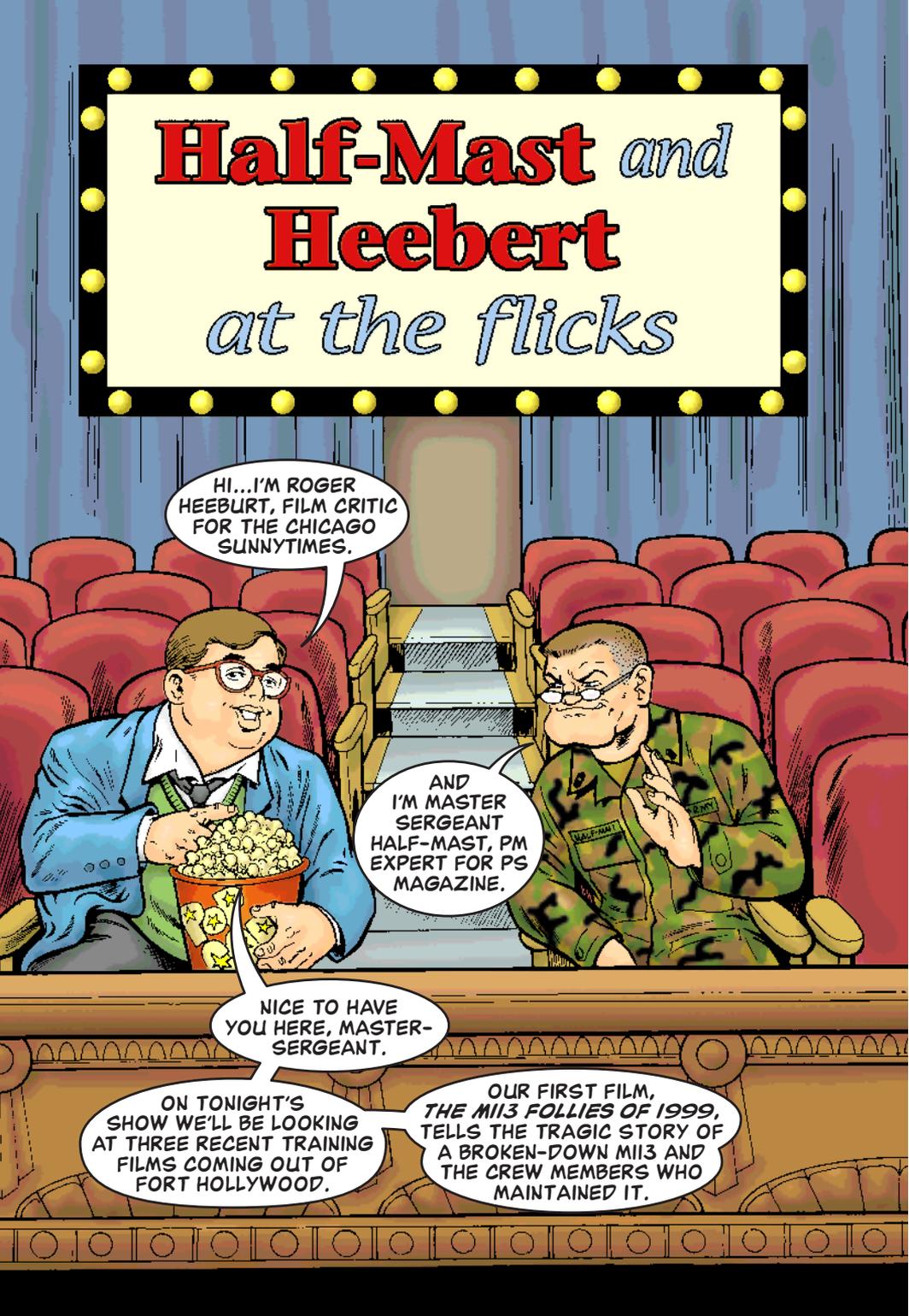


Half-Mast *and* Heebert *at the flicks*



HI...I'M ROGER
HEEBURT, FILM CRITIC
FOR THE CHICAGO
SUNNYTIMES.

AND
I'M MASTER
SERGEANT
HALF-MAST, PM
EXPERT FOR PS
MAGAZINE.

NICE TO HAVE
YOU HERE, MASTER-
SERGEANT.

ON TONIGHT'S
SHOW WE'LL BE LOOKING
AT THREE RECENT TRAINING
FILMS COMING OUT OF
FORT HOLLYWOOD.

OUR FIRST FILM,
THE M113 FOLLIES OF 1999,
TELLS THE TRAGIC STORY OF
A BROKEN-DOWN M113 AND
THE CREW MEMBERS WHO
MAINTAINED IT.

A FEW MOMENTS LATER...

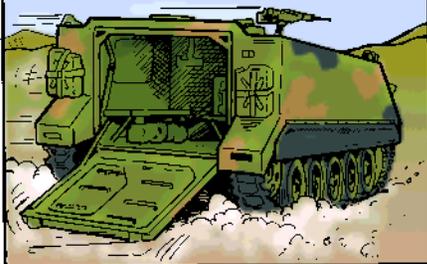
WOW! I GIVE THIS ONE A BIG 'THUMBS UP'. I THOUGHT THAT THE DRAMATIC PACING WAS SO WELL DONE. THE SUBTLE PERFORMANCES BY THE ACTORS TOUCHED ME DEEPLY.

I HAVE TO DISAGREE WITH YOU ON THIS ONE, ROGER. WHERE WAS THEIR MILITARY ADVISOR WHEN THEY MADE THIS MOVIE? ON MARS?!

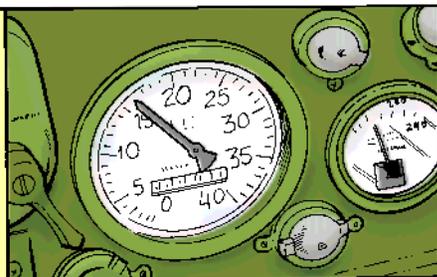
"IN ONE SCENE, THESE FELLOWS HAD W-A-A-A-Y TOO MUCH GEAR STORED ON THE RAMP. IT EVENTUALLY WOULD HAVE BROKEN THE CABLE."



"IN ANOTHER SCENE, THE RAMP WAS CLEAR, BUT THE CREW WAS DRIVING DOWN THE ROAD WITH THE RAMP DOWN! THAT'LL WARP THE RAMP, RUIN THE SEAL, BREAK THE LOCKS AND DAMAGE THE HINGES! ANY SMART M113 OPERATOR WOULD MAKE SURE THE RAMP IS FULLY UP AND LOCKED BEFORE MOVING OUT."



"AND DID YOU SEE THEM RACING THE ENGINE IN ORDER TO RAISE THE RAMP FASTER? IT TAKES 15-20 SECONDS TO RAISE THE RAMP AT 1,200 RPM. SURE, YOU CAN RAISE IT FASTER BY REVVING THE ENGINE-IF THE RAMP PUMP SURVIVES! YOU'VE GOT TO GO STEADY AND HAVE MERCY ON THE PUMP."

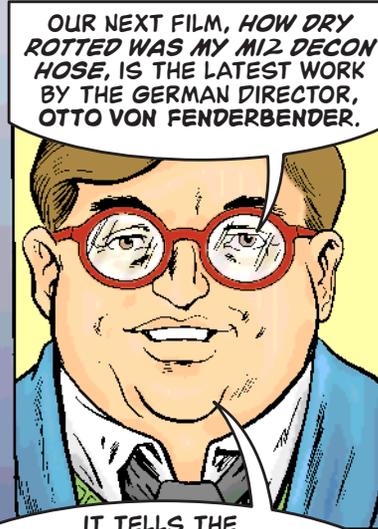


LAST, BUT NOT LEAST, THEY DROPPED THE RAMP MUCH TOO HARD! THAT PUTS A STRAIN ON THE HINGES, PUMP AND CABLE. SLOW AND STEADY IS THE WAY TO GO.



I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GIVE THIS FILM A BIG 'THUMBS DOWN'!

I THINK YOU'RE MISSING THE WHOLE POINT OF THE FILM, BUT I CAN SEE THAT I'M NOT GOING TO CHANGE YOUR MIND!



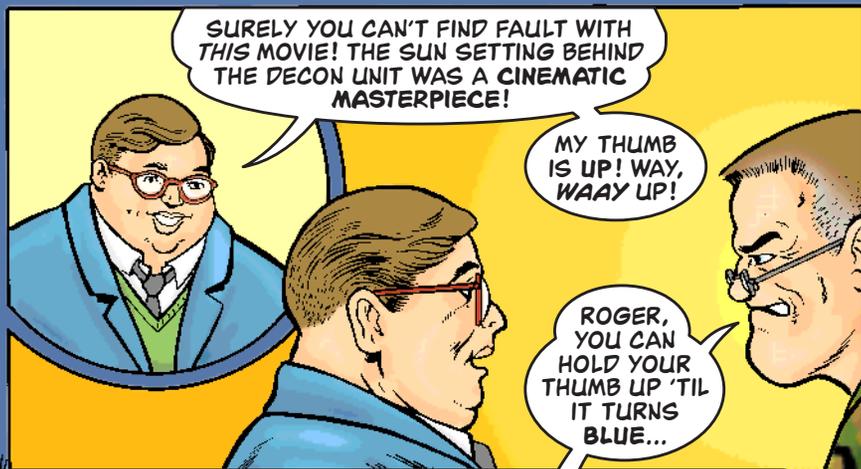
OUR NEXT FILM, *HOW DRY ROTTED WAS MY MIZ DECON HOSE*, IS THE LATEST WORK BY THE GERMAN DIRECTOR, OTTO VON FENDERBENDER.

IT TELLS THE FASCINATING STORY OF A SPECIALIST LEARNING THE ROPES FROM HIS GRIZZLED-BUT-GOOD-HEARTED SERGEANT ON THE CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF AN MIZAI DECON UNIT.



WE'VE GOT A LOT MORE DECON UNITS TO STORE.

RIGHT, SERGEANT!



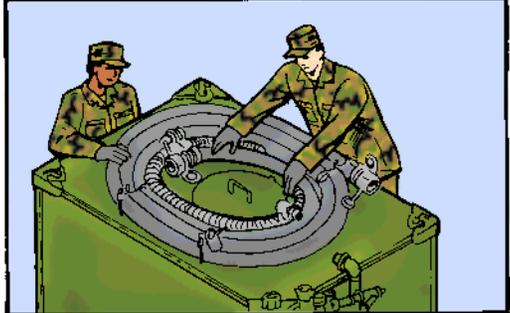
SURELY YOU CAN'T FIND FAULT WITH THIS MOVIE! THE SUN SETTING BEHIND THE DECON UNIT WAS A CINEMATIC MASTERPIECE!

MY THUMB IS UP! WAY, WAAY UP!

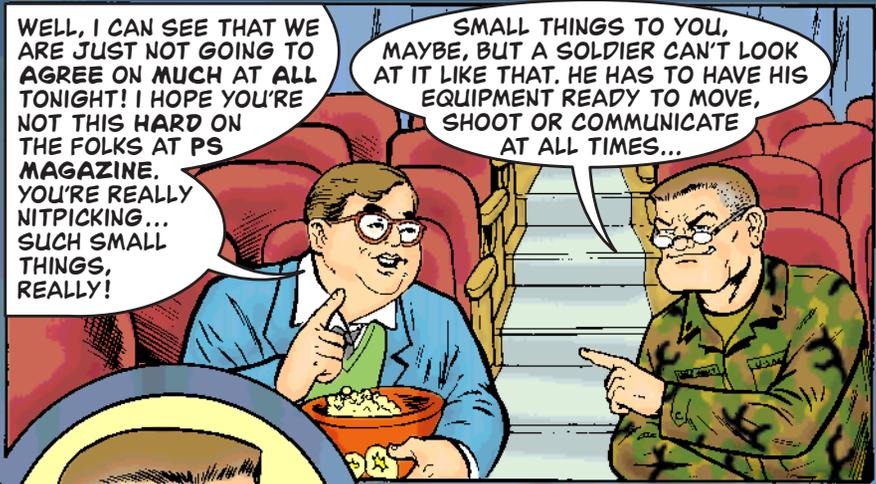
ROGER, YOU CAN HOLD YOUR THUMB UP 'TIL IT TURNS BLUE...

...BUT I HAVE TO GO AGAINST YOU AGAIN! THIS FILM IS A TRAVESTY OF PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE! THESE GUYS SHOULD BE STORING SCISSORS AND PASTE IN A KINDERGARTEN CRAFTS ROOM, NOT STORING MIZAI DECON UNITS FOR THE US ARMY!

FOR STARTERS, BEFORE STORING THE HOSES THEY SHOULD WIPE OFF ALL THE GREASE, CLEAN THEM WITH A MILD DETERGENT MIXED WITH HOT WATER AND THEN LET THEM AIR DRY COMPLETELY. THEY SHOULD STORE THE HOSES IN THE HOSE COMPARTMENTS ON THE MIZ'S PUMP AND BURNER UNITS, MAKING SURE THAT THE COMPARTMENT LID ON THE BURNER IS SECURELY LATCHED TO HELP SEAL OUT WATER. THEY SHOULD STORE THE BLENDER HOSE IN THE HOPPER OF THE WATER TANK AND THE SUCTION HOSE ON TOP OF THE TANK. FINALLY, THEY SHOULD PUT THE PUMP'S COVER ON TO KEEP THE HOSES DRY.

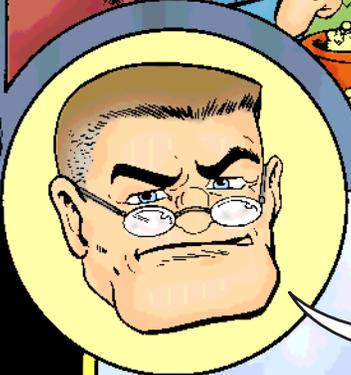


I'D RATHER EAT A MONTH-OLD BISCUIT THAN GIVE THIS MOVIE ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE BIG 'THUMBS DOWN' THAT IT DESERVES!

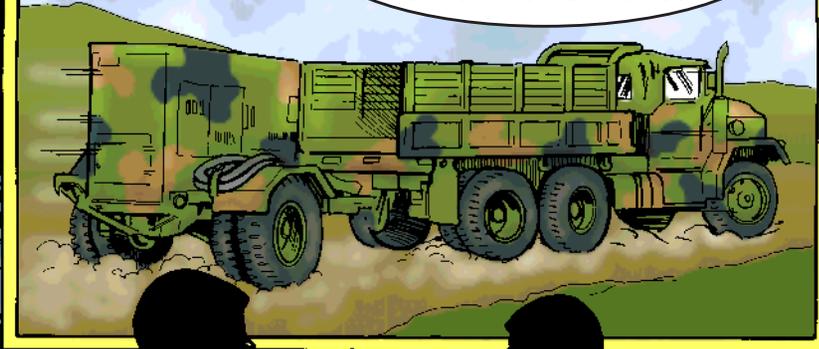


WELL, I CAN SEE THAT WE ARE JUST NOT GOING TO AGREE ON MUCH AT ALL TONIGHT! I HOPE YOU'RE NOT THIS HARD ON THE FOLKS AT PS MAGAZINE. YOU'RE REALLY NITPICKING... SUCH SMALL THINGS, REALLY!

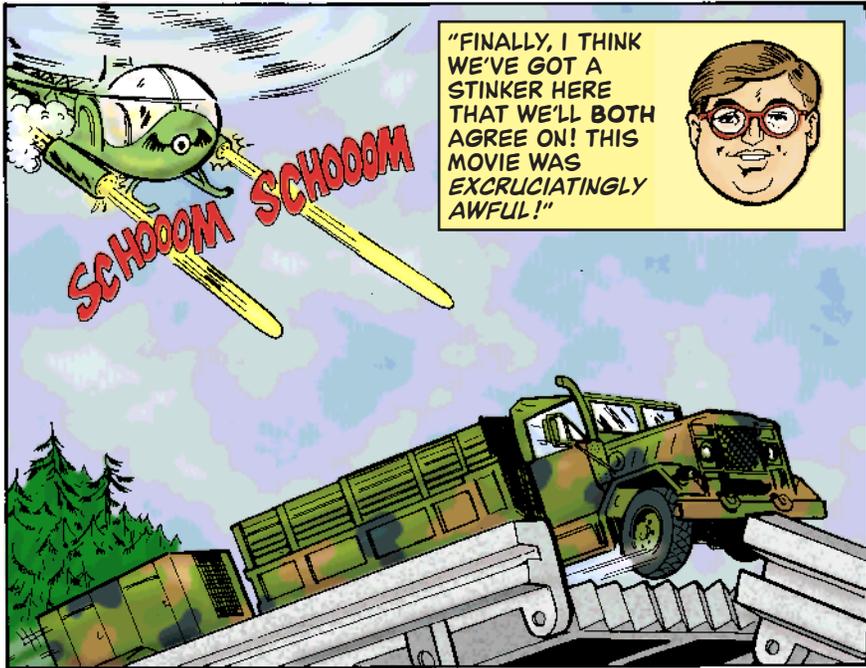
SMALL THINGS TO YOU, MAYBE, BUT A SOLDIER CAN'T LOOK AT IT LIKE THAT. HE HAS TO HAVE HIS EQUIPMENT READY TO MOVE, SHOOT OR COMMUNICATE AT ALL TIMES...



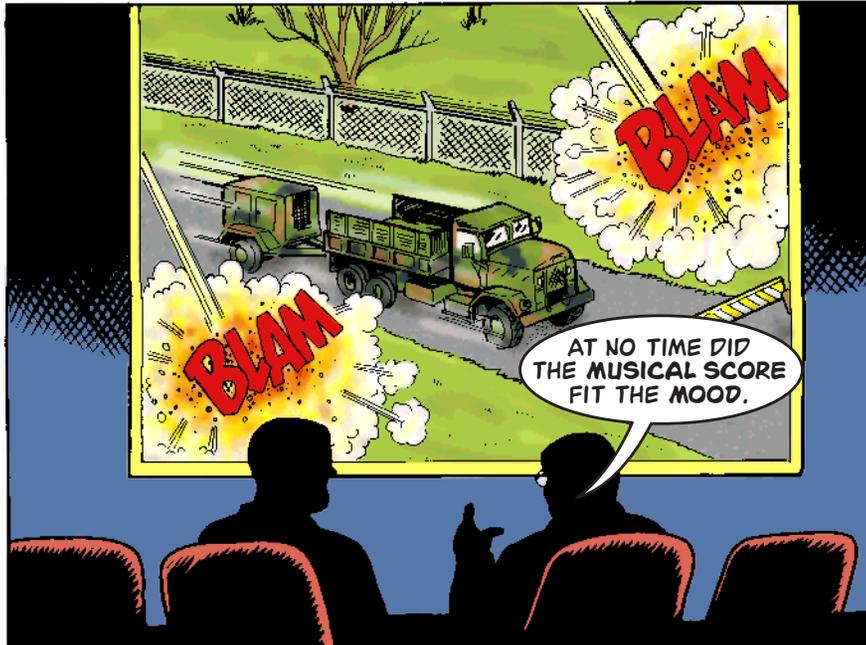
ROGER, OUR LAST FILM, YOU ONLY TRAIL TWICE, IS THE LATEST ENTRY IN THE JAMES BONDO SERIES. OUR HERO, DISGUISED AS AN ARMY SPECIALIST, MUST HAUL A GENERATOR ON A TRAILER FROM FORT DIX TO FORT BLISS...



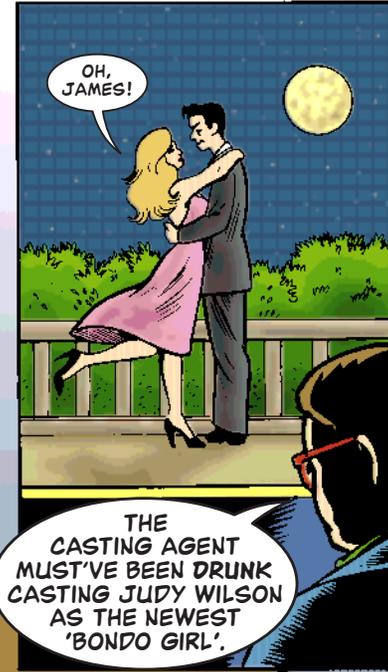
...WITH AN EVIL MADMAN TRYING TO KILL HIM EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.



"FINALLY, I THINK WE'VE GOT A STINKER HERE THAT WE'LL BOTH AGREE ON! THIS MOVIE WAS EXCRUCIATINGLY AWFUL!"

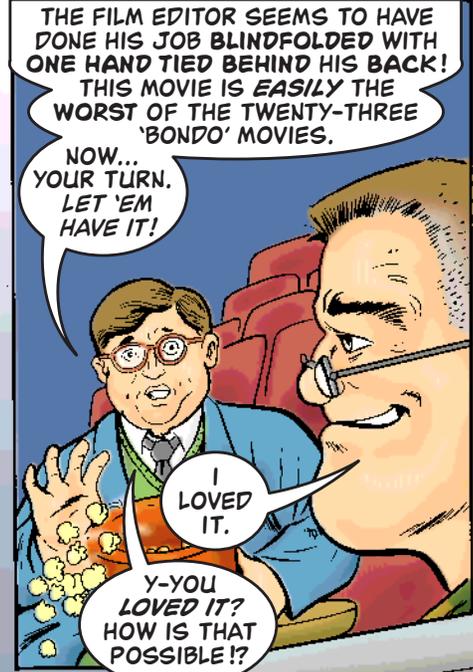


AT NO TIME DID THE MUSICAL SCORE FIT THE MOOD.



OH, JAMES!

THE CASTING AGENT MUST'VE BEEN DRUNK CASTING JUDY WILSON AS THE NEWEST 'BONDO GIRL'.



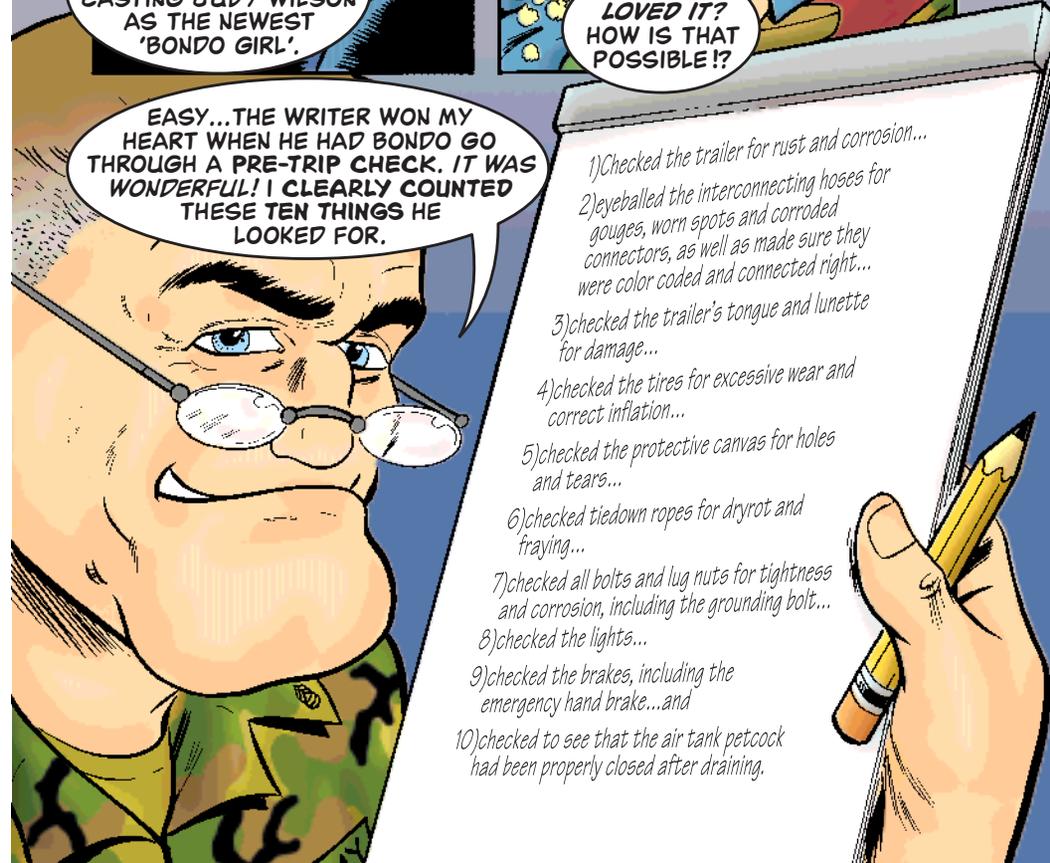
THE FILM EDITOR SEEMS TO HAVE DONE HIS JOB BLINDFOLDED WITH ONE HAND TIED BEHIND HIS BACK! THIS MOVIE IS EASILY THE WORST OF THE TWENTY-THREE 'BONDO' MOVIES.

NOW... YOUR TURN. LET 'EM HAVE IT!

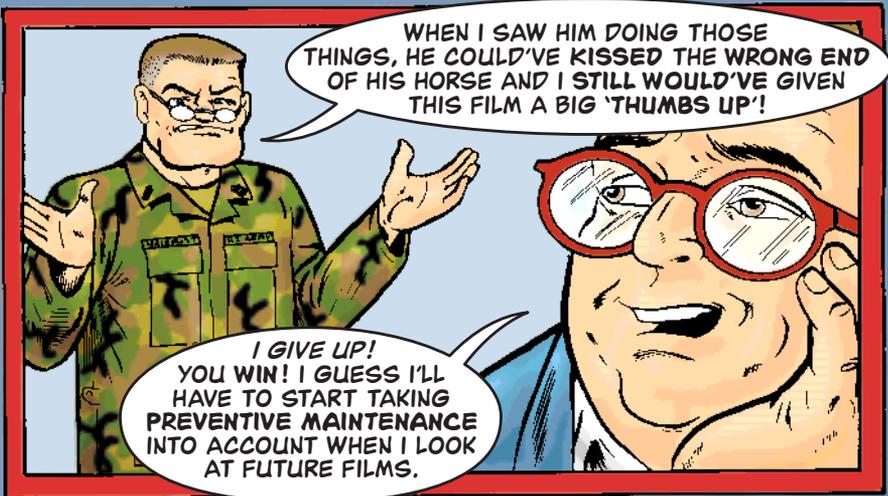
I LOVED IT.

Y-YOU LOVED IT? HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE!?

EASY...THE WRITER WON MY HEART WHEN HE HAD BONDO GO THROUGH A PRE-TRIP CHECK. IT WAS WONDERFUL! I CLEARLY COUNTED THESE TEN THINGS HE LOOKED FOR.



- 1)checked the trailer for rust and corrosion...
- 2)eyeballed the interconnecting hoses for gouges, worn spots and corroded connectors, as well as made sure they were color coded and connected right...
- 3)checked the trailer's tongue and lunette for damage...
- 4)checked the tires for excessive wear and correct inflation...
- 5)checked the protective canvas for holes and tears...
- 6)checked tiedown ropes for dryrot and fraying...
- 7)checked all bolts and lug nuts for tightness and corrosion, including the grounding bolt...
- 8)checked the lights...
- 9)checked the brakes, including the emergency hand brake...and
- 10)checked to see that the air tank petcock had been properly closed after draining.



WHEN I SAW HIM DOING THOSE THINGS, HE COULD'VE KISSED THE WRONG END OF HIS HORSE AND I STILL WOULD'VE GIVEN THIS FILM A BIG 'THUMBS UP'!

I GIVE UP!
YOU WIN! I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO START TAKING PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE INTO ACCOUNT WHEN I LOOK AT FUTURE FILMS.



THANK YOU, MASTER SERGEANT HALF-MAST, FOR SITTING IN WITH ME TONIGHT. UNTIL NEXT WEEK, ALWAYS SAVE US THE AISLE SEAT!

AND REMEMBER, GOOD PM WILL ALWAYS WIN YOU A 'THUMBS UP'!