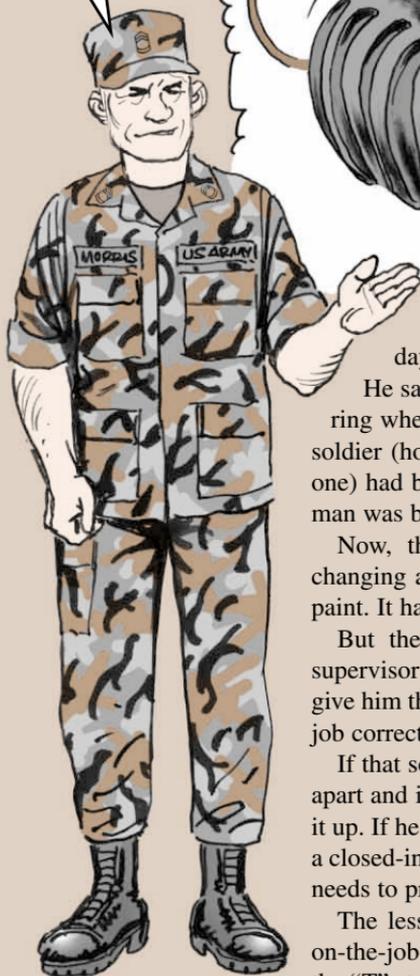


# Don't Forget the 'T' in OJT

DIDJA HEAR THE ONE ABOUT THE SOLDIER AIRING UP THE TIRE...



O' Half-Mast heard a horror story the other day when a PS staffer returned from TDY.

He said he'd seen a soldier standing on top of a splitting wheel, pumping air into a tire. Turns out the young soldier (hope he's around long enough to become an **old** one) had been drafted for the job because the trained tire man was busy elsewhere.

Now, there's nothing wrong with a TAMMS clerk changing a tire, or an infantryman applying some CARC paint. It happens all the time.

But there is something wrong when a maintenance supervisor responsible for a soldier's well-being doesn't give him the training, tools or supervision he needs to do a job correctly and safely.

If that soldier doesn't know a split ring wheel can blow apart and injure him, he won't put it into a tire cage to air it up. If he doesn't know that paint fumes are dangerous in a closed-in room, he won't go looking for the respirator he needs to protect his lungs.

The lesson to be learned, maintenance leaders, is that on-the-job-training (OJT) is fine. Just don't forget what the "T" stands for!