

CAMP STUCKALOT

THESE COLD NIGHTS AND WARM AFTERNOONS ARE HARD TO HANDLE, CONNIE.

HOPE SERGEANT FIRST CLASS PARKEN'S COFFEE IS GOOD AND HOT, BONNIE!

JOE KUBER



THIS WEATHER CAN MEAN TROUBLE FOR EQUIPMENT.

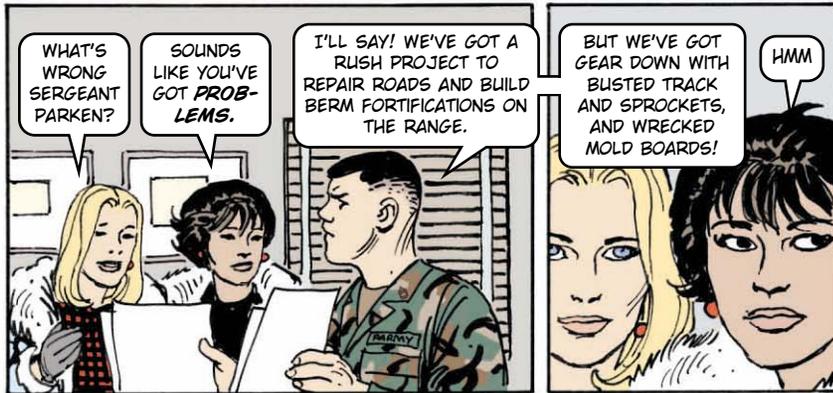
ESPECIALLY IF PROPER PRECAUTIONS AREN'T TAKEN.



LET'S GET INSIDE. SERGEANT PARKEN MUST BE WAITING FOR US.



MY GOSH! WHAT GIVES? I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND IT—



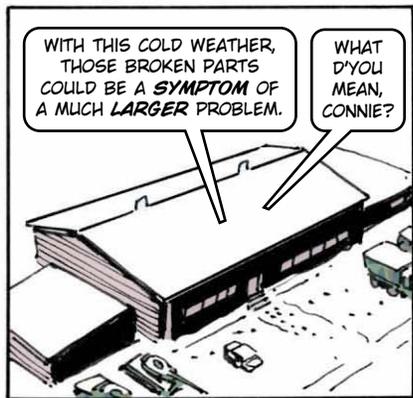
WHAT'S WRONG SERGEANT PARKEN?

SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS.

I'LL SAY! WE'VE GOT A RUSH PROJECT TO REPAIR ROADS AND BUILD BERM FORTIFICATIONS ON THE RANGE.

BUT WE'VE GOT GEAR DOWN WITH BUSTED TRACK AND SPROCKETS, AND WRECKED MOLD BOARDS!

HMM



WITH THIS COLD WEATHER, THOSE BROKEN PARTS COULD BE A SYMPTOM OF A MUCH LARGER PROBLEM.

WHAT D'YOU MEAN, CONNIE?



LET'S TAKE A RIDE UP TO THE WORK SITE AND SEE FOR OURSELVES WHAT'S UP.

CAN YOU DRIVE? MY HMMVV IS BEING USED TO HAUL PARTS UP THERE.



THIS COLD CAN REALLY DO A JOB ON EQUIPMENT SERGEANT PARKEN!

TELL ME ABOUT IT, BONNIE.

WE'RE WAY BEHIND SCHEDULE AND OUR EQUIPMENT REPAIR COSTS ARE SKYROCKETING!



WE'RE HERE SERGEANT PARKEN.

DID YOU SEE THAT SIGN? SOME JOKER MUST HAVE GIVEN THE RANGE A NICKNAME!

YEAH. AND BUILT A SNOW-MAN, TOO!



SOMEBODY'S GOT A SENSE OF HUMOR.

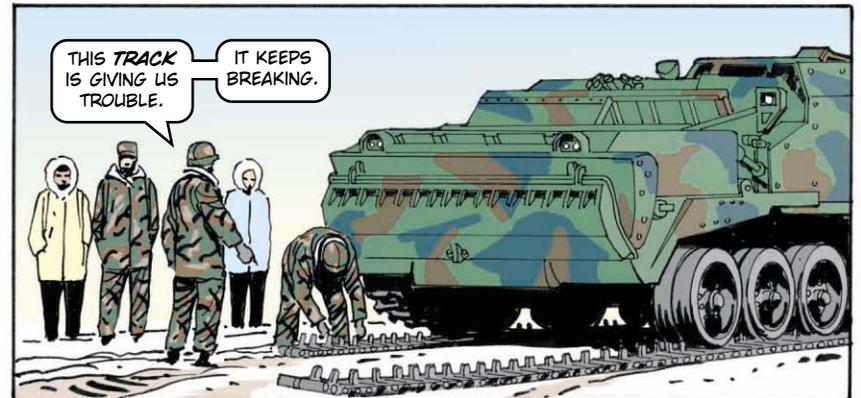


BETTER THEY SHOULD BE WORKIN' INSTEAD OF PLAYIN' IN THE SNOW.



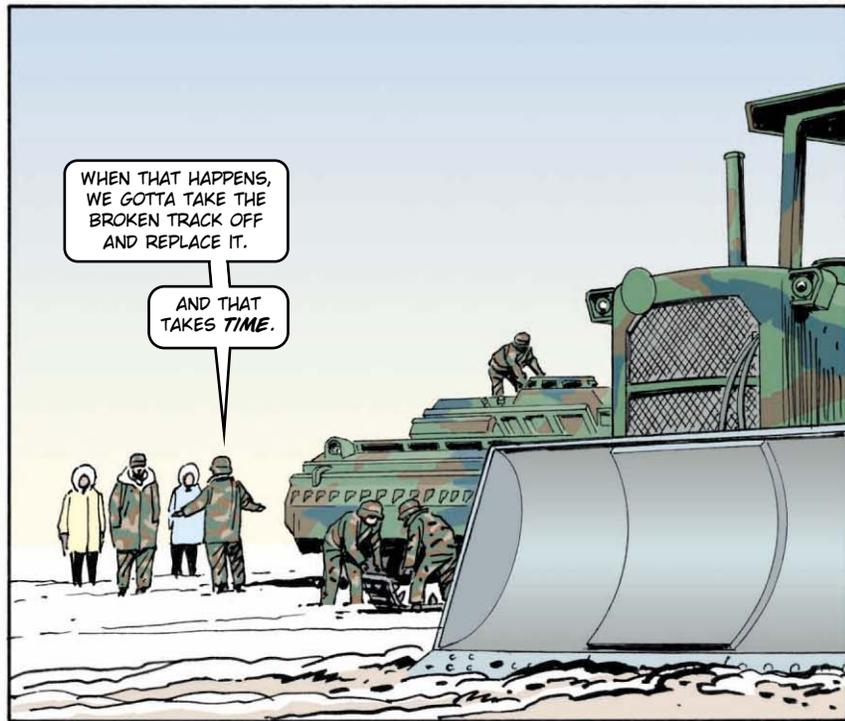
LOOKS LIKE THAT ACE IS OUT OF COMMISSION.

HI, SERGEANT PARKEN.



THIS TRACK IS GIVING US TROUBLE.

IT KEEPS BREAKING.



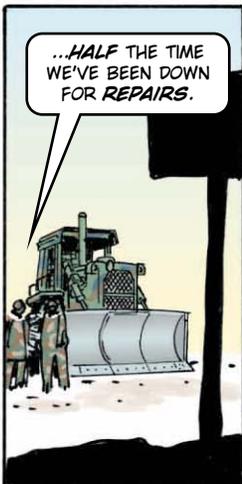
WHEN THAT HAPPENS, WE GOTTA TAKE THE BROKEN TRACK OFF AND REPLACE IT.

AND THAT TAKES *TIME*.



YOU'VE BEEN HERE MORE THAN *TWO WEEKS* AND HARDLY GOTTEN ANYTHING DONE!

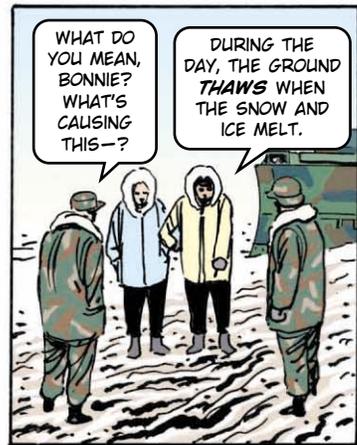
THAT'S TRUE, BUT...



...*HALF* THE TIME WE'VE BEEN DOWN FOR *REPAIRS*.



I THINK I SEE THE *REAL* VILLAIN IN THIS SITUATION.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, BONNIE? WHAT'S CAUSING THIS--?

DURING THE DAY, THE GROUND *THAWS* WHEN THE SNOW AND ICE MELT.



"THE MUD GETS *SOFT* AND WET... AND THE TRACKS *SINK IN*."



THEN, WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN, THE MUD *FREEZES* AS HARD AS *CONCRETE*.

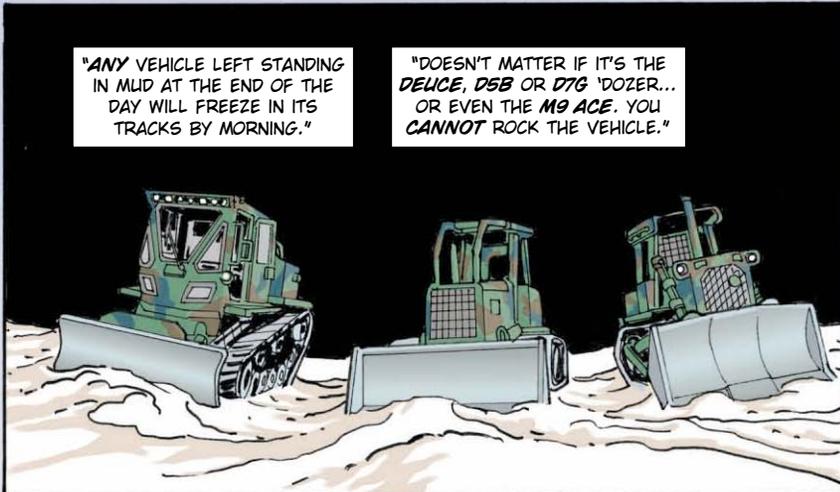


A VEHICLE LEFT SITTING IN MUD WILL FREEZE IN ITS TRACKS OVERNIGHT!



"THE DEEPER THE MUD, THE DEEPER THE TRACKS SINK..."

"...AND THE MORE *FIRMLY* FIXED IN THE MUD IT BECOMES."



"ANY VEHICLE LEFT STANDING IN MUD AT THE END OF THE DAY WILL FREEZE IN ITS TRACKS BY MORNING."

"DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S THE *DELUCE*, *DSB* OR *D7G* 'DOZER... OR EVEN THE *M9 ACE*. YOU CANNOT ROCK THE VEHICLE."



YOU CAN'T ROCK THE—

HMM... UH-OH!



"IF YOU DO, YOU CAN END UP WITH A *BROKEN TRACK*, *SNAPPED DRIVE SPROCKET TEETH* AND A VEHICLE THAT'S STILL *STUCK*."



SO WHAT DO WE DO? WE NEED TO *FINISH* THIS JOB BY THE *END* OF THE *WEEK*.



CAMP STUCK-A-LOT



HERE'S A QUICK *CHECKLIST* OF THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND



"PARK YOUR VEHICLE ON *HIGH GROUND*, IF POSSIBLE. WATER DRAINS DOWNHILL... SO THE MUD WON'T BE QUITE SO DEEP."



"AVOID PARKING IN *DEEP RUTS* WORN BY OTHER VEHICLES. SOME RUTS MAY BE DEEP ENOUGH TO BOTTOM OUT YOUR VEHICLE'S HULL. IF YOU LEAVE IT THERE, YOU WON'T BE *MOVING* IT 'TIL SPRING."



"USE A SHOVEL TO SCOOP OUT THE MUD THAT HAS COLLECTED ON AND BETWEEN ROADWHEELS AND DRIVE SPROCKETS."



IF YOU TAKE THESE PRECAUTIONS, YOU'VE GOT A BETTER CHANCE FOR *FEWER* PROBLEMS.

MAKES SENSE, BONNIE. ANY OTHER SUGGESTIONS?



