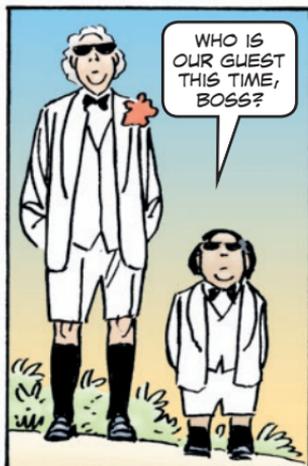
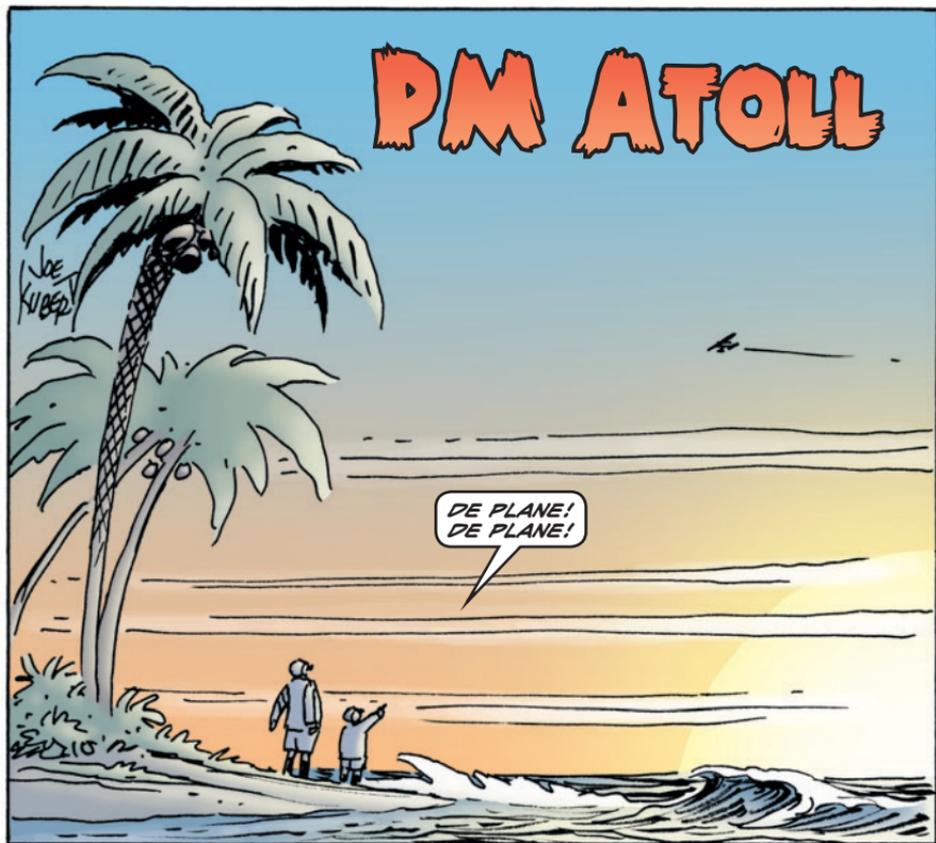


PM ATOLL



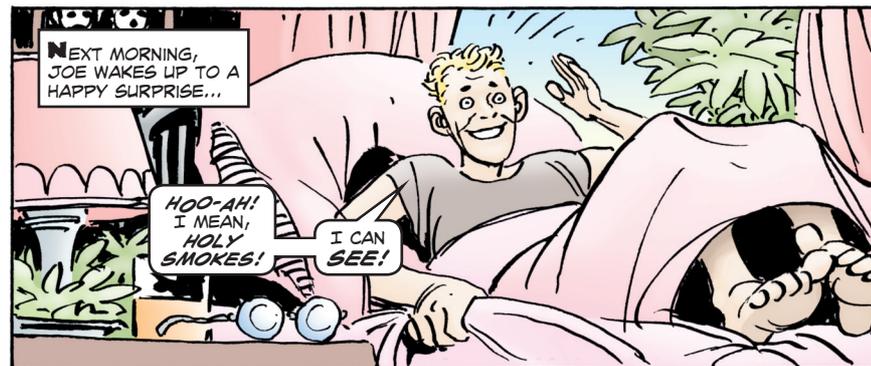
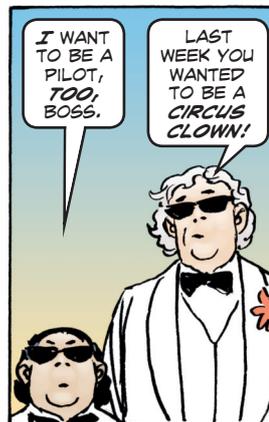
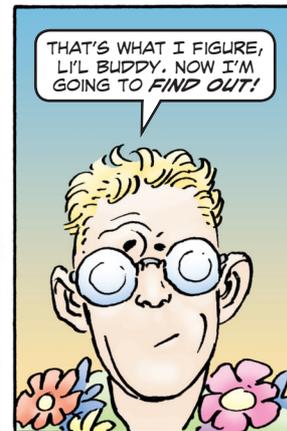
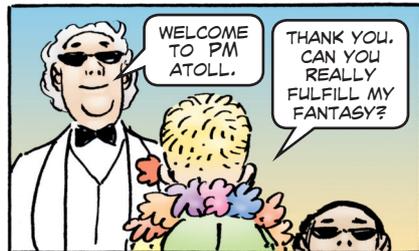
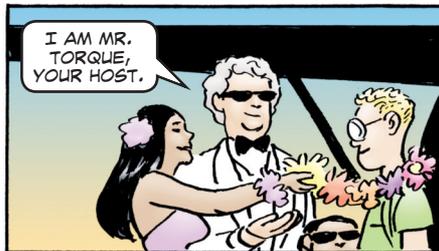
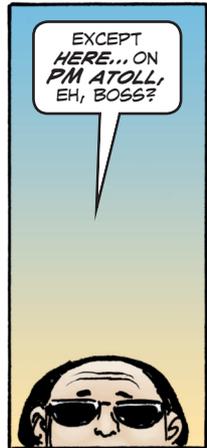
PS 694

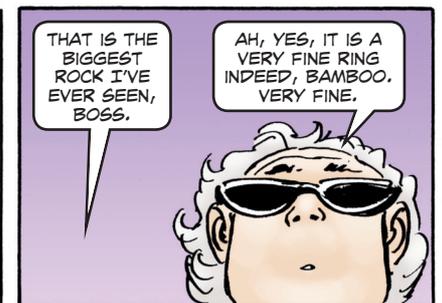
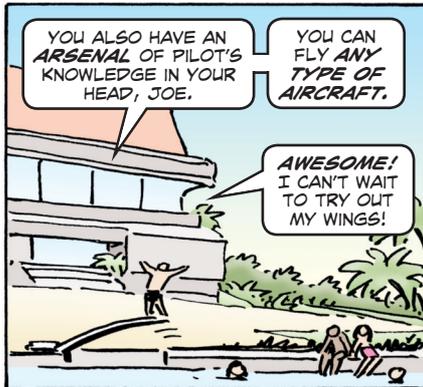
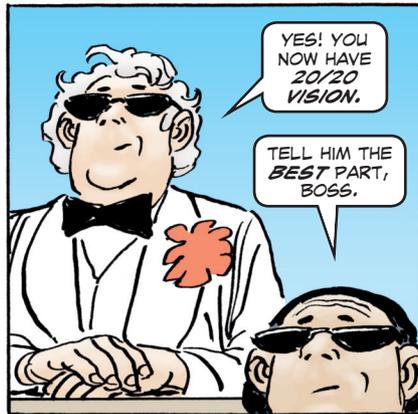
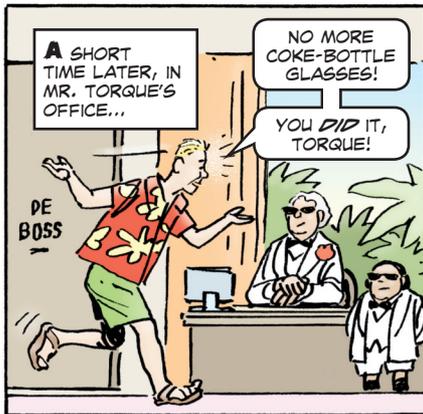


27



SEP 10







AREN'T YOU GOING TO WISH ME LUCK?

I'M GOING TO PROPOSE TO CINDY.



I'M GOING TO SWOOP THE BIRD IN... LAND ON THE BEACH... AND SURPRISE HER.

I TOLD HER TO MEET ME AT NOON. I BETTER GO NOW.



OKAY, JUST PLAIN JOE... *GOOD LUCK.* BUT WITH THAT ROCK, YOU DON'T NEED IT.

JOE... WE WISH YOU THE VERY BEST. NOW YOU WILL LEARN WHAT IT MEANS WHEN DREAMS COME TRUE.



A SHORT TIME LATER...

KOFF KOFF

GAH! IT WON'T TURN OVER!

IT KEEPS COUGHING AND QUITTING!



HMM... LET'S SEE NOW...



ALL I NEED TO DO IS REPLACE THE -UH- THINGAMIJIG TO THE WHAT-CHA-MA-CALL-IT... NO...



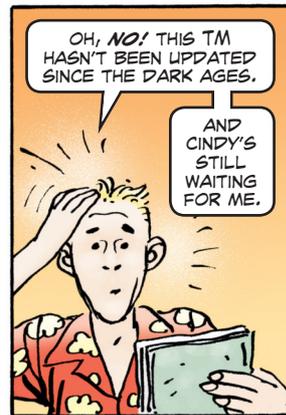
...WAIT. *THAT* DOOHICKEY GOES *HERE*, DOESN'T IT?



MY GOSH! I'VE FORGOTTEN ALL MY MECHANICAL KNOWLEDGE!

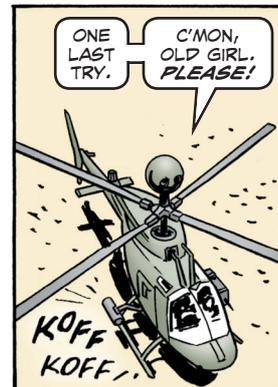


WAIT! THERE'S STILL THE *TM!*



OH, *NO!* THIS *TM* HASN'T BEEN UPDATED SINCE THE DARK AGES.

AND CINDY'S STILL WAITING FOR ME.



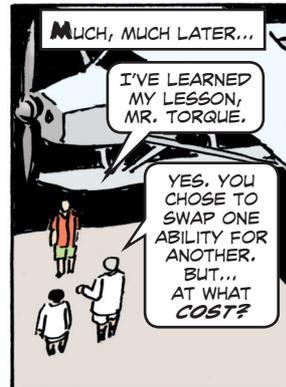
ONE LAST TRY.

C'MON, OLD GIRL. PLEASE!

KOFF KOFF



NO-O-O-O



MUCH, MUCH LATER...

I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON, MR. TORQUE.

YES. YOU CHOSE TO SWAP ONE ABILITY FOR ANOTHER. BUT... AT WHAT *COST?*

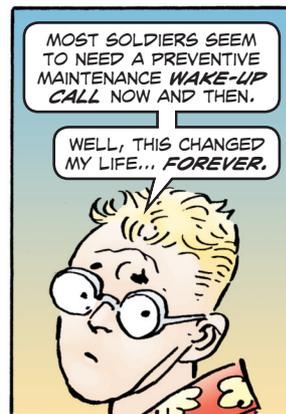


MR. TORQUE, YOU'VE TAUGHT ME HOW *IMPORTANT* MY *REAL* JOB IS.

I *DIDN'T* REALLY WIN A TRIP HERE, DID I?

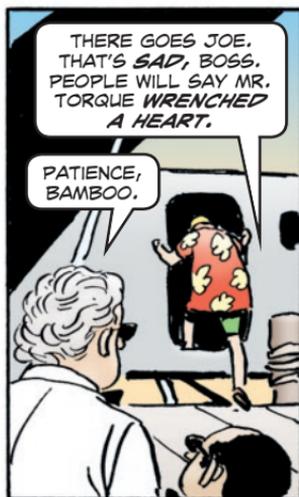


NO. MEMBERS OF YOUR UNIT PITCHED IN TO SEND YOU HERE.



MOST SOLDIERS SEEM TO NEED A PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE *WAKE-UP CALL* NOW AND THEN.

WELL, THIS CHANGED MY LIFE... *FOREVER.*



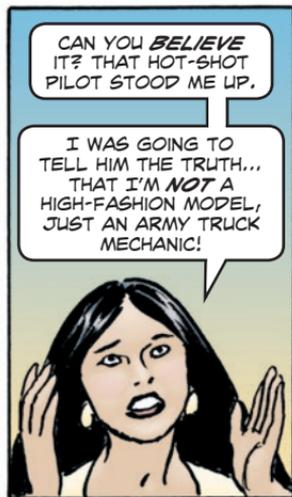
THERE GOES JOE.
THAT'S *SAD*, BOSS.
PEOPLE WILL SAY MR.
TORQUE *WRENCHED*
A HEART.

PATIENCE,
BAMBOO.



MR.
TORQUE,
IS IT TIME
TO GO?

YES,
SERGEANT
SMITH. I'M
AFRAID
YOUR
FANTASY
IS OVER.



CAN YOU *BELIEVE*
IT? THAT HOT-SHOT
PILOT STOOD ME UP.

I WAS GOING TO
TELL HIM THE TRUTH...
THAT I'M *NOT* A
HIGH-FASHION MODEL,
JUST AN ARMY TRUCK
MECHANIC!



PERHAPS THAT WAS NOT SO MUCH
A *LOVE LOST* BUT A *LESSON*
LEARNED, EH, SERGEANT?



THAT'S TRUE.
I ALSO LEARNED
ANOTHER KIND
OF PM-
PERSONAL
MAINTENANCE.

I'M ACTUALLY
LOOKING
FORWARD
TO REAL FOOD AND
GETTING GREASE
UNDER MY SHORT
FINGERNAILS
AGAIN.



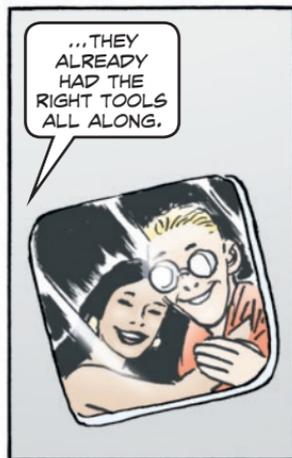
THERE
THEY
GO,
BOSS.

YES. TWO
GREAT
MECHANICS
FINALLY
TOGETHER.



BOSS, YOU
ARE THE
GREATEST!

IT'S NOTHING,
BAMBOO...



...THEY
ALREADY
HAD THE
RIGHT TOOLS
ALL ALONG.