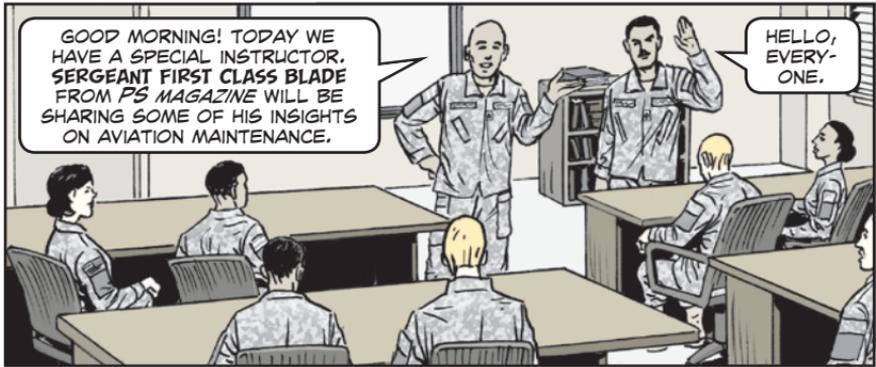




THIS IS THE *FIRST* OF A TWO-PART ARTICLE WHERE I DISCUSS **TWELVE DIFFERENT PROBLEMS** THAT CAN OCCUR WHILE YOU PERFORM AVIATION MAINTENANCE.

THIS MONTH, I'M COVERING THE *FIRST SIX*. NEXT MONTH, I'LL BE BACK HERE TO DESCRIBE THE *FINAL SIX*!

Don't Be Done in by Aviation's Dirty Dozen



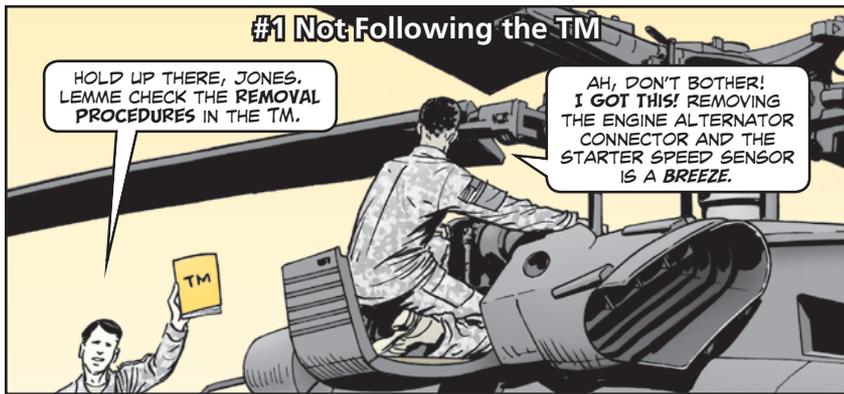
GOOD MORNING! TODAY WE HAVE A SPECIAL INSTRUCTOR. **SERGEANT FIRST CLASS BLADE** FROM *PS* MAGAZINE WILL BE SHARING SOME OF HIS INSIGHTS ON AVIATION MAINTENANCE.

HELLO, EVERYONE.

I WANT TO GIVE YOU **NEW MECHANICS** A HEADS UP ON SOME OF THE **COMMON THINGS** THAT'LL TRIP YOU UP IF YOU GIVE THEM A CHANCE.

I LIKE TO CALL THEM **AVIATION'S DIRTY DOZEN**.

EACH OF THESE SITUATIONS CAN USUALLY BE AVOIDED IF YOU DO MAINTENANCE BY THE BOOK. IN FACT, THAT LEADS TO THE *FIRST* OF THE DIRTY DOZEN...



#1 Not Following the TM

HOLD UP THERE, JONES. LEMME CHECK THE REMOVAL PROCEDURES IN THE TM.

AH, DON'T BOTHER! I GOT THIS! REMOVING THE ENGINE ALTERNATOR CONNECTOR AND THE STARTER SPEED SENSOR IS A BREEZE.



DON'T GET NAILED BY **OVERCONFIDENCE**. NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU'VE PERFORMED A MAINTENANCE TASK, THERE'S ALWAYS A CHANCE YOU'LL FORGET SOMETHING.

AND IF THE TASK HAS BEEN **UPDATED**, YOU CAN REALLY LEAVE OUT SOME IMPORTANT STEPS. PLAIN AND SIMPLE, ALWAYS FOLLOW THE TM WHEN DOING MAINTENANCE.



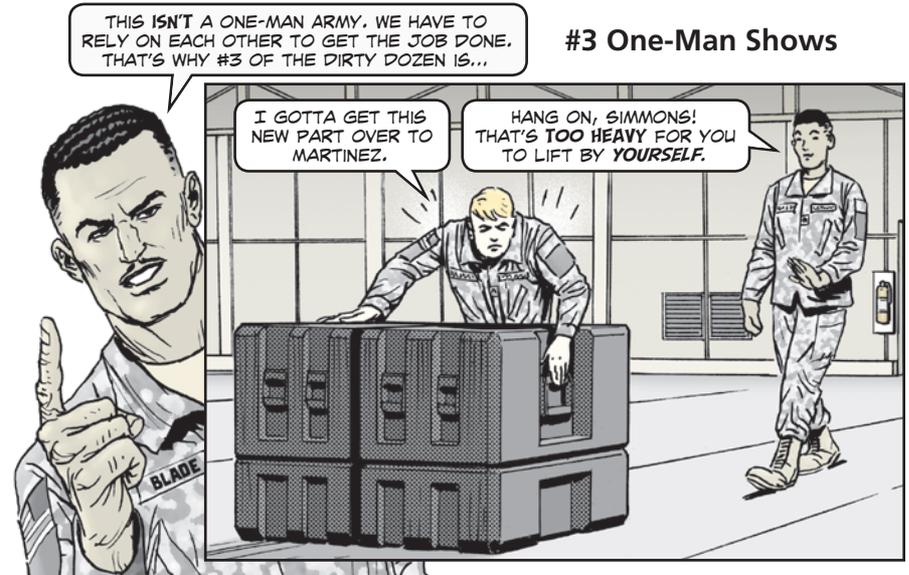
#2 Using the Wrong Tools

HEY, PASS ME THOSE CHANNEL LOCK PLIERS, WILLYA'?

SHOULDN'T YOU BE USING THE CANNON PLUG PLIERS INSTEAD?



USE THE **RIGHT TOOL** FOR THE JOB **EVERY TIME**. IF YOU DON'T, THE JOB DOESN'T GET DONE PROPERLY. AND JUST MAYBE SOMETHING IMPORTANT WILL COME LOOSE DURING FLIGHT.

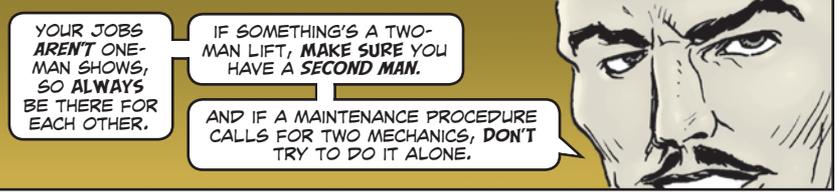


#3 One-Man Shows

THIS ISN'T A ONE-MAN ARMY. WE HAVE TO RELY ON EACH OTHER TO GET THE JOB DONE. THAT'S WHY #3 OF THE DIRTY DOZEN IS...

I GOTTA GET THIS NEW PART OVER TO MARTINEZ.

HANG ON, SIMMONS! THAT'S TOO HEAVY FOR YOU TO LIFT BY YOURSELF.



YOUR JOBS **AREN'T** ONE-MAN SHOWS, SO ALWAYS BE THERE FOR EACH OTHER.

IF SOMETHING'S A TWO-MAN LIFT, **MAKE SURE** YOU HAVE A **SECOND MAN**.

AND IF A MAINTENANCE PROCEDURE CALLS FOR TWO MECHANICS, **DON'T TRY** TO DO IT ALONE.



IN A PERFECT WORLD, WE'D BE ABLE TO **FINISH** ONE JOB BEFORE HAVING TO START **ANOTHER** ONE.

ANYONE WANT TO TAKE A GUESS AT #4 OF THE DIRTY DOZEN?



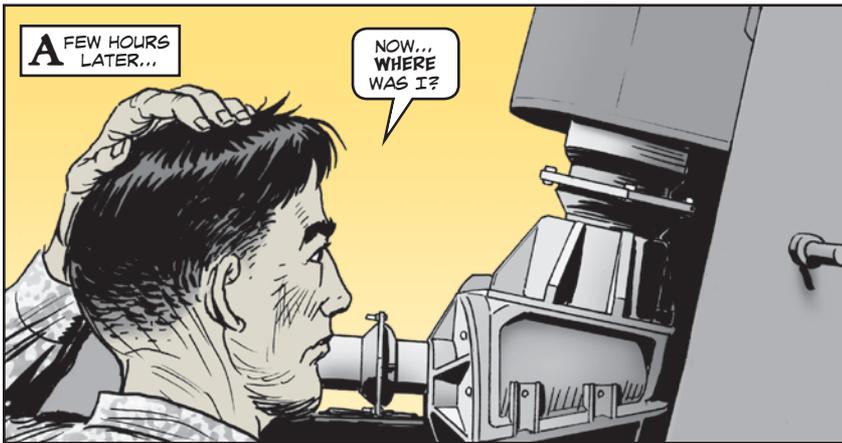
DISTRACTIONS?



#4 Distractions

THIS JOB SHOULDN'T TAKE TOO LONG...

HEY, PEREZ! DID YOU FORGET ABOUT THAT MANDATORY CLASS WE HAVE TO TAKE THIS MORNING?



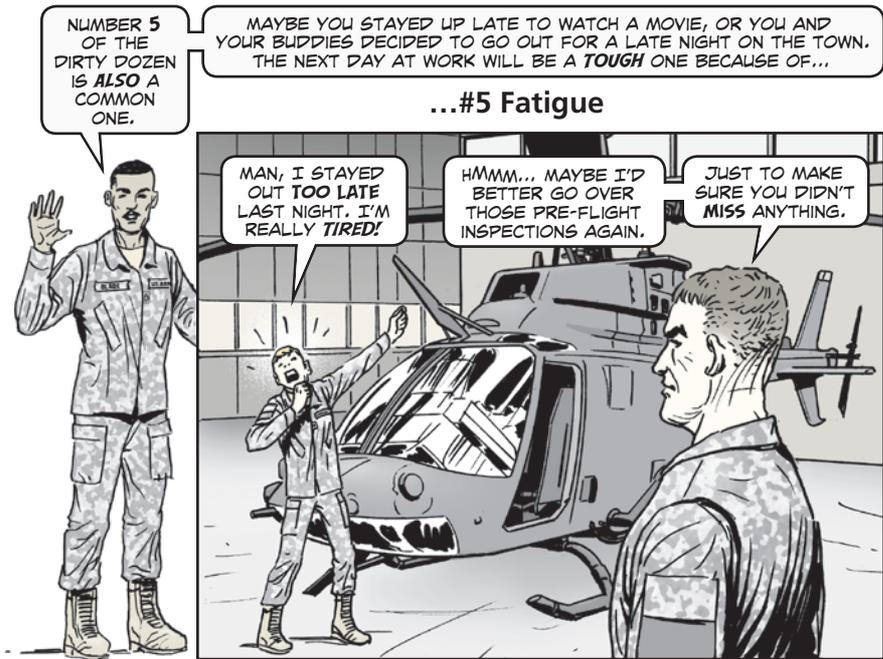
A FEW HOURS LATER...

NOW... WHERE WAS I?



DISTRACTIONS HAPPEN. SO MAKE SURE YOU KEEP NOTES OF WHAT YOU'VE DONE BEFORE LEAVING A MAINTENANCE TASK. AND WHEN YOU GET BACK TO THE JOB, GO BACK TWO OR THREE STEPS TO MAKE SURE YOU DIDN'T MISS ANYTHING.

- #1 Not Following the
- #2 Using the Wrong
- #3 One-Man Shows
- #4 Distractions



NUMBER 5 OF THE DIRTY DOZEN IS ALSO A COMMON ONE.

MAYBE YOU STAYED UP LATE TO WATCH A MOVIE, OR YOU AND YOUR BUDDIES DECIDED TO GO OUT FOR A LATE NIGHT ON THE TOWN. THE NEXT DAY AT WORK WILL BE A TOUGH ONE BECAUSE OF...

...#5 Fatigue

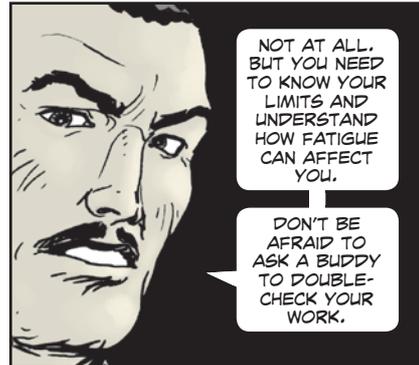
MAN, I STAYED OUT TOO LATE LAST NIGHT. I'M REALLY TIRED!

HMMM... MAYBE I'D BETTER GO OVER THOSE PRE-FLIGHT INSPECTIONS AGAIN.

JUST TO MAKE SURE YOU DIDN'T MISS ANYTHING.



SO ARE YOU SAYING WE SHOULDN'T GO OUT OR HAVE A GOOD TIME?



NOT AT ALL. BUT YOU NEED TO KNOW YOUR LIMITS AND UNDERSTAND HOW FATIGUE CAN AFFECT YOU.

DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK A BUDDY TO DOUBLE-CHECK YOUR WORK.



#6 Unsaf

ANOTHER PROBLEM WITH FATIGUE IS THAT IT LEADS TO #6 OF THE DIRTY DOZEN...

#6 Unsafe Practices

HEY, WHAT HAPPENED TO SIMPSON?

YOU DIDN'T HEAR? HE WAS HOLDING ON TO AN ARC-220 HIGH FREQUENCY RADIO ANTENNA WHEN IT WAS KEYED. BURNED HIM PRETTY BAD.



MAINTENANCE **WITHOUT SAFETY** IS AN ACCIDENT LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO HAPPEN!

PAY ATTENTION WHEN SAFETY ISSUES ARE BROUGHT UP, AND MAKE SURE OTHERS LISTEN, TOO.

- #1 Not Following the TM
- #2 Using the Wrong Tools
- #3 One-Man Shows
- #4 Distractions
- #5 Fatigue
- #6 Unsafe Practices



BE WILLING TO SPEAK UP IF YOU SEE SOMEONE DOING AN **UNSAFE** ACT.

OK, WHO'S READY FOR SOME LUNCH? I WANT TO MAKE SURE I HAVE YOUR **COMPLETE** ATTENTION WHEN WE COVER THE LAST SIX SITUATIONS IN AVIATION'S DIRTY DOZEN.



WHAT ARE THE FINAL SIX OF AVIATION'S DIRTY DOZEN? FIND OUT NEXT MONTH!

