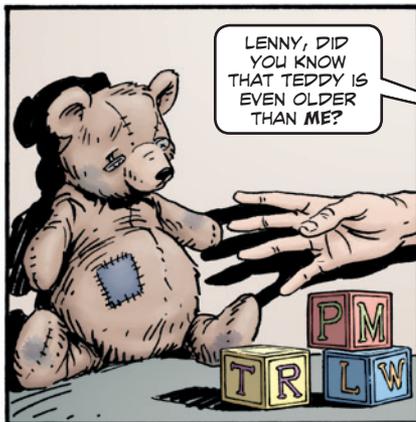


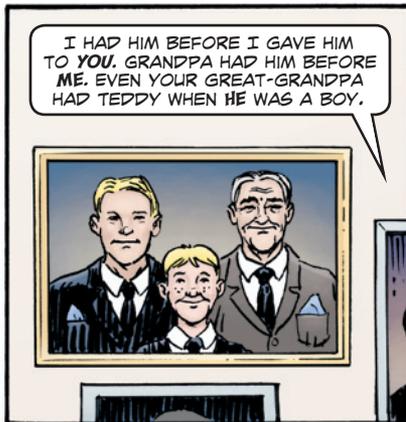
The Untold Tale of
TEDDY *and the*
ROUGH RIDERS

featuring **THEODORE ROOSEVELT**
in his breakthrough performance!





LENNY, DID YOU KNOW THAT TEDDY IS EVEN OLDER THAN ME?



I HAD HIM BEFORE I GAVE HIM TO YOU. GRANDPA HAD HIM BEFORE ME. EVEN YOUR GREAT-GRANDPA HAD TEDDY WHEN HE WAS A BOY.



WOW, TEDDY'S ANCIENT-OLD! IS THAT WHY HIS EYES DON'T MATCH?

HA! PROLLY.



I 'SPECT OL' TEDDY'S LOST MORE'N A FEW BUTTONS OVER THE YEARS. HE'S BEEN ON LOTS OF ADVENTURES, AFTER ALL.

LIKE WHAT?



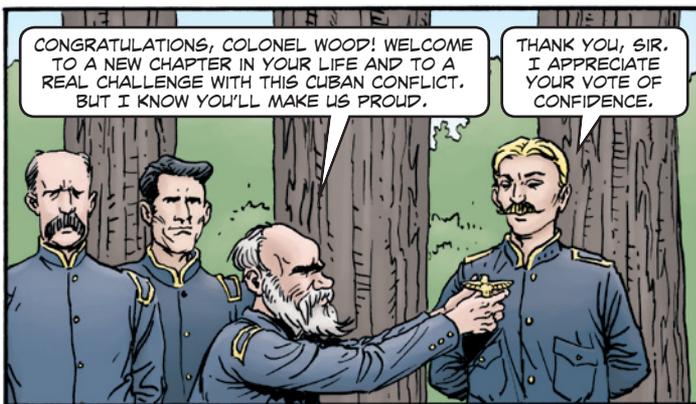
WELL, THERE'S ONE TALE THAT THIS SCRUFFY OL' FELLA LIKES ME TO TELL, IF YOU'D LIKE TO HEAR IT.

SURE!



WELL, SNUGGLE DOWN AND LISTEN. JUST LIKE YOUR NAME'S BEEN HANDED DOWN FOR GENERATIONS, LENNY, SO TOO HAS THIS FAMILY MASCOT. TEDDY'S FIRST ADVENTURE HAPPENED WAY BACK IN 1898...

...AFTER YOUR GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPA LEONARD WOOD WAS PROMOTED TO COLONEL FOR THE SPANISH AMERICAN WAR...

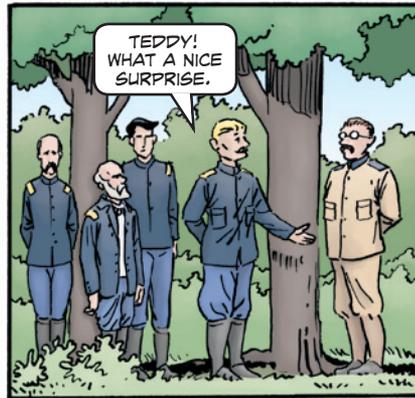


CONGRATULATIONS, COLONEL WOOD! WELCOME TO A NEW CHAPTER IN YOUR LIFE AND TO A REAL CHALLENGE WITH THIS CUBAN CONFLICT. BUT I KNOW YOU'LL MAKE US PROUD.

THANK YOU, SIR. I APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE OF CONFIDENCE.



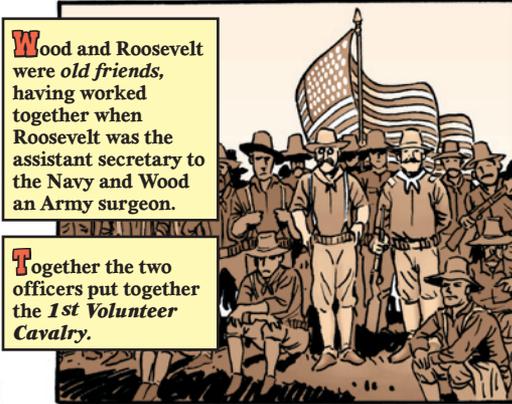
NOT JUST MINE. AN OLD FRIEND OF YOURS HAD A SAY IN THIS, TOO.



TEDDY! WHAT A NICE SURPRISE.



COULDN'T MISS THIS CEREMONY, LEO. I'M JOINING UP, TOO. YOU'LL NEED A DEPENDABLE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

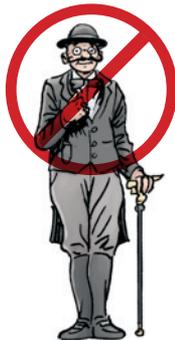


Wood and Roosevelt were old friends, having worked together when Roosevelt was the assistant secretary to the Navy and Wood an Army surgeon.

Together the two officers put together the 1st Volunteer Cavalry.

More than 23,000 men wanted to join the volunteers, but Wood and Roosevelt had to winnow it down to 1,250.

Ordinary fellows need *not* apply—a man had to shoot and ride with the *best* of 'em to make the cut.



Many of those chosen were *rough-hewn* fellas, like cowboys, ranchers and miners. Some were policemen or former veterans who wanted to see action again.

Even a gambler or two tossed his hat in the ring.



To set them apart from the regular Army troops, they wore slouch hats, blue flannel shirts, brown trousers, neckerchiefs, leggings and boots. This look led to their nickname, the

ROUGH RIDERS!



Experienced Army men who had fought in the Civil and Indian Wars were hired on as the Rough Rider officers.



WE ONLY GOT A SHORT TIME TO POLISH THE *ROUGH EDGES* OFF THESE RECRUITS.

But more importantly, they taught their men how to take care of their mounts and equipment.



LISSEN UP, YUH GREENHORNS! IT'S TIME FER SOME EDIFYIN'! WARS ARE *WON* OR *LOST* BY THE *SLIMMEST* OF MARGINS!

YOUR LIVES NOW DEPEND ON *PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE*—WHAT I LIKES T'CALL PM!



Even with all their prep, it *wasn't* smooth sailing for the Rough Riders when they deployed.

Logistical problems meant most of the horses and mules they needed didn't make it to Cuba. so...

UHH... AIN'T WE S'POSED TO BE ON THET SHIP?

They made sure the Rough Riders got all the *training* they needed, plus the *best* weapons and gear available, like...



- BOWIE KNIVES
- COLT .45 REVOLVERS



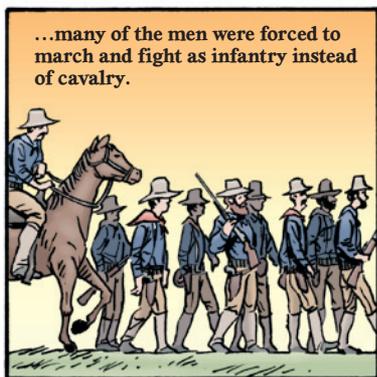
- SPRINGFIELD (KRAG) BOLT-ACTION RIFLES WITH .30-40 CALIBER CARTRIDGES



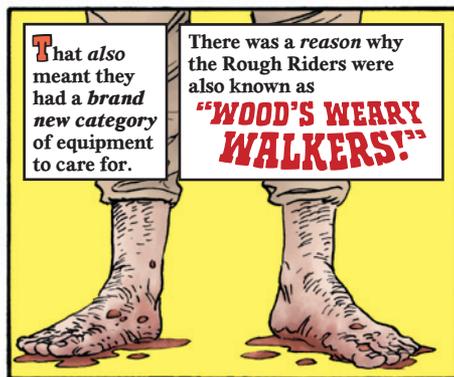
- SHELTER-TENTS



- RIDING TACK



...many of the men were forced to march and fight as infantry instead of cavalry.



That also meant they had a *brand new* category of equipment to care for.

There was a *reason* why the Rough Riders were also known as **"WOOD'S WEARY WALKERS!"**



HEARD YOU'VE GOT SOME MIGHTY BAD BLISTERS, COLLINS.

I'LL BE FINE, SIR.



NONSENSE. PROPER FOOT CARE IS **JUST** AS CRITICAL AS MAINTAINING OUR GEAR AND WEAPONS. NOW LET ME TAKE A LOOK.

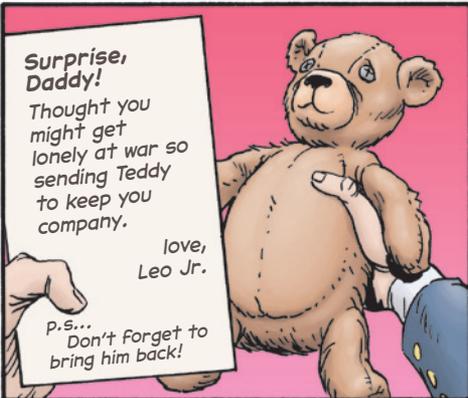


HMMM, WE'D BETTER TAKE CARE OF THIS.

I'VE GOT SOME SALVE AND BANDAGES IN MY TENT. BE RIGHT BACK



WHAT'S THIS?!



Surprise, Daddy!
Thought you might get lonely at war so sending Teddy to keep you company.

love,
Leo Jr.

p.s... Don't forget to bring him back!



WELL, I'LL BE! GUESS THE ROUGH RIDERS HAVE AN OFFICIAL MASCOT NOW.

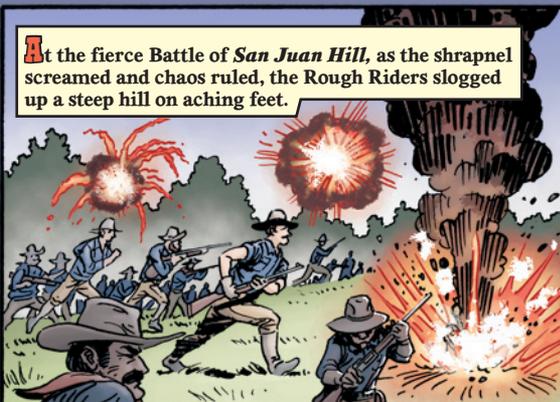
In rain and shine and jungle swamps, Colonel Wood carried the stuffed bear his 7 year-old son had sent.

Whether perched on his saddle horn or dangling from a pack, the reminder of home and hearth lifted his and the men's spirits when the grind got hard and the slog long.

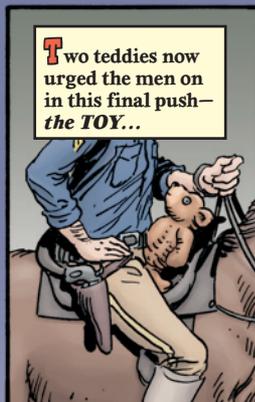


SSNIFFE
I SURELY DO LOVE THAT LI'L FELLA!

HIM AND ALL HE SYMBOLIZES, CLEM!



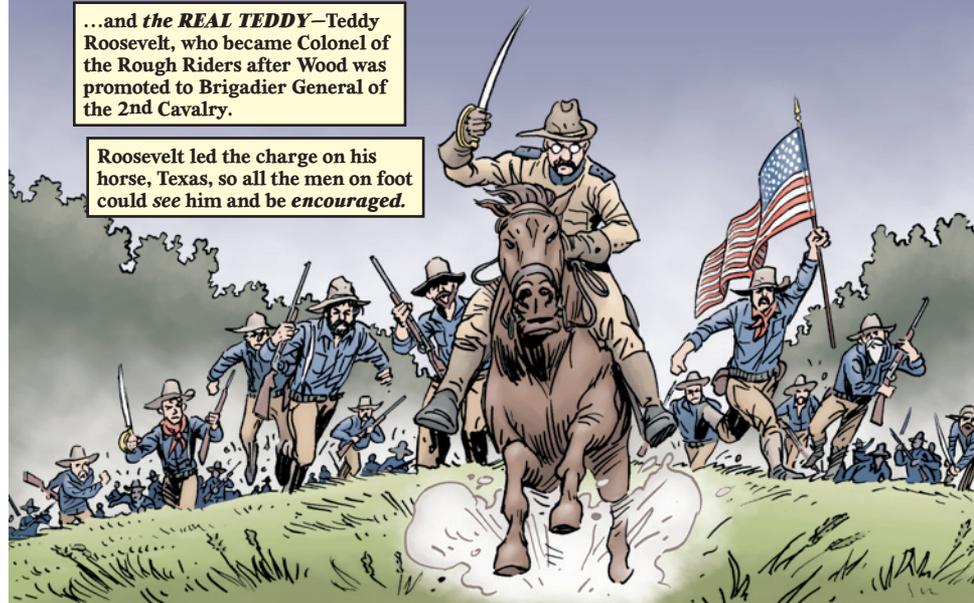
At the fierce Battle of *San Juan Hill*, as the shrapnel screamed and chaos ruled, the Rough Riders slogged up a steep hill on aching feet.



Two teddies now urged the men on in this final push—the **TOY...**

...and the **REAL TEDDY**—Teddy Roosevelt, who became Colonel of the Rough Riders after Wood was promoted to Brigadier General of the 2nd Cavalry.

Roosevelt led the charge on his horse, Texas, so all the men on foot could see him and be *encouraged*.



After the blazing Gatling guns cleared the last stretch for the Americans, *Victory* was not far behind.

At long last, the Rough Riders could go home, and so could both Teddies!

