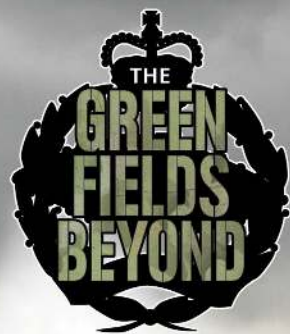


GARTH ENNIS • CARLOS EZQUERRA
BATTLEFIELDS™



DYNAMITE.



SERGEANT STILES?



AYE, THAT'S ME.

TROOPER ROBINSON, SERGEANT! I'M ASSIGNED TO YER CREW, I'M REPORTIN' FOR DUTY!

AYE, AL REET, SON. RELAX.

YE'RE OOR NEW LOADER/OPERATOR, ARE YE? WHEREABOUTS'RE YE FROM, LONDON?

YES, SERGEANT!

CHAMPION. WEEL, THEM TWO OOP THERE'RE MIKE WOODS, HE'S THE DREEVER, AN' COL MCARDLE, GOONER.

STOW YER KIT AN' I'LL FINISH ME SCRAN AN' TELL YE THE INS AN' OOTS OF IT.



EAGER BEAVER, AIN'T HE?

WE ALL WERE ONCE.

WELL, MAYBE NOT A MISERABLE STREAK O' BRUMMIE PISS LIKE YOU, BUT THE REST OF US WERE...

REET: WE'RE HERE. X MARKS THE SPOT.



HERE'S THE RIVER. LEFT TO RIGHT YE'VE GOT THE HILLS HELD BY THE GLOSTERS, THE FUSILIERS AN' THE BELGIANS, AN' THAT'S THE OOLSTER RIFLES DOON THERE IN RESERVE.

WE'VE JUST COOM OOP TO RELIEVE B SQUADRON. USUALLY WAT WE DO IS GAN OOT ON PATROL W/ ONE O' THE BATTALIONS--COOPPLE O' TANKS AN' A COOPPLE O' SECTIONS O' THEIR LADS.

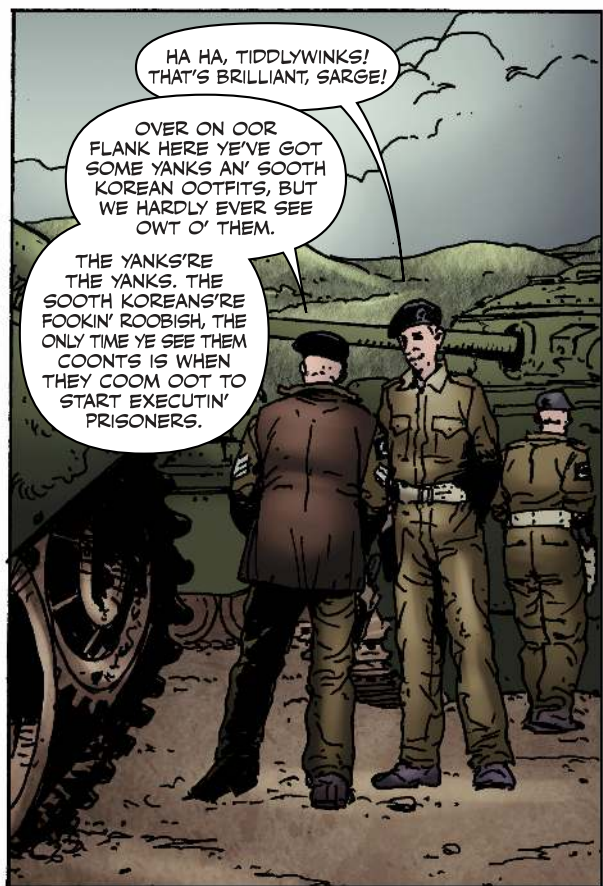
D'YOU FINK THERE'S MUCH CHANCE OF ACTION, SARGE?



THERE'S PLENTY O' RUMORS GANNIN' AROUND. THE TIDDLYWINKS'RE JUST OWER THE RIVER THERE, SO YE NIVER KNAW, THEY MIGHT TRY SOMETHIN'.

TIDDLYWINKS...?

THE CHINESE.



HA HA, TIDDLYWINKS! THAT'S BRILLIANT, SARGE!

OVER ON OOR FLANK HERE YE'VE GOT SOME YANKS AN' SOOTH KOREAN OUTFITS, BUT WE HARDLY EVER SEE OWT O' THEM.

THE YANKS'RE THE YANKS. THE SOOTH KOREANS'RE FOOKIN' ROOBISH, THE ONLY TIME YE SEE THEM COONT'S IS WHEN THEY COOM OOT TO START EXECUTIN' PRISONERS.



OH YEAH?
D'YOU GET A
LOT O' THAT?

DID DURIN' THE
RETREAT OWER THE
WINTER THERE. THAT
WAS A BAD BLOODY
TIME.

YE'RE
LUCKY YE
MISSED...
MISSED...

ROBINSON?



SARGE?

DO AH
KNAW YE FROM
SOMEWHERE?



YOU KNEW ME
BROTHER, SARGE.
ROBBO, YOU
CALLED HIM.

HE WAS
IN YOUR CREW
AFTER D-DAY.



"HE SAID YOU WAS A BRILLIANT BLOKE.
HE SAID TO ME, HE SAID FRANKIE, IF YOU
EVER RUN INTO A GEORDIE CORPORAL
CALLED STILES, YOU DO WHATEVER YOU
CAN TO GET IN HIS CREW.

"HE'LL LOOK AFTER
YOU, HE SAID. IF
YOU'RE GONNA BE
IN TANKS, HE'S THE
BLOKE YOU WANNA
HAVE WITH YOU."



SO...HOW DID YE...?

OH, WELL I DIDN'T VE NO SAY IN IT OR NOTHIN'. SEE, I JOINED THE HUSSARS 'COS I WANTED TO BE IN TANKS, AN' THE CAVALRY LOOKED LIKE THEY HAD A BIT O' CLASS. I DIDN'T REALLY FINK I'D EVER RUN INTO YOU.

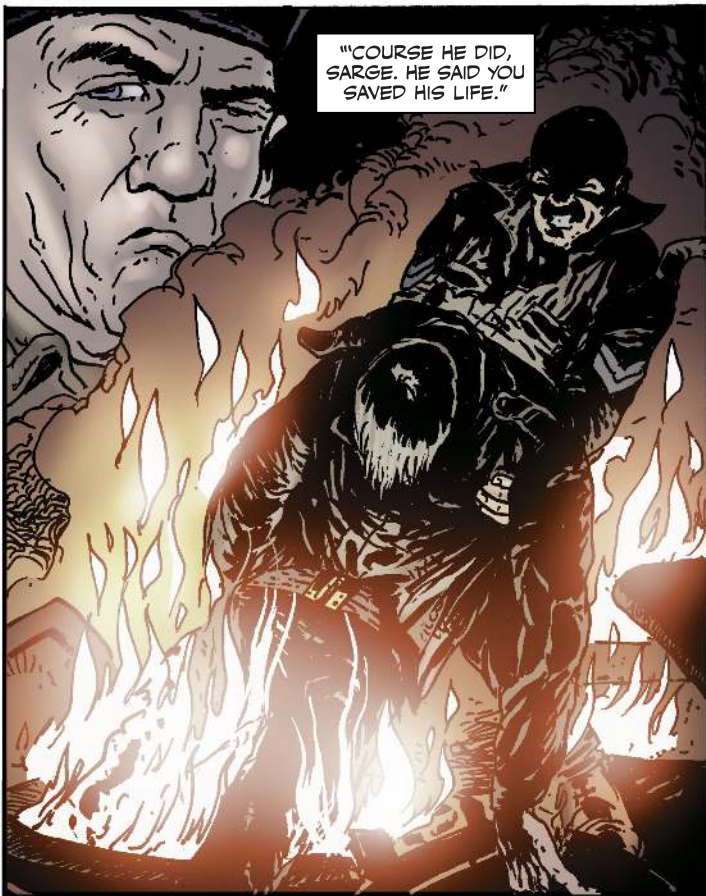
BUT I COME IN WITH THE REST O' THE REPLACEMENTS, AN' SOMEONE SAYS SUMMINK ABOUT STILES IN C SQUADRON NEEDS A LOADER--AN' I SAYS BLOODY HELL, IT *CAN'T BE*, AN' I STICK ME HAND UP...!



WAT, UH, WAT'D ROBBO THINK ABOUT YE JOININ' OOP IN THE FIRST PLACE?

WELL, HE LOST THE LEG, DIDN'T HE? HE WASN'T EXACTLY OVER THE MOON ABOUT IT. BUT HE'S ME BIG BROTHER, I WAS ALWAYS DEAD PROUD OF HIM BEIN' A TANKIE AN' FIGHTIN' THE JERRIES AN' THAT...

DIDN'T HE TELL YE WAT HAPPENED...?



"COURSE HE DID, SARGE. HE SAID YOU SAVED HIS LIFE."



AYE. REET.

LOOK, STAY HERE, WILL YE? DIVEN'T WANDER OFF, I'LL BE BACK IN COUPLE OF MINUTES.

STAY HERE.



ARRRIGHT, WACK? GONNA GIVE US A HAND UP HERE?

YEAH, 'COURSE...



THAT'S THE LOCALS. THEY USE SHITE FOR FERTILIZER.

HUMAN SHITE.

BY THE WAY, WHAT'S THAT BLEEDIN' AWFUL SMELL?



YOU'RE JOKIN'...

'FRID NOT. IT'S A FUCKIN' SAVAGE PLACE, THIS.

THE SARGE WAS RIGHT ABOUT THE RETREAT. FUCK, THEY GOT UP TO ALL SORTS--SHOOTIN' PRISONERS, SHOOTIN' WOMEN, SHOOTIN' KIDS...



YEAH, AN' THAT WAS BOTH SIDES. LIFE'S BLOODY CHEAP AROUND HERE, BELIEVE ME.

WE SAW SOME THINGS I KNOW I'LL TAKE TO ME GRAVE. I DUNNO HOW MANY O' THE REFUGEES MUST'VE FROZE TO DEATH ON THE ROADS, ONCE THE WINTER REALLY GOT GOIN'.

BUT YOU WAS ALL RIGHT, YEAH? THE SARGE GOT YOU THROUGH IN ONE PIECE?



OH YEAH, THE SARGE HAS HIS HEAD SCREWED ON, ALL RIGHT. ALWAYS KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOIN'.

QUIET LITTLE BLOKE, MIND YOU.



FOR SOMEONE AS SMART AS HE IS, HIS MIND ALWAYS SEEMS TO BE SOMEWHERE ELSE.