

PUNISHER

THE PLATOON



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PUNISHER

THE PLATOON



PREVIOUSLY

Michael Goodwin is the author of a book on the Vietnam War, which posits the war turned Frank Castle into the Punisher. To learn about the beginning of that story, Goodwin's found the surviving members of Lt. Castle's first platoon and interviewed Col. Letrong Giap, the last living N.V.A. commander from the battle of Khe Sanh—also Castle's first.

He had no combat experience when he took command, but Castle earned his troops' respect with his instinct for warfare and his willingness to bend the rules to keep them safe.

Castle's efficiency made him a worthy enemy on the other side: Col. Giap was grooming Ly Quang for leadership, but all she wanted was to avenge her comrades by killing the broad-shouldered American commander who ordered the airstrike against them.

GARTH ENNIS WRITER **GORAN PARLOV** ARTIST **JORDIE BELLAIRE** COLORIST **ROB STEEN** LETTERER

GORAN PARLOV & GIADA MARCHISIO
COVER

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"THE TET OFFENSIVE STARTED TEN DAYS AFTER WE WERE HIT."

"CHARLIE SNATCHED LOCATIONS ALL OVER SAIGON, INCLUDING-BRIEFLY-THE U.S. EMBASSY ITSELF. HIS PAL NATHANIEL VICTOR OVERRAN A DECENT CHUNK OF HUE, WHICH THE FIRST MARINES HAD TO TAKE BACK STREET BY STREET."

"FOR US AT KHE SANH AND THE HILLS AROUND IT, TET MEANT A SIEGE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RAINY SEASON: WHICH MADE RESUPPLY BY AIR A BASTARD, AND AIRSTRIKES IN ZERO VISIBILITY A BITCH. ON TOP OF THAT, THERE WAS ANOTHER LITTLE PROBLEM..."



JAMMED!

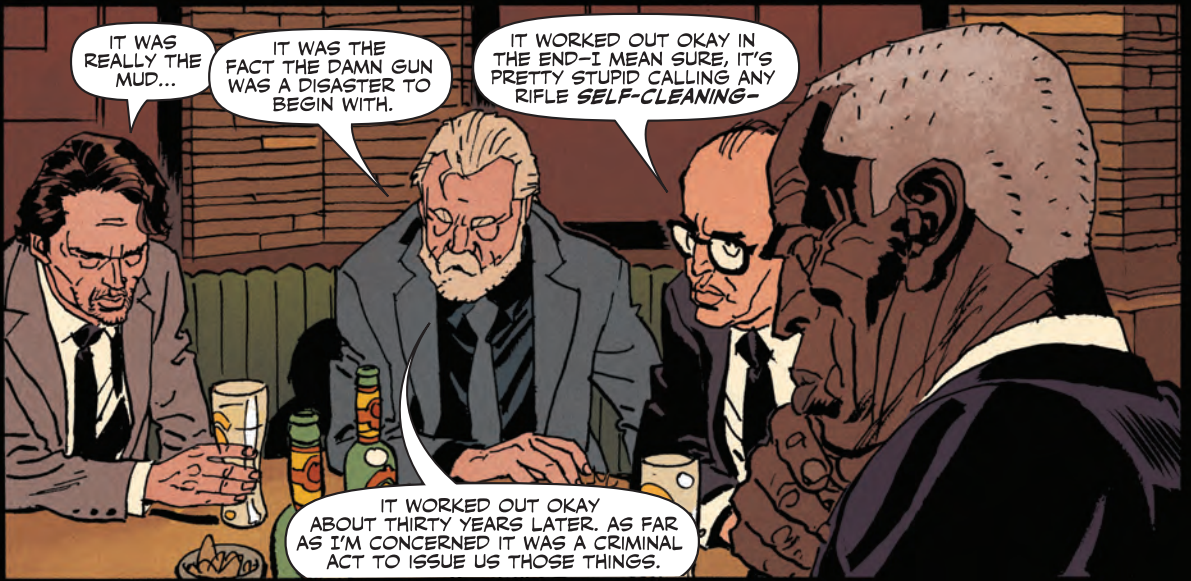
JAMMED!

FUCKING
PIECE OF
SHIT--!

"IF THIS SOUNDS LIKE ONE GODDAMN THING AFTER ANOTHER--WELL, THERE IT IS."

GARTH
SINNIS
GORAN
PARLOV

3: The Black Rifles

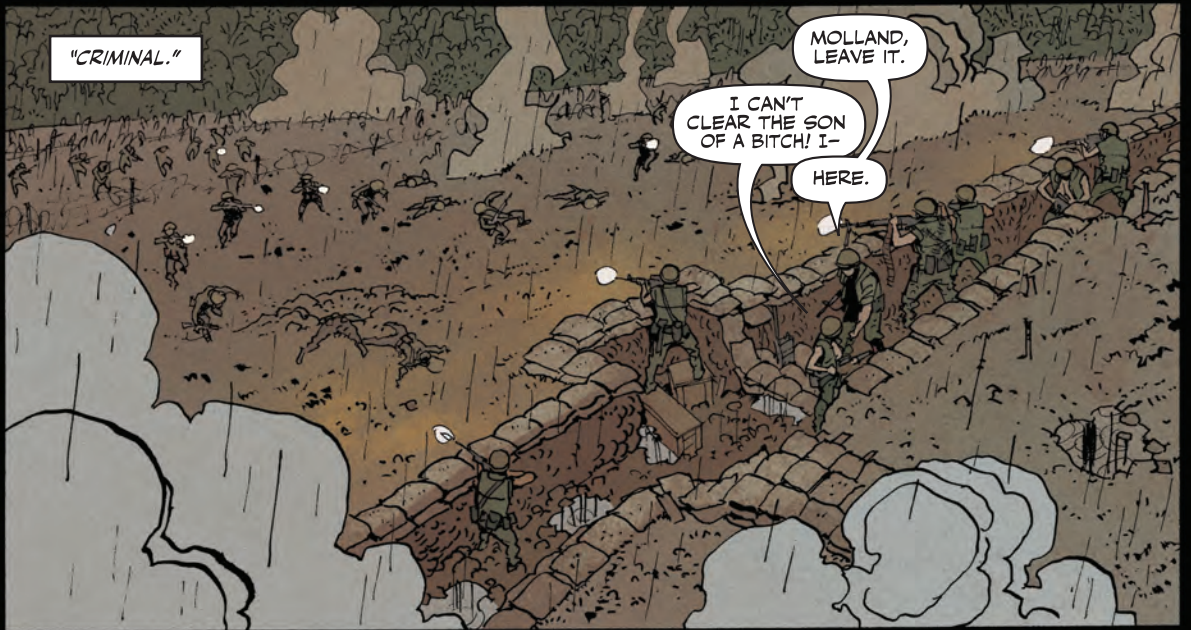


IT WAS REALLY THE MUD...

IT WAS THE FACT THE DAMN GUN WAS A DISASTER TO BEGIN WITH.

IT WORKED OUT OKAY IN THE END—I MEAN SURE, IT'S PRETTY STUPID CALLING ANY RIFLE *SELF-CLEANING*—

IT WORKED OUT OKAY ABOUT THIRTY YEARS LATER. AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED IT WAS A CRIMINAL ACT TO ISSUE US THOSE THINGS.



"CRIMINAL."

MOLLAND, LEAVE IT.

I CAN'T CLEAR THE SON OF A BITCH! I—
HERE.



ELL TEE, THIS IS TOO CLOSE...

THAT'S WHY I PUT IT IN WRITING.

BUT—
BUT—

IT'S THIS OR WE'RE OVERRUN. DO IT.



-NO TIME, NO TIME,
JUST GIVE US EVERYTHING
YOU'VE GOT-

INCOMING!



OKAY?



CHECK YOUR FIRE,
PITCHER SIX. I SAY
AGAIN. CHECK YOUR FIRE.

THIS IS
GETTING
STUPID...

HEARD
THAT.