

MEDAL OF HONOR

TIBOR RUBIN



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MAGYAR

MEDAL OF HONOR

TIBOR RUBIN

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TIBOR RUBIN



IN THE RUGGED MOUNTAINS OF KOREA, AMERICAN FORCES WERE OFTEN OUTNUMBERED BY CHINESE AND KOREAN COMMUNISTS. TO WITHDRAW UNDER FIRE AND MAKE THEIR WAY OUT OF ENEMY TRAPS, IT SOMETIMES CAME DOWN TO ONE MAN.

RUBIN LEARNED EARLY ABOUT THE DEPTH OF CRUELTY HIS FELLOW MAN WAS CAPABLE OF.



A HUNGARIAN JEW, HE WAS ONLY A TEEN WHEN HIS FAMILY TRIED TO SMUGGLE HIM TO SAFETY AFTER THE NAZI OCCUPATION IN 1944.

HE WAS CAPTURED AND TAKEN TO MAUTHAUSEN, A CONCENTRATION CAMP IN AUSTRIA.



NONE OF YOU WILL MAKE IT OUT OF HERE ALIVE.

THOUGH HIS PARENTS AND ONE OF HIS SISTERS WERE KILLED ELSEWHERE DURING THE HOLOCAUST, RUBIN SURVIVED.



IN 1945 HE WAS LIBERATED BY AMERICAN GIs.



A FREE MAN AGAIN, RUBIN WAS DETERMINED TO REPAY THE COUNTRY THAT HAD FREED HIM.

HE MADE HIS WAY TO CALIFORNIA WHERE HE JOINED THE U.S. ARMY.

HOW 'BOUT WE CALL YOU "TED."

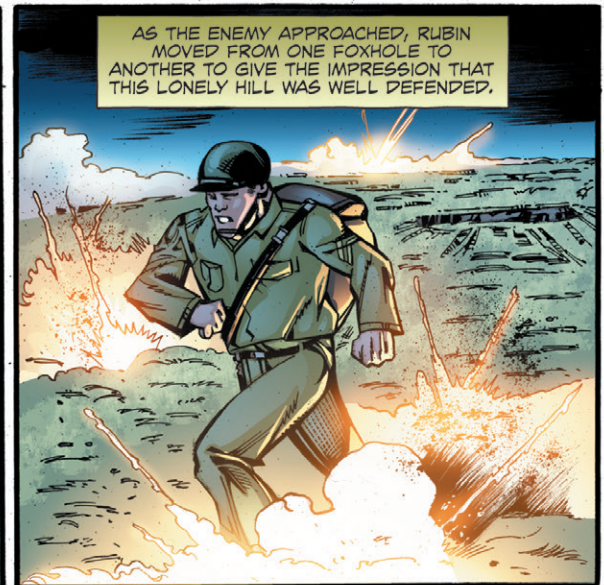


THOUGH NOT YET AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, RUBIN WAS DEPLOYED TO KOREA IN 1950 AS PART OF THE 8TH CAVALRY REGIMENT, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION.



OUTNUMBERED BY NORTH KOREAN FORCES, THE REGIMENT'S THIRD BATTALION BEGAN WITHDRAWING TO THE PUSAN PERIMETER.

RUBIN ALONE REMAINED BEHIND TO COVER THE RETREAT.



AS THE ENEMY APPROACHED, RUBIN MOVED FROM ONE FOXHOLE TO ANOTHER TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THIS LONELY HILL WAS WELL DEFENDED.



WITH CARBINE.



AND MACHINE GUN.



AND GRENADES.

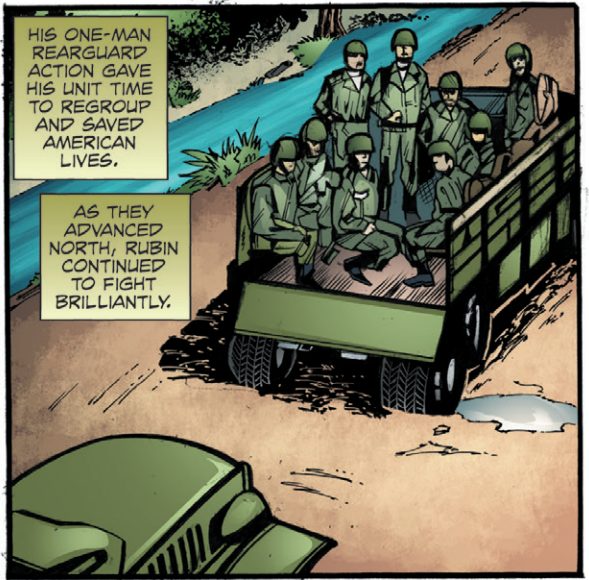
HE SINGLE-HANDEDLY
BLUNTED THE ADVANCE
OF THE NORTH KOREANS.



THE NUMBER OF
CASUALTIES HE
INFLECTED WAS
STAGGERING.



HIS ONE-MAN
REARGUARD
ACTION GAVE
HIS UNIT TIME
TO REGROUP
AND SAVED
AMERICAN
LIVES.



AS THEY
ADVANCED
NORTH, RUBIN
CONTINUED
TO FIGHT
BRILLIANTLY.

HE SAVED A FELLOW
SOLDIER PINNED
DOWN BY SNIPER
FIRE.



LENNIE!

TED... THAT
YOU?

AND HELPED
CAPTURE HUNDREDS
OF NORTH KOREANS.

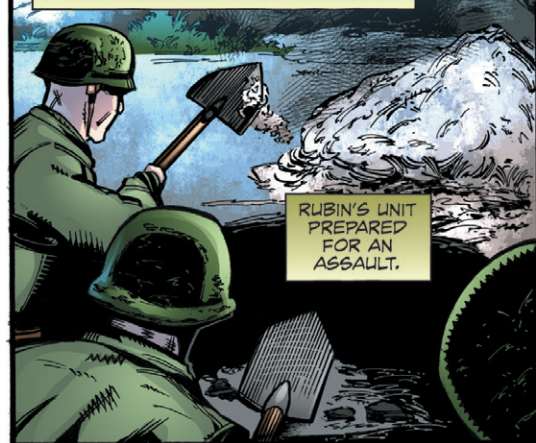


BUT IT WAS IN THE SHADOW OF THE MOUNTAINS OF UNGAN, IN NORTH KOREA, THAT HE WOULD FACE HIS GREATEST TEST.

ON NOVEMBER 1, 1950, RUBIN HAD BEEN IN THE FIELD FOR MONTHS.



VOLUNTEERS FROM THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY OF CHINA HAD ENTERED THE WAR WITH NEARLY FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND TROOPS.



RUBIN'S UNIT PREPARED FOR AN ASSAULT.

THE FAR-OFF TRILL OF A BUGLE SOUNDED IN THE HOURS AFTER MIDNIGHT.

THEN ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE.



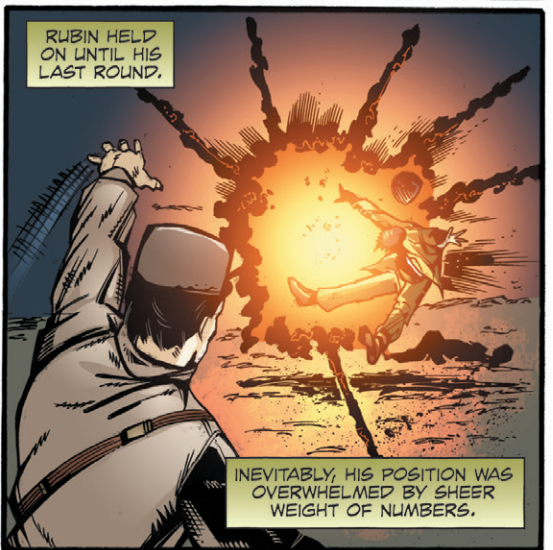
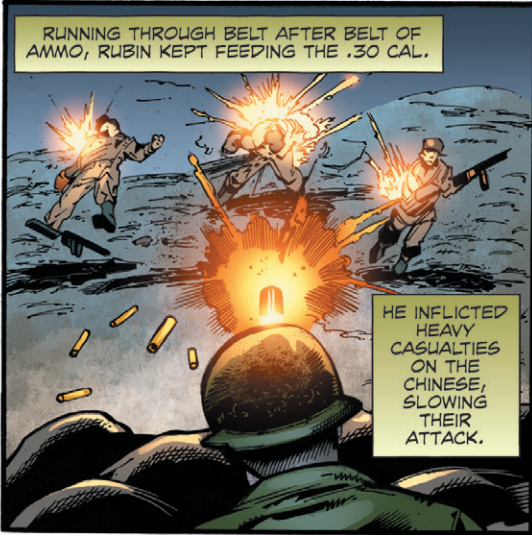
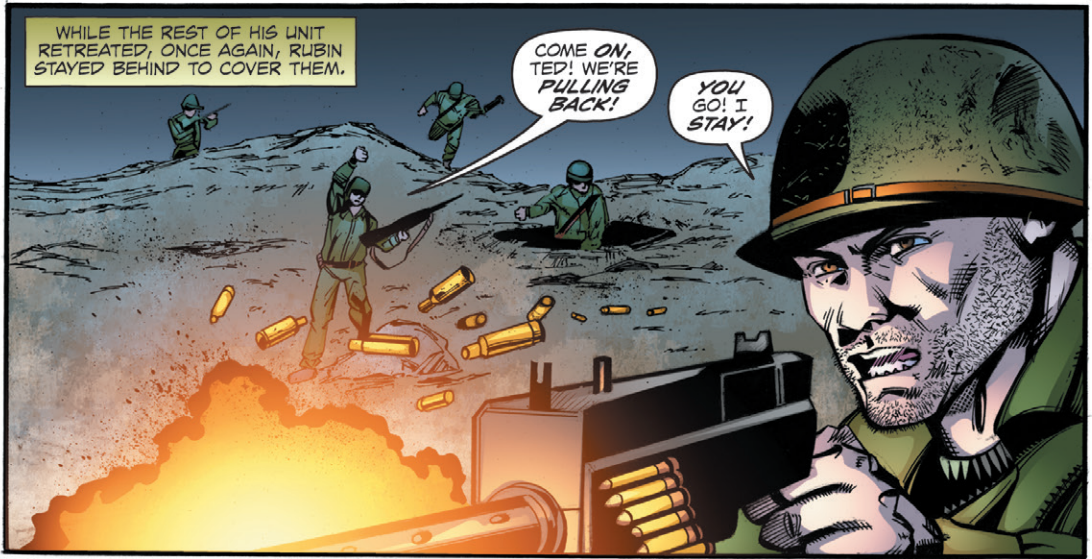
OUT OF THE DARKNESS, THE ENEMY CHARGED AT DIVISION STRENGTH TO WIPE THE AMERICANS FROM THEIR POSITION.



A MACHINE GUN CREW FELL TO ENEMY FIRE.

RUBIN ALONE CRAWLED OUT TO MAN THE BROWNING.







BADLY WOUNDED,
HE WAS TAKEN
PRISONER.



ONCE AGAIN, HE WAS
TAKEN TO A PRISON CAMP.

ONCE AGAIN, HE
RECALLED THE
WORDS OF THAT
SS OFFICER.



"NONE OF YOU WILL MAKE
IT OUT OF HERE ALIVE."



HE WAS OFFERED HIS
FREEDOM BY THE CAMP
COMMANDANT.

YOU ARE
HUNGARIAN, NO?
YOUR PEOPLE ARE
OUR COMRADES.
YOU WILL BE
ALLOWED TO GO
HOME.



RUBIN'S RESPONSE WAS
STEADFAST AND IMMEDIATE.

MY HOME
IS THE UNITED
STATES OF
AMERICA.



AGAIN, RUBIN THOUGHT OF HIS
BUDDIES IN THE THIRD BATTALION.

HE COULD
NEVER LET
THEM DOWN.

SHAZI!

INSTEAD HE USED THE KNOWLEDGE LEARNED FROM HIS BITTER EXPERIENCE.



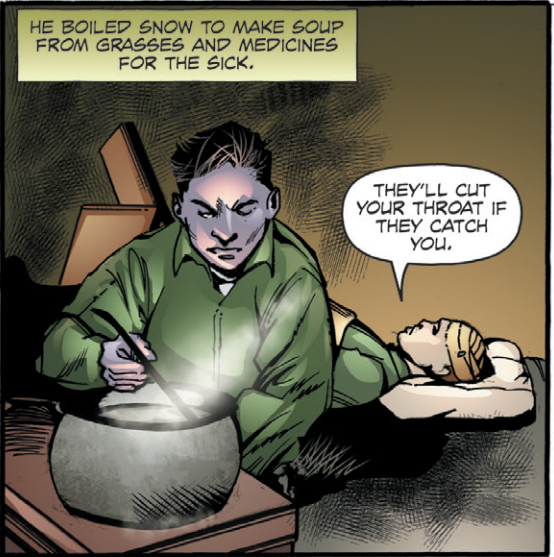
AT THE RISK OF TORTURE, HE STOLE FROM THE GUARDS' FOOD STORES.



HE LOOTED THEIR VEGETABLE GARDEN.



HE BOILED SNOW TO MAKE SOUP FROM GRASSES AND MEDICINES FOR THE SICK.



BUT, MORE THAN ANYTHING, HE SHARED HIS INDOMITABLE WILL TO SURVIVE.



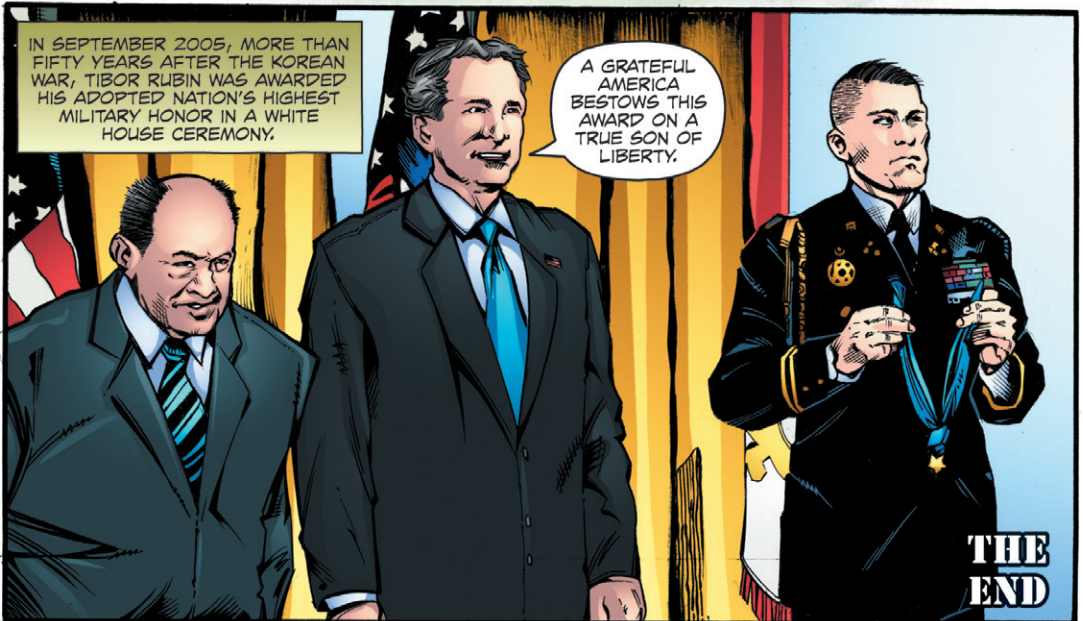
THOSE WHO WERE IMPRISONED WITH HIM ATTEST THAT RUBIN SAVED FORTY OF THEM FROM DEATH WITHIN THE CAMP.



IN THE SPRING OF 1953, RUBIN WAS RELEASED IN A PRISONER EXCHANGE.



THE FACILITY WOULD POSTHUMOUSLY BE RE-NAMED THE TIBOR RUBIN VA MEDICAL CENTER IN HONOR OF HIS SELFLESS WORK.



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