

"STARSHIP TROOPERS 3"

A screenplay by

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Background Information:

ROUGH STORY TREATMENT:

The story takes place ten years after the events in the original "Starship Troopers."

The war is not going well for the Federated Commonwealth.

Despite their advantages in starships, weaponry and well trained troops; the forces of the commonwealth are being beaten by one deciding factor:

The BUGS are out-breeding them.

The bugs have evolved at least one additional form, one that uses a human for a host, temporarily, and takes control in the end killing them.

While the humans are devising new methods to ensure this doesn't happen again, the moral defeats at the hands of these new bugs have been large.

Negotiations with the bugs have still yielded no results, and the humans continue to pull back from the Insect Quarantine Zone, losing several key positions in the galaxy.

Outmanned (but not *quite* outgunned, the humans turn to another source for help that has largely been ignored since the whole war with the bugs began: the Skinnies.

The "Skinnies" are a tall, thin humanoid alien race that the humans fought and some claim "defeated" over twenty years earlier. It was these wars with the "Skinnies" that caused Jean Rasczek to lose his arm, before he lost his life fighting the bugs. The Skinnies fought a Vietnam-like guerrilla war with the Federation for over ten years before they were largely nuked into submission. But because their philosophies still do not quite match those of humanity, and even though they "lost" the wars, there are no human outposts on the Skinnies home world. Mainly because even though they lost the war according to FedNet, the Skinnies are still fighting the war to this day, just one dead human at a time.

In the last ten years, aside from losing ground, little has changed for our heroes. Carl is still in intelligence and now holds the rank of Major General. Carmen is still Captain of her starship. Rico is now a Captain, and still in charge of running 'Rico's Roughnecks,' the Mobile Infantry platoon. 'Private Zim' is now a Lieutenant in charge of his own platoon, a special operations platoon charged with the most dangerous and important missions. His platoon is second only to the Roughnecks in successful missions completed... and body counts... ours, and the bugs.

"STARSHIP TROOPERS 3"

ACT 1: INTRO AND BUILDUP 1.

The FEDNET broadcast opens on the screen.

FROM THE FEDERAL NET -- WARNING - HUMANITY IN RETREAT!

OFFICIAL VOICE

This is a FedNet Emergency
broadcast. We take you live to
the front lines for a special
report!

EXT. DESOLATED PLANET - NIGHT - RICHARD CRONKITE

is a 50-year-old news reporter. He's wearing the uniform and
body armor of the Mobile Infantry, with a shoulder patch that
carries the emblem of a stylized video camera.

The terrain around them appears to be an assortment of rocky
outcroppings and the occasional building remains. Bricks and
the occasional piece of timber are covered in flames. Thick
smoke fills the air obscuring vision beyond a few yards
distance.

CRONKITE stares into the CAMERA carried by his CAMERAMAN, 18.

CRONKITE

It's evident now that the war
has not been going well for the
Federation. For every world we
take from the bug menace, we
lose two. Now, on this once
beautiful world, it appears even
the forces of the 6th Mobile
Infantry Division have met their
match in the bugs!

ACE LEVY, 29, steps forward out of the smoke with a smoking
MORITA RIFLE and grabs the reporter, pushing him away from
the carnage.

ACE

Get out of here, we're gettin'
overrun!

ACE moves back the direction he came from, towards the
action. He waves over some mobile infantry troopers who
emerge from the smoke.

ACE

Retreat! Back to the secondary
evac point!

The MI troopers head off, away from the front lines. CRONKITE and the CAMERAMAN take a few steps away from the front before stopping by a crumbled section of brick wall.

CRONKITE

Despite our efforts and initial success in the war against the Arachnids, the bugs are winning due to one deciding factor. They're out breeding humanity. For every trooper we put on the field, the bugs put forty. For every new weapon we devise, the bugs evolve to create a new threat.

A bug charges out of the smoke at CRONKITE but is shot down by a couple mobile infantry troopers as they rush past to evacuate, carrying a wounded teammate.

CRONKITE

Last year Fleet Intelligence stopped a new breed of bug that took human beings as hosts for a brief time before killing them. Since then the Federal Service has developed new methods to detect and eliminate this threat.

The screams of bugs are getting louder. More weapons fire is heard in the distance. CRONKITE looks in the direction of the sounds before turning back to the camera.

CRONKITE

The bugs have changed tactics again, moving from covert invasion to an outright full-scale invasion on the worlds of men! But still, the fighting spirit of YAHHHH..

A silver metallic hand slams down on top of CRONKITE'S shoulder, startling him. The camera quick pans to..

SERGEANT BIRDIE, 35, a no-nonsense black woman with a full-length metal artificial arm that starts at the shoulder.

BIRDIE

What are you fools doing here?
If you ain't fightin' you're bug

food! Get the lead out!

She pushes angrily past the two reporters and hurries off into the darkness of the evacuation zone with a pair of battered and bloody MI troopers flanking her.

CRONKITE

Uh, well... the forces of the mobile infantry appear to be pulling back from this hostile, desolate, bug filled front.

(beat)

There have been no sign of our allies in this fiEEEEEEEE!

The ruined brick wall behind CRONKITE explodes outward and from the wreckage CRONKITE is cut in half by the slashing jaws of a WARRIOR BUG! The CAMERAMAN staggers back from the corpse and another bug rises behind him. He turns and the bug is cut down in a hail of gunfire!

ACE turns back and fires into the darkness, holding his position. The CAMERAMAN runs a few feet away, then stops and films.

CAMERA - POV

More Mobile Infantry troopers run out of the darkness and past ACE and the CAMERAMAN. The camera pans, passing a pile of rocky rubble and just beyond the rubble are the burning remains of a yellow TAXI CAB! A burnt metal STREET SIGN on a bent and twisted pole reads VENTURA BLVD. It's not some other planet, it's EARTH!

Out of the smoke, a HEAVY ARMOR trooper approaches ACE and the CAMERAMAN.

EXT. BATTLEFIELD - NIGHT - THE CAMERA

zooms in on the approaching figure. The battle armor appears heavier, bulkier in appearance than standard Mobile Infantry armor, more like futuristic medieval armor with attachments.

It makes a powered hydraulic whining noise as it moves; its slashed, dented and otherwise battle scarred appearance shows that the fight hasn't been going well.

The trooper drags the left leg leaving furrows in the asphalt ground. Wet red blood glistens on the dusty and dull metal surface. SPARKS shower from the shoulder of the left arm that dangles uselessly. A Morita rifle is held in the right hand. Out of the darkness, several WARRIOR BUGS attack with a SCREECH and drag the heavily armored trooper to the ground! The trooper's MORITA goes off, tearing a line across the

ground, directly between ACE and the CAMERAMAN! Both men dive to the sides to avoid being shot!

The bugs continue to attack the fallen HEAVY ARMOR trooper. Jaws and legs fall like axes and swords. The trooper is finished!

More MI Troopers come out of the darkness, weapons firing at the bugs!

PETITE BLOND, 25, is an attractive, athletic woman wearing standard Mobile Infantry armor and carrying a large MORITA RIFLE who leads the group out of the darkness. They decimate the bugs attacking the HEAVY ARMOR trooper with automatic weapons fire.

CAPTAIN JOHHNY RICO, 29, steps forward out of the darkness, his weapon smoking.

RICO

Sergeant BLOND (Name to be replaced) get that trooper on their feet and get moving!

BLOND

Yes sir!

He points at three Troopers.

RICO

You, you and you, form a defensive perimeter. ACE! Where are my boats?

The CAMERA swings to focus on BLOND. She steps forward amongst the bug remains, and with the help of two other MI troopers they flip the HEAVY ARMOR trooper onto his back. There's a lot of blood, but the man seems still alive!

BLOND

Get off your ass and get on your feet trooper!

HEAVY ARMOR

(sluggish)

Sir, my armor's damaged, There's no power left!

BLOND

Goddamn tinker toys...

The BLOND steps forward and flips open a panel on the side of the trooper's torso, under the arm. Two PUSH BUTTONS are there, faintly flickering with irregular power, a faintly glowing YELLOW button and a dark, dead RED one. She pushes the YELLOW button and the RED button glows brightly.

BLOND

Stand clear! Fire in the hole!

She pushes the RED button and the heavy armor pops free in a shower of sparks! The torso splits open, the thigh and arm armor pops open like a clamshell and the heavy casing on the helmet falls free.

The HEAVY ARMOR trooper is pulled to his feet, blood is pouring from a large wound in his LEFT shoulder, and a smaller one at his hip, but he's otherwise unhurt. His dropped Morita is tossed into his hands, and he starts to unsteadily move out.

ACE

(Listening to radio hand unit)

Johnny, retrieval boats are inbound, estimated five minutes!

RICO

We're pulling out! Get to the rescue boats! The goddam skinnies left us high and dry! We're sitting ducks here!

There's a crack of turf and asphalt as the ground under their feet erupts and bugs pour out! RICO is smashed flying through the air by the swinging snout of a warrior bug!

BLOND

NO!

The CAMERAMAN turns and runs, grabbing the camera by the handle on top, so the lens points behind him as he runs away! We see RICO lying on the ground, MORITA rifle in hand firing! Warrior bugs are pouring out of the hole in the ground!

We see SERGENT BLOND standing above him firing in a different direction. ACE fires in a third direction! The bugs destroy the Troopers stationed on the perimeter, moving in like the unstoppable tide of an insect sea!

A LOUD SCREECH of a warrior bug is heard!

CAMERAMAN

AIEEEEEEE!

A WARRIOR BUG'S mouth suddenly fills the screen and takes him down from behind!

The CAMERA goes to static.

FADE TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

SUPER:

One year earlier...

SUPER OUT:

The FEDNET broadcast opens on the screen.

FROM THE FEDERAL NET -- NOTICE -- JOIN UP NOW !

Proud YOUNG PEOPLE in uniform, the bloom of human evolution.

YOUNG PEOPLE

I'm doing my part... Me, too...
Are you ?

THE MOBILE INFANTRY LOGO: YELLOW LIGHTNING BOLTS ON A RED SHIELD.

OFFICIAL VOICE

Join the mobile infantry and
save the world!
Service guarantees citizen-ship.
Would you like to know more?

A computer MOUSE POINTER moves across the screen and clicks on the SCIENCE BUTTON at the top of the screen.

SCIENCE ADVANCES - NEW TROOPS ON THE WAY?

A computer graphic shows a female human silhouette and that of a bug.

OFFICIAL VOICE

The arachnid threat comes from their ability to reproduce with record speed. Instead of a normal human birth of one or two young taking nine months to gestate, the average Arachnid Queen can give birth to up to fifty warrior class bugs every few weeks!

But help may be on the way! Due

to a new directive by the High Command, Federal Science is actively studying procedures to clone a new generation of warriors, full adult size in a matter of months.

Such procedures were banned technology in the past, and only through a citizen vote has the resolution passed.

Simplistic civilian groups are outraged complaining that human cloning was banned for good reasons over a hundred years ago. But in this modern, progressive age, we need every citizen's assistance in fighting the bug menace. Would you like to know more?

The mouse pointer moves to the TRAVEL button at the top of the screen.

TRAVEL ADVISORY - TRAGEDY ON ZEGEMA BEACH

The viewer is treated to a view of a world that looks bright and cheerful. Blue water, clear skies, a natural paradise.

OFFICIAL VOICE

Zegema Beach.

A "You are here" map of the KNOWN GALAXY shows the Earth in relationship to the ARACHNID QUARANTINE ZONE and Zegema Beach.

EXT. ZEGEMA BEACH - DAY

The camera zooms in on a picturesque scene of an expensive hotel on a sun lit tropical island.

OFFICIAL VOICE

Zegema Beach, the crown jewel of the outer rings territory. Human civilization's most elaborate resort and casino. Alternating beaches of the purest white or

fine black volcanic sand. Five star hotels and a bounty of banquets. A man made heaven in the heavens.

Until the bugs came.

We are treated to scenes of bloody desolation. Imagine Las Vegas and Tahiti, combined with Dante's Inferno. Civilians in tropical clothing lie dead everywhere... ripped apart.

OFFICIAL VOICE

Twelve years ago Zegema Beach was a tropical paradise located beyond the edges of the Arachnid Quarantine Zone, well within the realm of humanity... and victim of an unprovoked genocidal attack that left the jewel of the outer rings decimated.

The Camera shows invasion scenes. The squat, stubby winged forms of the troop carrier LANDING BOATS drop out of the sky and set down on the crystalline sand beaches. Mobile Infantry troops rush out of the landing boats killing the bugs.

OFFICIAL VOICE

The forces of the Federal Service have reclaimed Zegema beach. The cost has been high, but we will retake every planet the bugs steal from us no matter the cost.

Some MOBILE INFANTRY troopers plant a red and gold MI flag in the sand, reminiscent of the planting of the US flag at Iwo Jima.

OFFICIAL VOICE

The survival of the human race depends on your continued support! Do you want to know more?

The mouse pointer scrolls across the screen and stops on the EXIT icon. The Screen fades to static.

CROSSFADE TO:

EXT. TRAINING FORT POWELL - ZEGEMA BEACH - DAY

SUPER:

Fort Powell, Zegema Beach.

Octagonal huts are arranged in rows around a large training field. Obstacle courses and asphalt fields are covered with mobile infantry troops drilling and training.

An open tent rests at one end of the training field.

INT. TENT - FORT POWELL - ZEGEMA BEACH - DAY - JOHNNY RICO

sits behind a formed plastic folding table stacked high with papers. JOHNNY is a little older than we last saw him, more mature. He's dressed in the grey and black uniform of the mobile infantry. His MORITA rifle lies across the top of the desk, acting like a paperweight. ACE LEVY stands beside the table, a Morita slung over his shoulder.

ACE

Can you believe the luck? Three months of training and not a bug in sight.

RICO

In some places they call that 'retirement.'

ACE

It could be worse.

RICO

How so?

ACE

We could be back on Klendathu.

RICO

Which one?

ACE

I don't know, they all kind of blend together after a while. Drop in here, kill that, retreat. Wash, rinse, repeat.

RICO

That's the truth. From what I

hear, enlistment is down which is why they're forcing the oldest combat groups to do training stints. They can't graduate kids from high school fast enough to send into the grinder.

ACE

What about that cloning thing they talked about a while back on FedNet?

RICO

I haven't heard anything specific on that. I haven't heard from Carl in a year or more, and if anyone would know, it would be fleet intelligence.

(pause)

Aren't you due to run drill with another squad?

ACE

That's 0530 tomorrow.

RICO

(grins)

No time like the present. The early MI Trooper gets the bug.

ACE

You got it boss. I hope you know I still don't like being in charge of a squad.

RICO

You can't stay a private forever Ace.

ACE

(grins)

Don't think I haven't tried.

ACE salutes and exits the tent. BIRDIE enters and salutes.

BIRDIE

Captain.

RICO

At ease Birdie. What's up?

BIRDIE

First squad's training is about complete.

(distaste)

They've all checked out on that new toy research & development sent.

RICO

The marauder power armor? It's supposed to make us tougher like the bugs.

BIRDIE "flexes" her artificial arm.

BIRDIE

Some of us sir are pretty tough already.

(beat)

I don't think that toy will improve things that much. What we really need are experienced combat troops. People who know how to fight the bugs and not get themselves killed.

RICO

We can't always get what we want Birdie...

Rico's voice drifts off as he notices a large squad of troopers on the field being drilled by an athletic BLOND Sergeant. She barks commands like an expert and the troops respond like a well-oiled machine.

RICO

Who's that drilling the troops?

BIRDIE

Her? I'm not sure sir. I think her name is Menendez. She and her whole platoon dropped in a few days ago looking like they'd been fighting as long as the rest of us, but none of them is much out of high school.

RICO

They must have changed the curriculum since I was in high school. Nobody I graduated with had that kind of drive and perfection. Nobody in Mr. Rachzek's class anyway...

BIRDIE

She reminds me of a combination

of that redhead you came into
the roughnecks with and
Lieutenant Zim.

RICO

That's quite a combination.

CROSSFADE TO:

FLASHBACK SEQUENCE

INT. NEW UNI HIGH - CLASSROOM - DAY - JEAN RASCZEK

the teacher, 38, moves in front of the classroom giving a lecture. He's a tall man, strongly built and balding. One arm is missing just below the elbow.

The students, dressed in school uniforms, sit at classic school desks, but ones with touchscreen computer terminals integrated into the desk top.

RASCZEK

Do any of you know the
significance of a small planet
known as XXXXX on the edge of
the Arachnid Quarantine Zone?

Nobody responds. Rasczek walks into the class pokes a small, BLOND GIRL, 13, in the shoulder with his severed stump of an arm. The nervous girl sputters...

RASCZEK

You.

BLOND GIRL

Um, That's the skinnie's
homeworld.

RASCZEK

Correct. The Skinnies were a
xenophobic, aggressively
territorial society with limited
spaceflight capabilities and a
fiercely devout warrior caste
based society. They invaded the
colony world of Proxima IV,
which later became known as

what? Flores!

DIZZY FLORES, 18, athletic, pretty, no nonsense, chimes in.

FLORES

Um... Zegema Beach?

RASCZEK

Correct. That's two for two today class, you must actually be studying. There's hope for the Federated Commonwealth yet.

Laughter from the class.

RASCZEK

The Federation had a colony on Zegema beach before it became the vacation hotspot of the rich and powerful that it is today. The skinnies invaded Zegema Beach and claimed the planet for their own. Of course the Federation doesn't stand for its citizens being slaughtered, so it sent in the troops to reclaim what had been taken from us.

(pause)

And after retaking Zegema Beach we went on to take Omaha Euphrates, Proxima Nine, and in the course of the invasion we discovered something. Who knows what the most dangerous type of adversary is? Rico.

JOHNNY RICO is typing on his desk terminal. The camera zooms in and focuses on the words...

"Carmen, there's a party after the game on Friday, do you want to go? We could always duck out early and..."

RASCZEK

RICO!

RICO looks up startled. The entire class laughs because RICO's been caught not paying attention. Again.

RICO

Yes Mr. Rasczek?

RASCZEK

Rico, what's the most dangerous form of an enemy?

RICO

The Bugs sir.

The class laughs yet again. Mr. Rasczek sighs lightly before continuing.

RASCZEK

I don't mean specifics Mr. Rico,
I mean classical philosophy.

RICO

(pauses for a moment, thinking.)

Someone who's fighting to save
their home.

RASCZEK

Correct Mr. Rico. No force in
the universe is more powerful
than that of one fighting to
save their home from an invading
force.

BLOND GIRL

But didn't the Federation defeat
the skinnies on their home
planet?

CARL JENKINS, 18, an astonishingly intelligent student speaks up.

CARL

We nuked them back into the stone age.

RASCZEK

Yes we did, but like any conflict, the cost of this one was high. A lot of new citizens of the Federated Commonwealth were made in that ten-year conflict.

(beat)

Many of them posthumously.

RASCZEK circles back through the classroom.

RASCZEK

Because the skinnies were fighting for their homes, they fought hard. They tunneled. They bombed. They attacked and withdrew. They had their industrial infrastructure completely decimated and still they fought on.

RICO

They sound like the bugs.

RASCZEK

Similar Rico. But in the end, they stopped fighting. Being faced with the extermination of your race by a superior force makes one rethink the desire to continue fighting, when surrendering keeps you safe.

BLOND GIRL

Our Rabbi said violence never solves anything.

RASCZEK

Is your Rabbi a Citizen?

BLOND GIRL

Well, no...

RASCZEK

And that's why Citizens are

allowed to make public policy,
and civilians... are not.

BLOND GIRL

But...

RASCZEK

A *citizen* is willing to
sacrifice everything for the
sake of their fellow man.
Willing to wade into harms way.
As FedNet tells us, Service
guarantees citizen-ship.
Sometimes, service also means
sacrifice.

He pokes the girl again with the stump of his arm.

RASCZEK

Try and remember the sacrifices
citizens have made to protect
your way of life...
(beat)

so that your Rabbi never has to
be shown that violence *does*
solve problems.

The school bell rings, and the students start to get up from
their desks.

RASCZEK

In order to drive home this
lesson, By Monday I want a five-
page essay on the merits and
disadvantages, if any, of naked
aggression as it relates to
chapters five and six in the
text.

The class gives off an audible groan of protest.

RASCZEK

Mr. Rico, you might want to hit
the books after the game on
Friday
(beat)
rather than the party.

The class laughs. Rico looks embarrassed.

CROSSFADE TO:

ACT 2: BUILDUP 2.

The roughnecks are on an alien world, part jungle and part savannah. The sky is an orange/green color and the world around them is bathed in an orange hue.

The roughnecks have been sent to broker peace with the skinnies. Carl or another military Intelligence Officer (IO) is with them to "seal the deal." Thus far they haven't seen anyone. The IO carries a small translation unit that he speaks into. The translator changes his words into an alien dialect. Eventually the skinnies come out, hundreds of them.

They appear 6-8 feet tall, and very thin and lanky. Their skin has a greenish tinge. Their hands have three fingers and a thumb, and their feet as well. They appear quite similar to humans, but at the same time are alien. The only weapons they carry are primitive spears and some form of crossbow. Their weapons are drawn.

Rico wants to shoot first and ask questions later, but the Intelligence officer takes charge and orders the MI to surrender. The MI troopers are disarmed and put in a bioorganic prison.

Eventually a skinny arrives. He doesn't look any different aside from the fact he's quite small, childlike actually. The IO starts talking to one of the taller skinnies carrying weapons, but is ignored. The short skinny walks from behind the tall ones and talks directly to Rico. The hand held translator does its job, translating into English. He states that they have heard of the Roughnecks and their long fight with the bugs. Rico's death would bring great honor to "the people" but then the threat of the bugs would overwhelm those of "the people" who remain.

Rico says he doesn't know that much about "...the reasons my people and yours fought..." but he suggests that unless they fight, together, both their peoples will die as the bugs destroy them all.

The short one sees the warriors wisdom in Rico's words, but there are too few of their people left to fight such a war with the bugs... especially with the history that the humans and the skinnie's share.

The IO steps forward and interjects that Sky Marshall "whomever" says that after the war, the Federation will make formal reparations to the skinnie's world, cleaning up any toxic remains from the wars, aid with medicine, etc.

A skinny warrior steps forward and plants a blade at the side of the IO's neck, saying "silence".

The short skinny suggests that they could perhaps assist, if Rico himself were to return to help rebuild.

Rico half jokes that "Service guarantees citizenship," and he agrees that he WILL return if the skinnie's DO join the fight.

The Skinny says that the agreement is made, and that they have in centuries past had some *small* amount of experience fighting the bugs.

The camera pulls back, out through a window and it keeps pulling back, showing us that the prison cell the MI troopers were inside of was in fact the hollowed out body of a massive plasma bug.

ACT 3: DEFEAT!

The Mobile Infantry and skinnies agree to work together. The MI board their ship and prepare to jump to the Klendathu that is the bug home world.

Rico and Carmen have a quiet dinner in the mess hall and discuss old times. She asks why they never really connected, and Rico says something about how different they've become since they were in high school. A whole lifetime ago.

Carmen mentions that she's applying for fleet commodore commission, which would put her in charge of a whole task force. Rico looks relieved that the conversation is at an end when alarms sound!

They both race to the bridge where we see that there are several bug meteors incoming! The ship weaves between them, missing all but one. This last meteor knocks off one of the ships four drive engines in a shower of fire and sparks!

Communications reports that sensor readings of the meteors reveal that they are hollow, and appear to contain bug cocoons! And worse yet, the meteors are heading for earth!

The ship is damaged, so it cannot have stardrive or full speed! They radio in that Earth itself is under attack!

The story opens with a live FedNet report from the front lines. It's a vicious skirmish on a vaguely familiar bug controlled world. The MI troopers maneuver from rocky outcropping to rocky outcropping. The viewer notices after a moment that the debris is not rock, because a moment later the MI troopers pass the roaring fire... emanating from the

burnt out remains of a bright yellow Taxicab! The troopers flee, firing behind themselves into the darkness. Their armor is mostly the same as seen in the first film, but there are a few, bulkier additions attached.

A trooper goes down under the claws of a warrior bug, and screams, and other MI troopers take down the bug.

A petite blonde MI trooper carrying a Morita Carbine steps forward and yells at the fallen trooper to 'get off your ass and get on your feet trooper!' The fallen trooper is not dead, but is bleeding. His wounds are not as grave as first appearance, but he exclaims that he can't move. The Blonde steps forward and twists a lock on the front of the MI trooper's armor. The armored backpack, shoulder, arm and thigh armor pops free, and falls off, releasing the trooper. The trooper rises, blood coming from a single hole high on their chest. They pick up their Morita and run off.

Captain Rico steps into the camera line and yells, "We gotta get out of here, we're getting overrun! Our re-enforcements haven't shown up, the damn skinnies are leaving us to die out here!" A warrior bug charges and tackles Rico; knocking him limply through the air with a flip of it's armored jaws! The Blonde yells "NO!" and attacks the bug, firing all the while!

There's a LOUD SCREECH as a warrior bug attacks! The camera spins and is engulfed by the mouth of a warrior bug! The signal goes to static..

ACT 4:

Extra shit:

Rico's Roughnecks have transferred in for troop replacement and to assist in training the newbies, giving them the benefit of their years of experience in the field.

We're introduced to a new Sergeant, the petit blond. She's all attitude and confidence and immediately focuses on Rico. While showing off her training platoon, she makes a few sly innuendos to Rico, who ignores them. Later, Rico is going over a stack of paperwork, reviewing possible recruits. His gaze falls on the petite sergeant drilling her troops. Rico comments to Ace that she's like a combination of Dizzy Flores and Zim. Ace replies that she's much easier on the eyes than Zim ever was. Rico looks at her much later as she's drilling the new troops, and a ghostly image of Dizzy Flores comes to mind. He puts it aside and concentrates on the paperwork and

the impending mission.

The Colonel later orders Rico's unit to a planet that contact has been lost with. Fragmentary messages stated that the bugs had initiated a wholesale invasion when contact was lost.

Rico is ordered to the planet and..

...the viewer is treated to a high school flashback.