

87TH COMPANY



Major Earl Bing, Commander of the 87th Company, is from a prosperous and well-established Virginia family; he is a Princeton man, through and through. Hierarchy at Princeton is sacrosanct, and Bing had risen to its uppermost echelon. He has brought his egalitarian and hierarchal leanings to the Marine Corps, and, in doing so, he has made himself insufferable. He is known, behind his back—very far behind his back—as the “Princeton Prick” or the “Prick from Princetown.” His tantrums are known as “bing, bam, booms.” The man’s imperious mien and overbearing manner notwithstanding, his intelligence, striking appearance, military bearing, command voice, and résumé of tactical success in combat operations, have carried the day for him, culminating in billets that matched his every quality—every quality, that is, but the ability to lead. From what I hear, his achievements in combat operations have resulted from his pyrrhic approach, giving him the reputation of advancing his career on the backs of his men. As a company commander in France, he is likely to get fresh steppingstone opportunities in the near future.

