

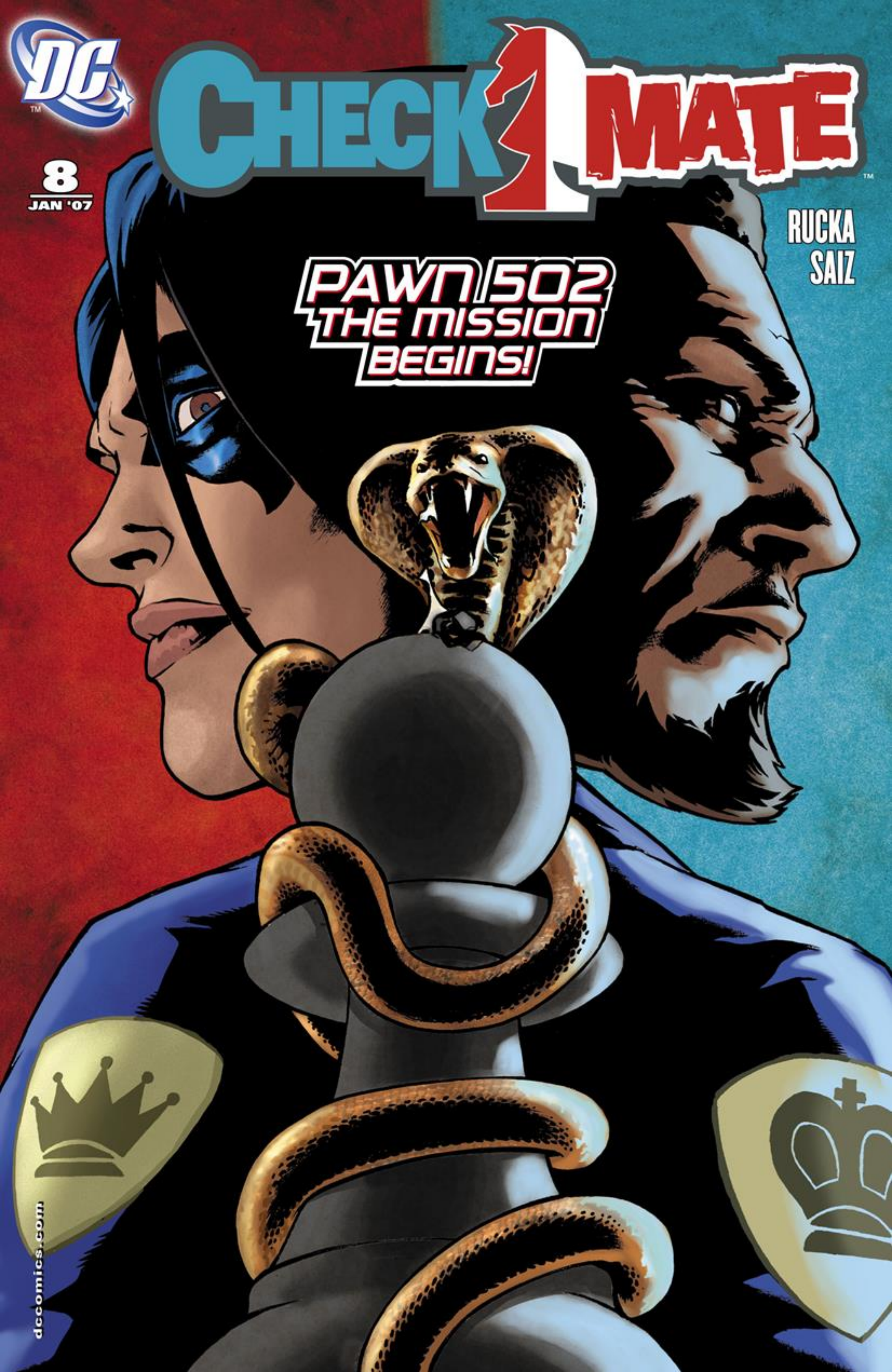


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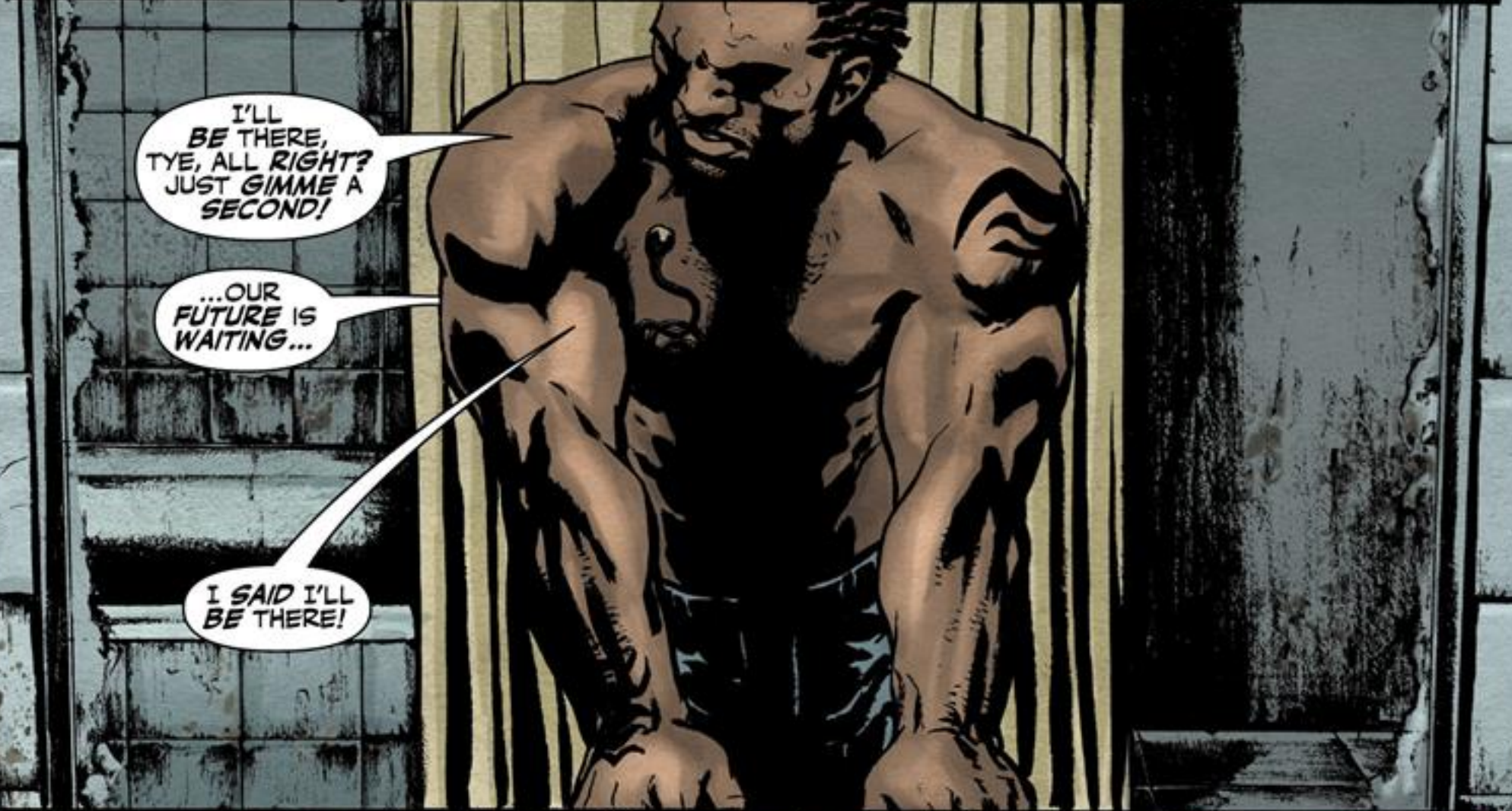
# CHECK 1 MATE

RUCKA  
SAIZ

PAWN 502  
THE MISSION  
BEGINS!









# PAWN 502

## PART 1

CONTROL: GREG RUCKA

COMS: JESUS SAIZ

DECRYPT: TRAVIS LANHAM

MATERIEL: SANTIAGO ARCAS

LOGISTICS: RACHEL GLUCKSTERN

COMMAND: JOAN HILTY

COVER BY JESUS SAIZ

CHECKMATE CREATED BY PAUL KUPPERBERG & STEVE ERWIN

C'MON, VAUGHN,  
WE'VE GOT THE  
MONEY.

TEN GRAND,  
JUST LIKE YOU  
WANTED.

LET'S JUST  
DO THE DEAL AND  
WE CAN ALL GO OUR  
SEPARATE WAYS.

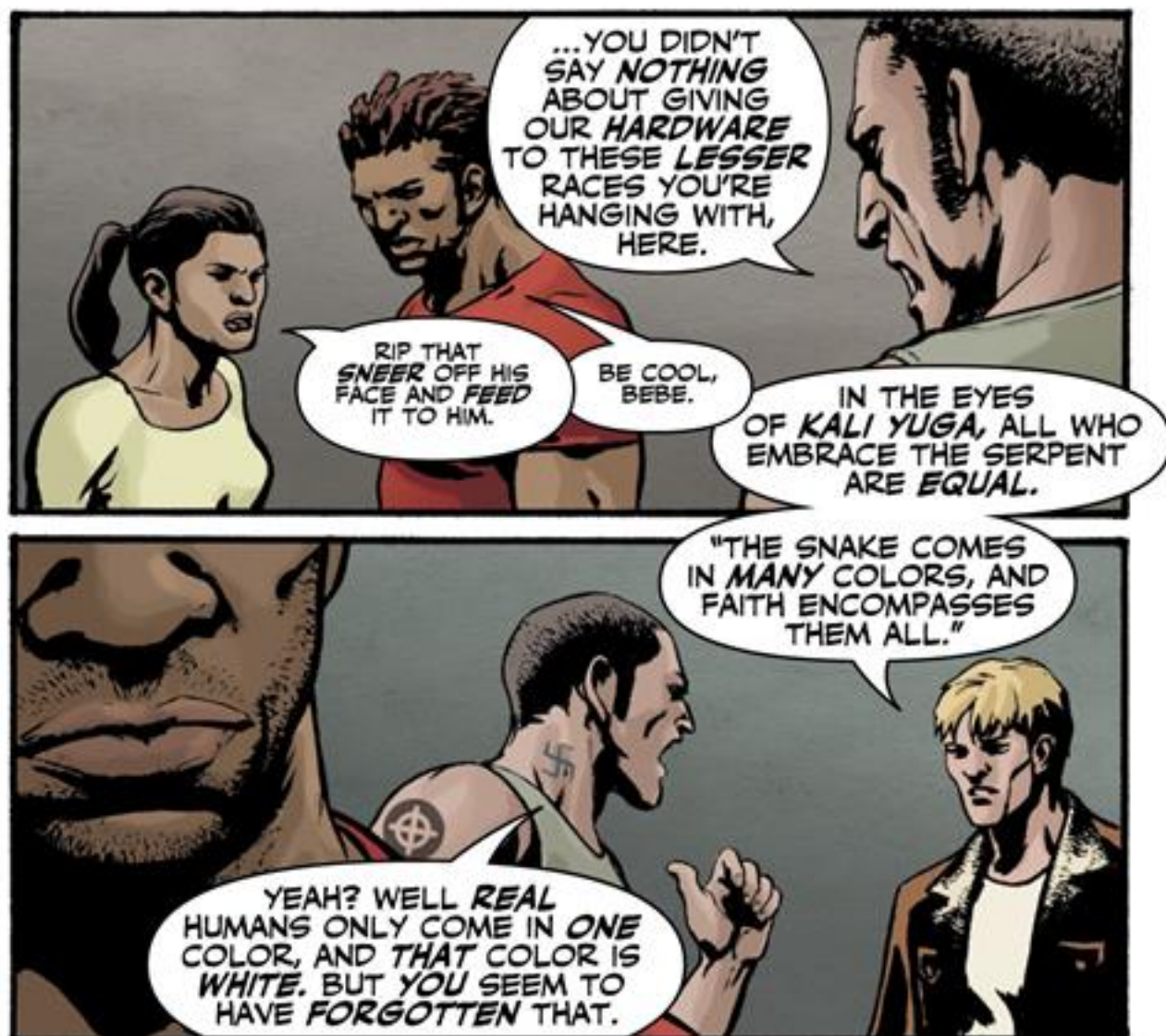


DEAL'S  
OFF.

YOU  
BRIGHT  
ENOUGH  
TO FIGURE  
OUT WHY,  
TYE?











"AND FROM THE EGG WILL RISE OUR SALVATION--"

SON OF A BITCH!

GET IT OFF ME GET IT OFF MEEE!!!!

"--FOR IN KALI YUGA THERE IS NO END FOR THE FAITHFUL--"

TYE! YOU'RE A DEAD MAN!

"--FOR THE FAITHFUL SHALL NEVER DIE--"

KRNK H

CHK

"--REBORN AGAIN--"

BEBE! DON'T!

--I'LL KILL... YOU...

"--AND AGAIN--"

THUK









**THE CASTLE,  
CHECKMATE H.Q..**



**BLACK  
QUEEN'S  
BISHOP--  
JESSICA  
MIDNIGHT.**



MY QUEEN IN THERE?

WITH THE WHITE KING, YES, MA'AM, BUT THEY'RE NOT TO BE--

**BOARD ROOM  
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL  
ONLY**



--TAKES THREE MONTHS FOR THE U.S. TO FINALLY COME AROUND AND CONFIRM YOU--

--DISTURBED, HEY!!



--YOU'VE BEEN KING FOR LESS THAN A WEEK, YOU TURN AROUND AND DO THIS?!

IT'S CALLED POLITICS! MAYBE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN, BUT THE U.S. IS STILL A PERMANENT MEMBER!

CHECKMATE MUST MAINTAIN A POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COUNCIL OR ELSE WE'RE CRIPPLED!

**BLACK  
QUEEN--  
SASHA  
BORDEAUX.**

**WHITE KING--  
MICHAEL HOLT--  
"MISTER TERRIFIC."**





WITH THE *COUNCIL* AS A *WHOLE*, YES! BUT *THIS* IS JUST KISSING THE ASS OF THE AMERICANS!

HOW CAN YOU *DO* THIS? ESPECIALLY AFTER WHAT THEY JUST PUT YOU THROUGH!

I HAVE TO MAKE *PEACE*! I'M NOT GOING TO BE *MUCH* OF A KING IF TRAUTMANN AND HORNE THINK THEY CAN'T WORK WITH ME!

I'M SORRY TO INTERRUPT--



WHAT?



THIS *JUST* CAME IN OFF THE WINDTALKER DECRYPT, OUT OF DETROIT...



...PAWN 502 CONFIRMS THE *CELL* HAS GONE *ACTIVE*. HE SAYS THEY'VE ACQUIRED *WEAPONS* IN PREPARATION FOR AN *AUDITION*.

YOU NOTIFIED THE BLACK KING?

SHEN'S WITH HIM NOW. THEY'LL MEET US IN OPS.



PAWN 502? THAT'S THE FORMER GREEN BERET?

THAT'S THE ONE...



...WE CAN ARGUE SOME MORE LATER, OKAY, MIKE?

LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.





BLACK KING'S BISHOP-- SHEN LI PO

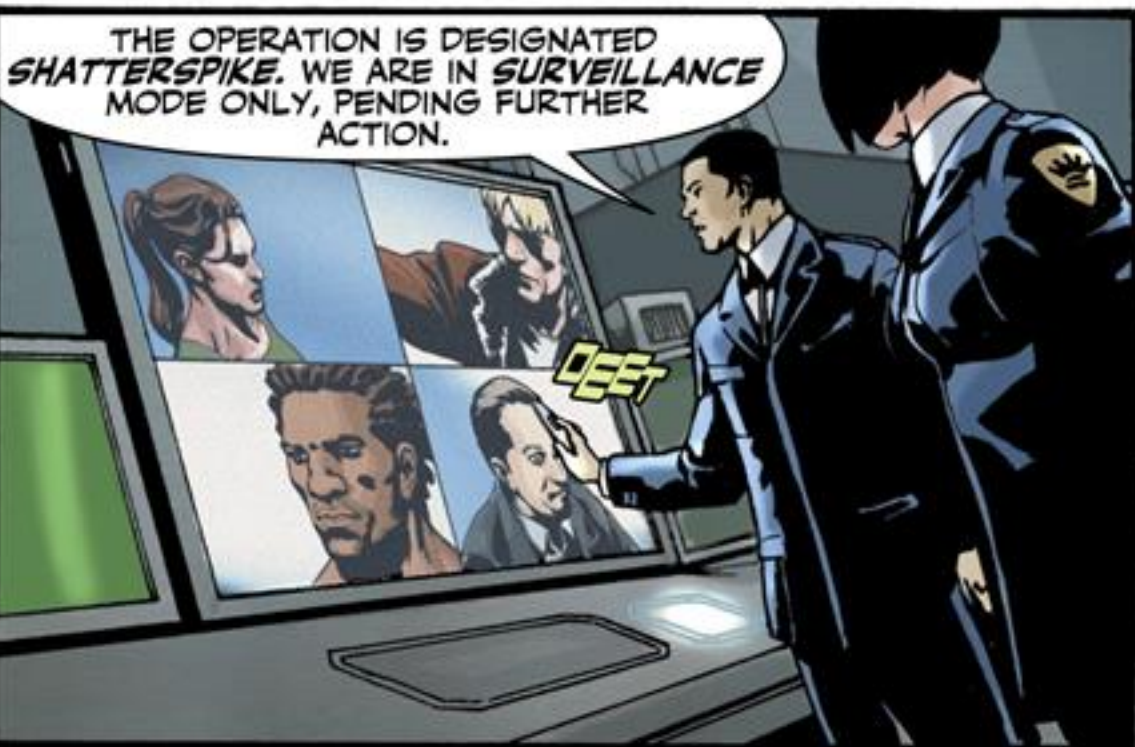
BLACK KING--TALEB BENI KHALID

SORRY I'M LATE, I WAS IN THE BOARD ROOM FIGHTING WITH THE NEW WHITE KING. THAT MAN REALLY NEEDS A BISHOP.

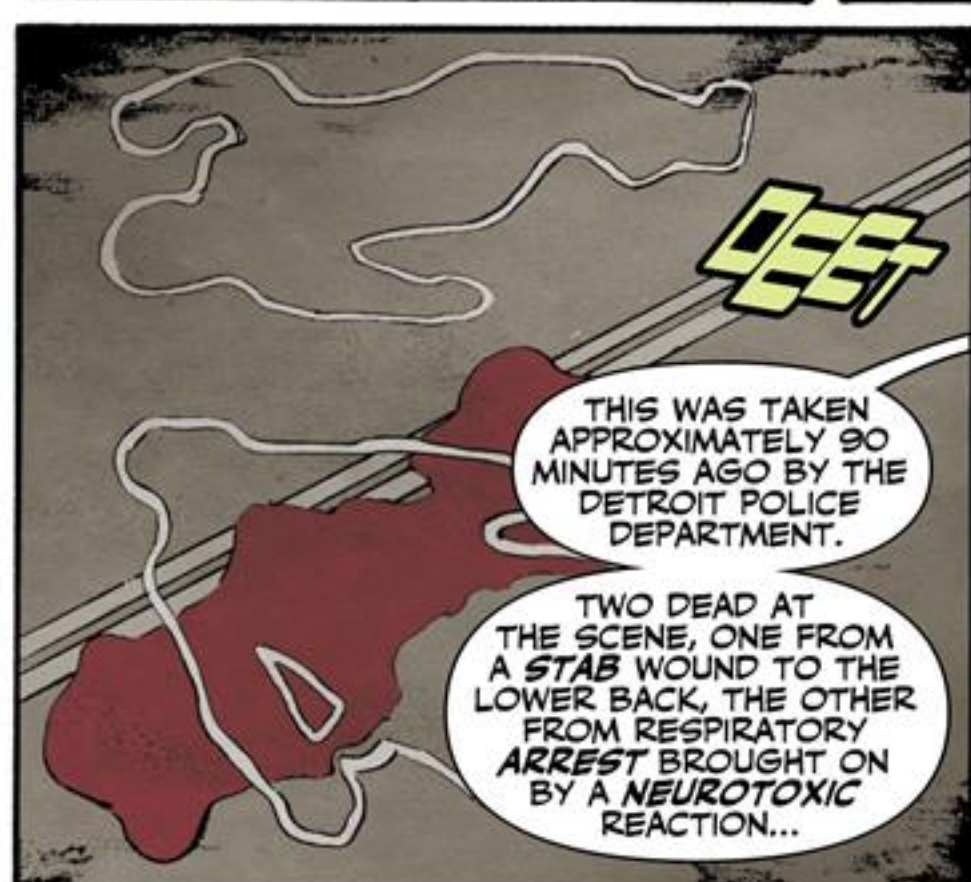
AH, BUT WHO DOES MISTER TERRIFIC PICK FOR AN ADVISOR WHO IS AT LEAST AS SMART AS HE IS?

YOU DON'T EVEN WANT TO KNOW WHO HE'S CONSIDERING.

ANYWAY, LET'S HEAR IT.



THE OPERATION IS DESIGNATED SHATTERSPIKE. WE ARE IN SURVEILLANCE MODE ONLY, PENDING FURTHER ACTION.



THIS WAS TAKEN APPROXIMATELY 90 MINUTES AGO BY THE DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT.

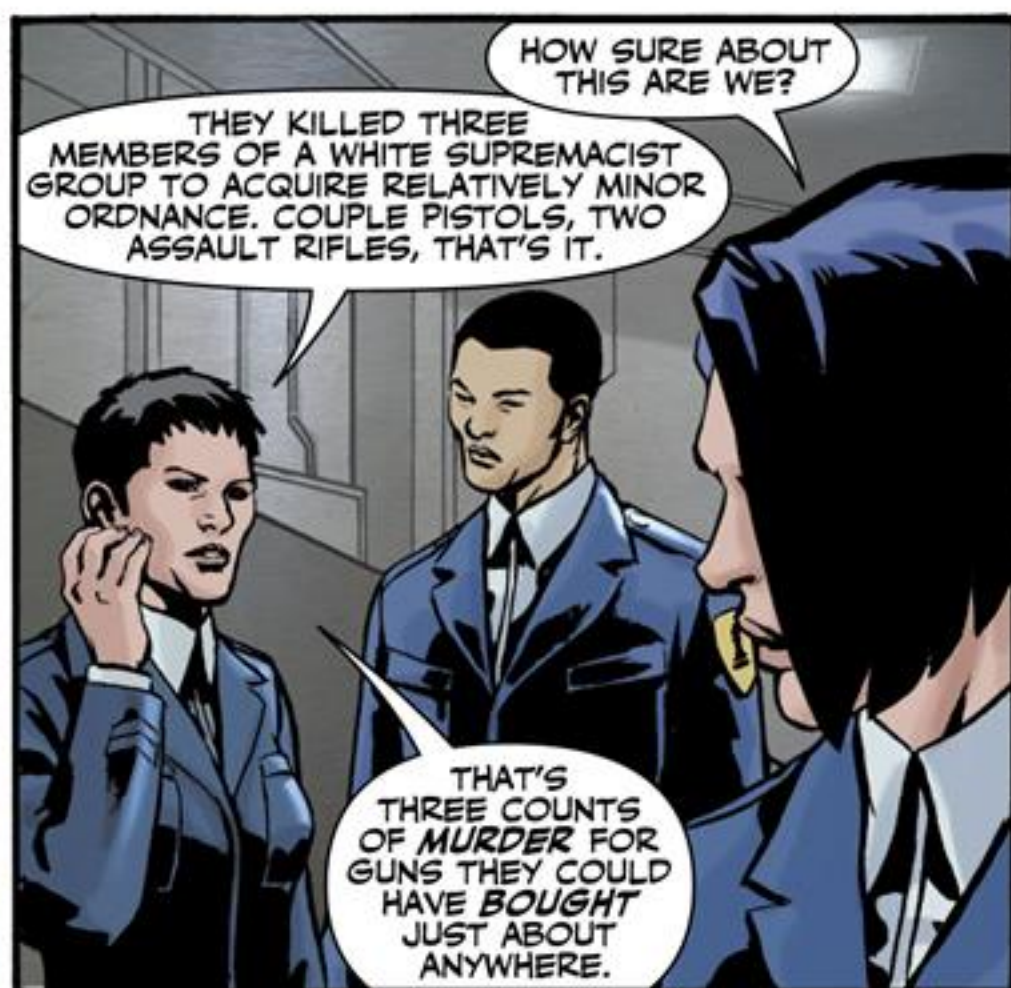
TWO DEAD AT THE SCENE, ONE FROM A STAB WOUND TO THE LOWER BACK, THE OTHER FROM RESPIRATORY ARREST BROUGHT ON BY A NEUROTOXIC REACTION...



...THE RESULT OF MULTIPLE RATTLESNAKE BITES.

A THIRD VICTIM WAS DISCOVERED NEARBY, MURDERED IN THE SAME WAY.













--EXPLAIN  
WHAT THAT WAS  
ABOUT BACK THERE,  
LARD-ASS?



WHY THE  
HELL DIDN'T  
YOU USE YOUR  
**POWERS, EMMET!**  
HELP US OUT  
SOME, HUH?

LEAVE  
HIM ALONE,  
BEBE...



...EMMET'S  
HAD IT AS BAD  
AS THE REST  
OF US.

I WANTED  
TO...I REALLY  
DID...



...I JUST...  
I **COULDN'T**  
DO IT--

YOU  
**CHOKED.**  
JUST LIKE  
YOU DID  
**BEFORE.**

LET IT  
GO, BEBE.  
WE'RE ALL  
HERE FOR  
THE **SAME**  
THING.



WHAT'S **NEXT, TYE?**  
NO WAY KOBRA'S  
MAKING US **INITIATES**  
JUST FOR **TAKING**  
OUT THE **WHITE**  
**TRASH.**

WHAT'RE  
WE GONNA  
DO TO **SHOW**  
THEM WE'RE  
DEVOTED?

EVERYTHING IN **STAGES,**  
LUCAS. WE HAVE **WEAPONS.**  
NOW WE NEED **CAPITAL.**



AND THAT'S WHERE  
EMMET'S GETTING A CHANCE  
TO **REDEEM** HIMSELF.

























WHERE'S TYE?

IN THE BEDROOM WITH BEBE. WHERE WERE--



GET YOUR SHOES ON AND GRAB THE GUNS, DAMMIT.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

JUST DO IT, EMMET!



LITTLE PRIVACY???

LATER, MAN! WE GOTTA GO, WE GOTTA GO NOW, TYE!

C'MON, GET UP, GET DRESSED!

WHAT'S GOING ON?



THE APARTMENT'S BEING WATCHED, COPS OR SOMEBODY.

I TOLD YOU COMING BACK HERE WAS A BAD IDEA!

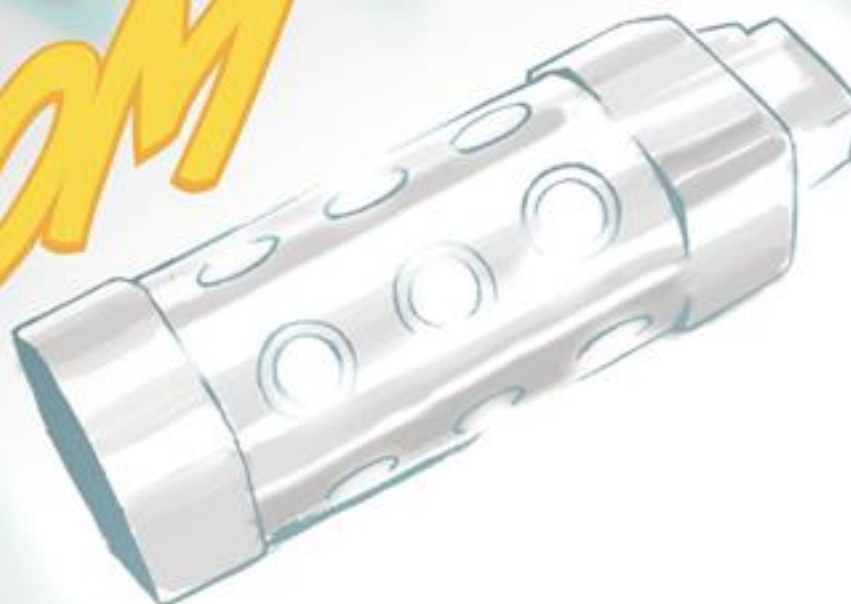
WE GO OUT THE BACK WAY, ALLEY-SIDE, WE SHOULD BE...



OH, SON OF A BI--

Tnk  
Tunk

Fwuhoom



GO GO GO!









THERE WERE *FOUR* OF THEM, WHERE'S THE *OTHER* ONE?



THERE WERE ONLY THESE *THREE*, THERE WASN'T--



GET A *PERIMETER* AND A *FULL SPECTRUM* SCANNING TEAM DEPLOYED, *NOW*.

WE'VE GOT A *RABBIT*.

CONFIRMED.



TAKE THEM TO THE COMMAND POST. KEEP THEM *SEPARATED*, THEY *DON'T* GET TO TALK TO ONE ANOTHER.

GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!



KALI YUGA PROTECTS US! KALI YUGA IS OUR SAVIOR!

YOU WILL FALL BEFORE KOBRA!



SHUT UP.







I'M WORKING ON THE BUDGET RIGHT NOW, JESS, DON'T--

THERE'S A PROBLEM.



TELL ME.



THE D.M.A. JUST CAME AND PISSSED ALL OVER THE PARADE IN DETROIT.

BEST WE CAN TELL, THEY TRIED TO ROLL UP THE WHOLE CELL AND BLEW IT. EMMET BURKE--THE ONE WITH POWERS--ESCAPED.



AMATEURS.

ANY WORD FROM 502?



NO, NOTHING.

INFORM THE BLACK KING, THEN GET BOTH BLACK KNIGHTS TO TRANSPORT.

I WANT TO BE IN THE AIR IN FIVE MINUTES, JESS.



YOU'RE GOING WITH THEM?

HELL YEAH. I NEED TO KICK SOMEBODY'S ASS.

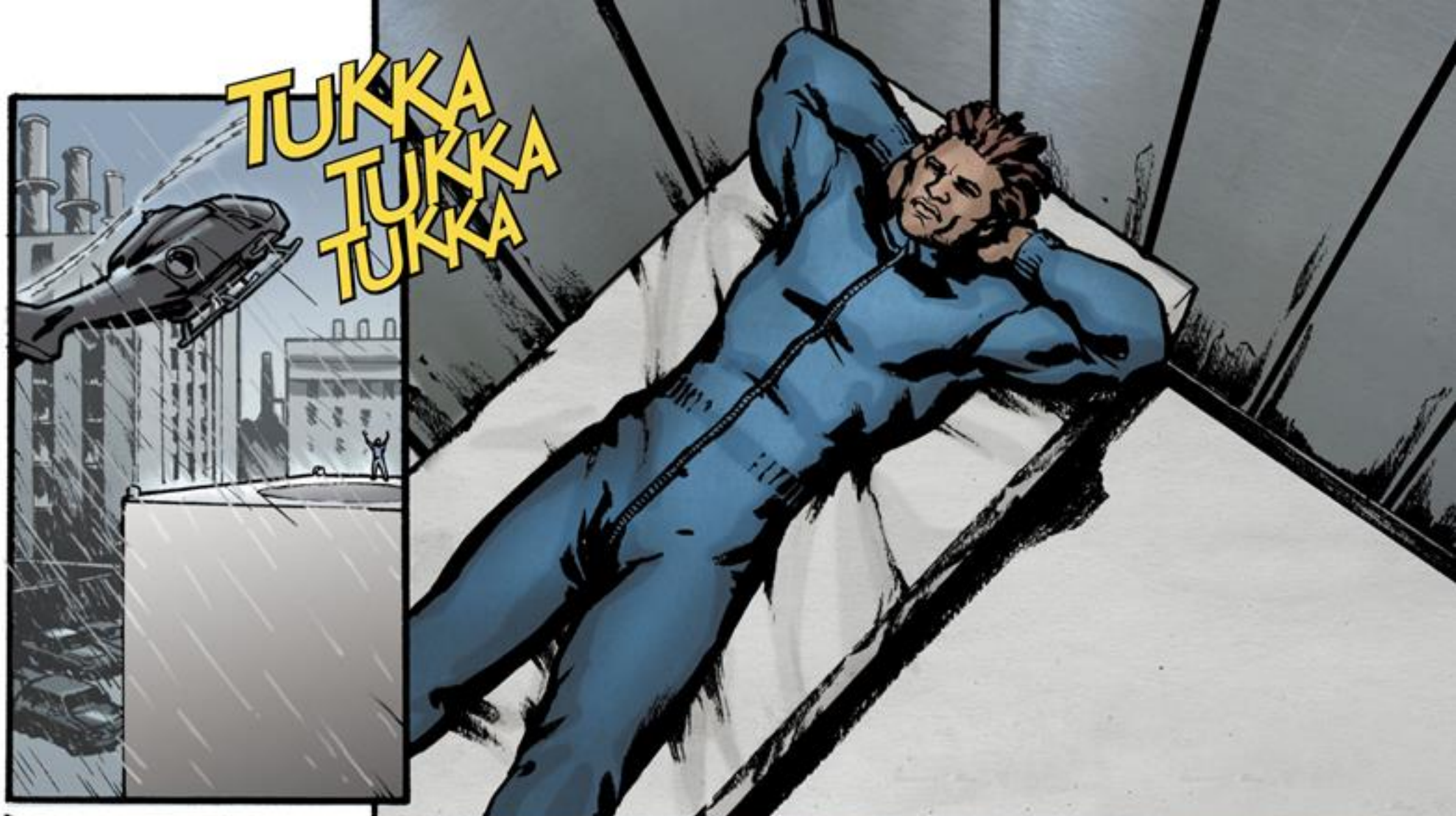
WHO?



SOON AS I FIND THE ASS, I'LL LET YOU KNOW.

MEET ME ON THE PLANE.









...I WAS WONDERING WHEN YOU'D SHOW UP.

YOU'RE ALL RIGHT?

ME? I'M FINE. NOTHING THESE D.M.A. PRICKS CAN DO TO ME WORSE THAN YOUR BISHOP DID DURING *BASIC TRAINING*.



THE *OPERATION'S* GONE TITS UP, THOUGH.

WE PACKING IT IN?

NO, LUCAS.



ONE WAY OR ANOTHER...

...WE'RE GOING TO GET YOU TO JOIN KOBRA.

TO BE CONTINUED