

4:05 SMT: Dropship deployed to investigate distress signal on the glassed planet of Cleyell. Search team informed of potential presence of Kig-Yar scavengers.



COORDINATES
LOCKED ON
BEACON.

INITIATING
FINAL
APPROACH.

ANOTHER
SOFT
INSERTION.

MIGHT AS
WELL HAVE DAMN
WATERFALL NOISES
PLAYIN' OVER THE
RADIO.



THIS AIN'T
NO LIFE FOR A
HELLJUMPER.

NOT
EVERYTHING
STARTS QUIET
STAYS THAT WAY.
COULD BE A LOAD
OF TROUBLE'S
WAITING DOWN
THERE.

LET'S
HOPE.



AND
LET'S HOPE
THE SERGEANT
HERE KNOWS
WHAT SHE'S
GOT HERSELF
INTO.

NOT
SURE HOW
MUCH COMBAT
SHE'S SEEN IN
THE ENGINEER
CORPS...

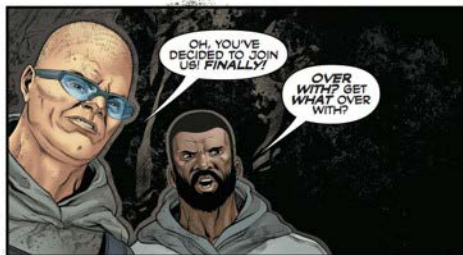


WHADDYA
SAY
TANAKA...

WHEN
IT KICKS OFF
DOWN THERE,
YOU GONNA
KNOW WHAT TO
DO WITH THAT
RIFLE?

THE PLANET MINAB
SOMEWHERE IN THE HIGHLANDS
2551

TANAKA!
HEY!
I'M
TALKIN' TO
YOU!





YOU'RE
THE REASON
EVERYONE'S
DEAD!

IF YOU
HADN'T FREED
THAT MANIAC,
HE WOULD'A
NEVER RUN
AWAY. LED THOSE
JACKALS TO OUR
HIDEOUT!



HATE
TO BREAK
THE NEWS, BUT
YOUR FATHER
FREED THAT
MAN.

THAT'S...
THAT'S A
LIE!

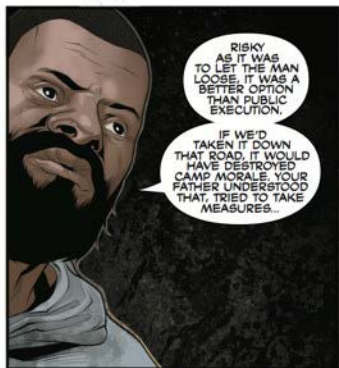


YOU BUNKED
UP IN THE CAB
WITH HIM. YOU MUST
HAVE HEARD HIM GET
UP, HEAD DOWN TO
THE MAIN FLOOR
THAT NIGHT?

DIDN'T
SEEM STRANGE
TO YOU?



MY FATHER
WOULD NEVER
- IT MAKES NO
SENSE!



RISKY
AS IT WAS
TO LET THE MAN
LOOSE, IT WAS A
BETTER OPTION
THAN PUBLIC
EXECUTION.

IF WE'D
TAKEN IT DOWN
THAT ROAD, IT WOULD
HAVE DESTROYED
CAMP MORALE. YOUR
FATHER UNDERSTOOD
THAT, TRIED TO TAKE
MEASURES...



THINGS JUST
BACKFIRED ON
HIM.

WASN'T
HIS FAULT.
WASN'T
ANYONE'S
FAULT.



GLAD WE CLEARED THAT UP, 'CAUSE WE GOT A MORE PRESSING TOPIC TO DISCUSS.

WE'RE NOT GONNA SURVIVE MUCH LONGER WITHOUT PROPER GEAR.

"LAST YEAR WE STORED AN EMERGENCY CACHE BY AN OUTCROPPING NEAR THE CAVE. INSURANCE POLICY IN CASE THINGS GOT NASTY.

"TIME'S COME TO PICK IT UP."



"WHAT ABOUT THOSE JACKALS?"

"EVEN MORE OF 'EM NOW, AND THEY'VE SET UP CAMP RIGHT ON THE COMPOUND'S DOORSTEP."

"THEN THERE'S NO WAY WE'LL BE ABLE TO --"



TANAKA, YOU EVER HEAR STORIES ABOUT THOSE DAMNED COLONIAL INSURGENTS?

YOU KNOW, THOSE MEN AND WOMEN FIGHTIN' IN SHADOWS AND MAKIN' THE UNSC'S LIFE HELL?



WELL, YOU'RE LOOKING AT TWO OF THE BEST.

TIME FOR YOUR CRASH COURSE IN ASYMMETRIC WARFARE.



