

WELL, YOU'RE NOT IN THE OFFICE.

IT'S SATURDAY, SCULLY, WHEN WE DON'T GO TO THE OFFICE, THANKS TO THE BLOOD AND STRUGGLE OF THOUSANDS OF LABOR ORGANIZERS.

MULDER, OUR FLIGHT LEAVES IN TWO HOURS.



I'LL MAKE IT. I WAS DOING SOME RESEARCH. HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE JADE HELM 15 CONSPIRACY THEORIES?

HALF-BAKED GOVERNMENT HATERS WHO THINK THE GOVERNMENT WANTS TO TAKE THEIR GUNS?

RIGHT, EMPHASIS ON HALF-BAKED. BUT THERE'S ALWAYS BEEN SOMETHING ABOUT IT THAT BOTHERED ME.



WHEN WE PUT ON A TINFOIL HAT BECAUSE WE THINK THE GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO INVADE OUR BRAIN, WE'RE ASSUMING A CERTAIN LEVEL OF SOPHISTICATION, RIGHT?

WE BELIEVE WE'VE PROGRESSED AS A CIVILIZATION TO WHERE THE NEXT GREAT EXISTENTIAL DANGER WILL COME FROM THREATS BEYOND OUR CONCEPTION.

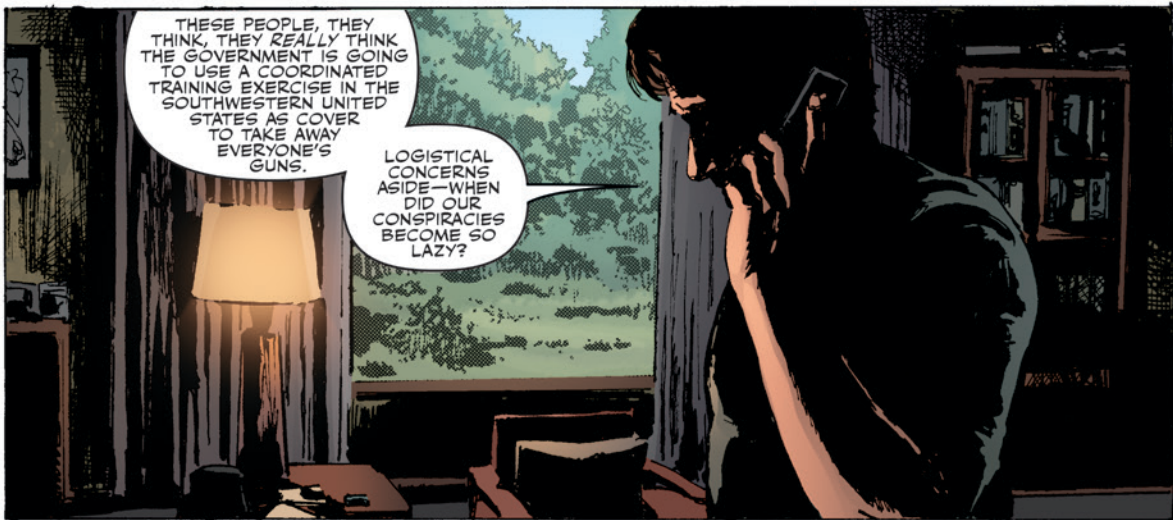


ARE YOU ARGUING ON MESSAGE BOARDS AGAIN?



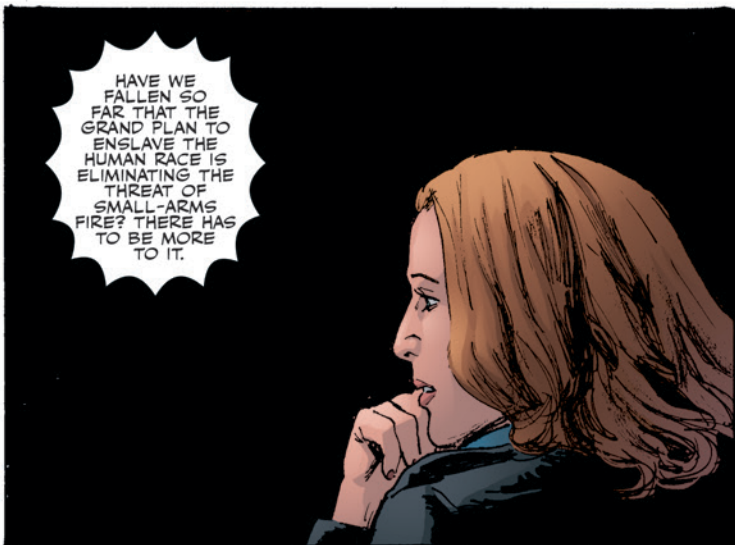
YES, BUT HEAR ME OUT, SCULLY.



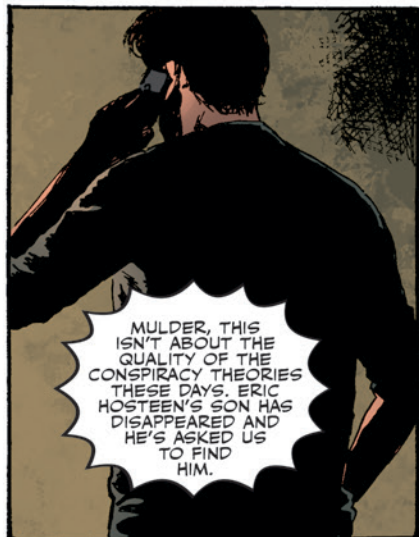


THESE PEOPLE, THEY THINK, THEY REALLY THINK THE GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO USE A COORDINATED TRAINING EXERCISE IN THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES AS COVER TO TAKE AWAY EVERYONE'S GUNS.

LOGISTICAL CONCERNS ASIDE—WHEN DID OUR CONSPIRACIES BECOME SO LAZY?



HAVE WE FALLEN SO FAR THAT THE GRAND PLAN TO ENSLAVE THE HUMAN RACE IS ELIMINATING THE THREAT OF SMALL-ARMS FIRE? THERE HAS TO BE MORE TO IT.



MULDER, THIS ISN'T ABOUT THE QUALITY OF THE CONSPIRACY THEORIES THESE DAYS. ERIC HOSTEEN'S SON HAS DISAPPEARED AND HE'S ASKED US TO FIND HIM.



IT'S A MISSING PERSON CASE, MULDER. THAT'S IT.



JUST PERFORMING OUR DUE DILIGENCE, SCULLY.

BUT LET'S GO SEE FOR OURSELVES. A FEW DAYS IN THE DESERT WOULD BE GOOD FOR YOU.