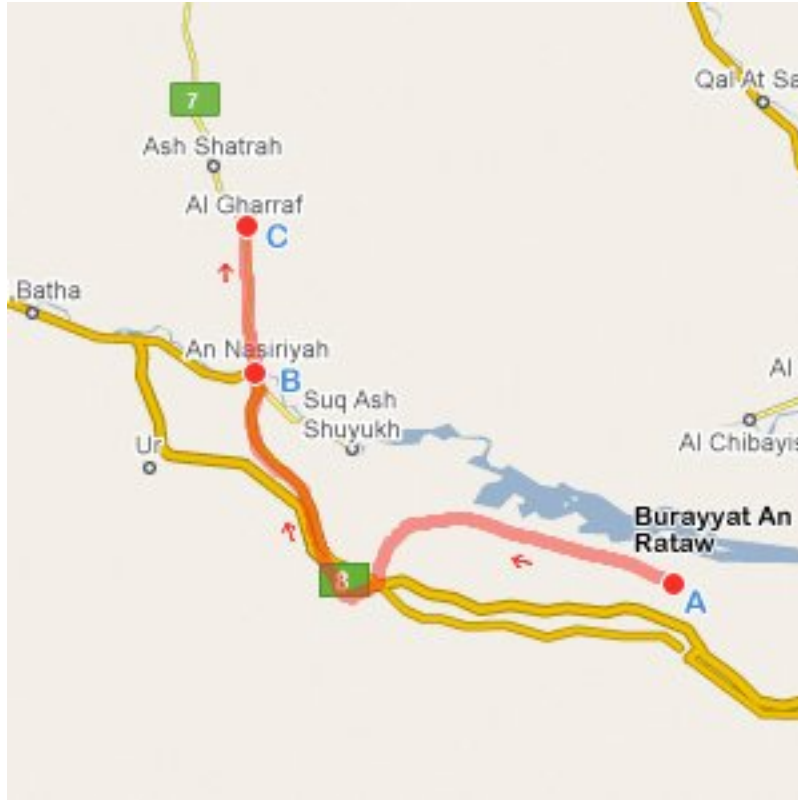


Generation Kill 1x02 - Cradle of Civilization



[VO – all on radio]

MARINE

All Hitman Victors, be advised, we are rolling freaks to TAC 1-1-9 at 1400 Zulu. How copy?

HITMAN TWO TWO

Roger. Two Two copies all. Interrogative: I need crypto. Do you know who's got the CYZ? I'm pretty sure I lost my fill. Over.

MARINE

Negative. I don't know a damn thing.

[00:00:23]

Daytime. Bravo drives down an MSR.

FICK

[on radio] All Hitman Two Victors, keep tight dispersion when linking up with the column. Make sure other units don't get mixed in.

Colbert waves to a roadside Iraqi.

COLBERT

Yes, we are the conquering heroes.

PERSON

[OS] Whoa, check it out.

COLBERT

Look at this, Gents. Little more than forty-eight hours into the war, and the First Marine Division out of Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California, is rolling with impunity on Saddam's highways.

TROMBLEY

[OS] This sucks. We were on point in front of the whole invasion. Now we're back in the traffic jam.

COLBERT

[OS] Trombley, how dare you question the strategic plan?

Bravo joins the rest of the Marine traffic on Route 8.

PERSON

Oh my God, look at this. "Angry American." Aw. "Get some"? "Don't tread on me"? "Let's roll"? Fuck, man. I hate that fucking cheesy moto bullshit.

COLBERT

Ray, when you're right, you're right.

PERSON

You know, it's like that song "Where Stars and Stripes and Eagles Fly"? Fuck, man, eagles fly in Canada, too. When we got back from Afghanistan my mom tried to play me that song and I was all, "Fuck no, Mom. I'm a Marine." I don't need to fly a little fucking patriotic flag on my car to show that I'm patriotic.

COLBERT

That song is straight homosexual country music, Special Olympics-gay.

GARZA

[OS] "Nasiriyah." 40 clicks.

MARINE

[OS] Hey, Q-tip! Your truck's all blinged out. How you gonna refuel it?

A Iraqi is in a civilian truck next to Hitman Two One vehicle. Person sees him and spits.

ESPERA

[on radio] Echo Four Papa, I think that Hajji's getting sweet on you.

PERSON

Awww, Brad, this fucking sucks! We're in the rear with the fucking chicks, the supply trucks, and the Hajji truckers. We trained for that bridge mission for six fucking weeks, and they take it right out from underneath of us.

GARZA

Yeah, I'll be mad if this war ends before we get a chance to get in it.

COLBERT

Drop down here, my little brown friend. Missions are always getting fragged. We're Marines. We obey our orders. Our mission now is not to do our original mission.

GARZA

Semper gumby. Always flexible.

[00:02:56]

Nighttime. There are distant explosions, dogs barking, men chatting.

(In the background:

MARINE 1

Are we supposed to put our cammie nets up or what?

MARINE 2

See where that education goes? Motherfucker out here with the rocks and Fred Flintstones and shit.)

COLBERT

I'm taking a shit.

Colbert gets out of the vehicle.

FICK

[on radio] Hitman Two One Alpha, this is Hitman Two. Over.

PERSON

[into radio] Standing by to copy. Over.

FICK

[on radio] I need Two One actual on the hook. Over.

PERSON

[into radio] Two One actual is uh, on a mission. Taking a dump. First combat dump in country. Over.

FICK

[on radio] Two One, when he returns, have Two One actual contact me. Over.

PERSON

[into radio] Roger that.

McGraw walks by humming the Marines Hymn.

PERSON

Hey, Captain sir! Where'd you get that nice looking AK?

MCGRAW

Part of a cache we found in a culvert near where we took those prisoners. Well-oiled, pretty clean. Not bad for a third-world army. [walks away and addresses Carisalez] Corporal, stow this next to my seat. Gotta be prepared. Never know when you might need an AK.

CARISALEZ

That's why you're in charge, sir.

Carisalez spits as McGraw leaves.

CARISALEZ

Captain America, man!

(In the background:

MARINE

Yeah yeah, I got it.)

CARISALEZ

To think I believed the judge when he told me the Marine Corps was a superior alternative to jail. I should have shut up and done my time.

Sixta walks up to Bravo Two.

SIXTA

I don't want none of you ladies moping and crying. Mustaches gots to go now. Hey, Turd! Scrape that hippy shit off your lip.

STAFFORD

Screwby.

SIXTA

You mocking the grooming standard, Stafford?

STAFFORD

Naw, Sergeant Major. It's screwby.

SIXTA

I wants to see clean purty smiles before we step off.

Colbert walks back to his Humvee humming.

TROMBLEY

Good dump, Sergeant?

COLBERT

Excellent. Shit my brains out. Not too hard, not too runny.

TROMBLEY

It sucks when it's runny, and you have to wipe 50 times.

COLBERT

That's not what I'm talking about. If it's too hard or too soft, something's not right. You might have a problem that affects combat readiness.

PERSON

And it should be a little bit acid, Trombley. Burn your asshole a little when it comes out.

COLBERT

Maybe on your little bitch asshole, Ray, from all the cock that's been stuffed up it.

ESPERA

Man, we Marines are so homoerotic. It's all we talk about. You ever realize how homoerotic this whole thing is?

WYNN

[OS] LT wants to see you, Brad.

Wynn walks up to the Humvee.

PERSON

Aww shit, homes. I forgot to tell you he was on the radio for you.

Colbert glares at Person.

PERSON

I'm sorry.

WYNN

Garza, how are your legs? They all right standing in that turret all day?

GARZA

Good, Gunny. I'm Mexican, too hard to feel nothing from that. I got retard strength.

WYNN

I got good news, guys. We're staying here on 25% watch. That means three of you get to sleep a couple hours.

TROMBLEY

Sleep? What kind of fucked-up war is this?

Colbert and Fick watch a helicopter fly towards Nasiriyah.

FICK

It's not good. Casevac bird's been going back and forth since sundown.

COLBERT

Sir, the fucking army declared Nasiriyah secured. It was on the net.

FICK

Whatever's going on up there, it doesn't sound to me like we've secured much of anything.

Person and Wright lie underneath the Humvee.

PERSON

Hey! Reporter!

WRIGHT

What?

PERSON

If you lay with your cock against the ground as the tank goes by, it feels fucking great. Come on, do it!

Wright turns over as a tank drives by.

[00:06:58]

(In the background:

MARINE

You're dismissed.)

Daytime. Person shits in front of an Iraqi house while Esperza collects Marine litter.

(In the background:

PERSON

Hey, Rudy! I forgot my baby wipes.

REYES

Use your hand, you nasty thing.

PERSON

Come here and wipe my ass, you heartless fuck.)

ESPERA

I'm fucking ashamed, dawg. Back in Afghanistan we didn't leave a speck of Americana behind.

(In the background:

PERSON

Rudy! Rudy!)

LILLEY

Brah, could you imagine if Hajjis invaded our country and started shitting in people's suburban yards?

ESPERA

Not really.

Person finishes and begins dressing.

PERSON

[singing] Why you gotta go and make things so complicated?

When I see you acting like somebody else gets me frustrated.

[walking up to Burris] You guys in Alpha getting some?

BURRIS

Same as you dick smokers in Bravo.

PERSON

Oh shit, look. Cody's got a diary.

Person grabs Scott's diary as Lilley films.

LILLEY

Get some, brah.

SCOTT

Hey man! Give it back.

PERSON

No, listen, listen. "Leading men into battle is my calling." Not bad, Corporal. "Since I was young, I felt drawn to the warrior society." Now that's a little gay. "Our minions are roll-" Jeez, "Our minions are rolling"? John, he just called you a minion. "The people here live like rats-"

CODY

[attempting to get the diary back] Give it!

PERSON

"Hopefully what we are doing will lead them to a better life." Your calling wasn't to be a warrior, man, it was to be a fucking retard.

Members of Bravo Two gather around the hood of Colbert's Humvee, listening to the radio.

[BBC radio]...captured American soldiers, some of them apparently wounded. The channel says the Americans were members of the army supply unit and were ambushed outside Nasiriyah. And in fierce fighting in that city, U.S. Marines were said to have suffered heavy casualties.

PATRICK

I heard the Hajjis are faking surrenders and using civilians to trick Marines.

WYNN

I don't fucking believe it. How did so many of us get hit?

BRYAN

Here we sit with our thumbs up our asses while Marines are dying a few clicks up the road.

Fick walks up.

PATRICK

[OS] Well you shouldn't pet a burning dog.

FICK

Why the fuck are there Iraqis walking through our lines? Why the fuck is there nobody up on our guns? Come on!

WYNN

Jacks, get up in the turret!

(In the background:

MARINE

You guys got any oil?)

FICK

Brad. We've got orders to bust north to Nasiriyah, support the Regimental Combat Team there. And there's been a change in the ROE. Anyone with a weapon is declared hostile. If a woman walks away from you with a weapon on her back, shoot her. If an armed Iraqi sells good humor out of the back of a VW, shoot him. I don't care if you hit him with a 40mm grenade.

COLBERT

Roger that, sir.

(In the background:

MARINE

Let's get radio checks going.)

COLBERT

Gear up, gents. Move it out!

Bryan inspects Trombley.

BRYAN

Close your fucking flak vest. Where's your Delta tourniquet? Come on, Trombley. [takes Trombley's tourniquet and ties it around his neck] Fucking keep it here. [walking over to Wright, inspecting his vest] Where the fuck did you get this?

WRIGHT

What? Ebay?

BRYAN

Ebay? Christopher?

CHRISTOPHER

[OS] Yeah, doc?

BRYAN

You got rigger tape?

CHRISTOPHER

Yeah sure.

BRYAN

Thank you, sir.

Bryan takes the tape and tapes Wright's flak vest closed. Fick helps.

(In the background:

MARINE

Get your vehicles crossed to miker-5.)

BRYAN

I got this.

Fick pats his shoulder and walks away.

BRYAN

And this lunatic doesn't even know he's in Iraq. Thinks he's a superhero from some Japanese comic.

REYES

Hey, I put on my superhero uniform everyday I'm in the Corps, brother. Hoorah.

MARINE

[OS] Hoorah!

REYES

Now we find our true Dharma.

(In the background:

MARINE 1

Mike, Red-con One in five.

JACKS

Let's get it on!

REYES

Budweiser, we got our call signs straight?

MARINE 2
Let's roll!

MARINE 3 (LILLEY?)
Hey, Leon, I thought you were Mexican?

LEON
I am.

MARINE 3 (LILLEY?)
Then why aren't you loud and stealing my shit?

MARINE 4
Let's go.)

[00:10:21]

Daytime. Marines cheer as Bravo rolls by.

MARINE
Get some! Here comes the Marines, motherfuckers. Look out!

TROMBLEY
[OS] Fucking POG.

WRIGHT
What's a POG?

TROMBLEY
Persons Other than Grunts. Rear echelon guys. Pussies.

FICK
[on radio] All Hitman Two Victors be advised. We are now departing friendly lines. TLs ensure that all weapons are Condition One.

COLBERT
Brass-check all weapons.

RAPTOR
[on radio] Godfather, this is Raptor. We're taking small arms fire from the east.

COLBERT
Alpha's in contact ahead. We're prosecuting targets with Cobras.

Bravo Two One drives by a blood-stained Army truck.

PERSON

A supply company. Army.

TROMBLEY

Oh, damn. And we ain't in the city yet.

SCHWETJE

[on radio] Godfather, this is Hitman Actual. Interrogative, do you want Bravo to push to the uh river's edge and link up with Alpha? Over.

ECKLOFF

[on radio] Hitman, this is Godfather. Negative. Take an overwatch position and stand by for possible casevacs.

[00:11:25]

Alpha is shot at on the southern bank of the Euphrates. Colbert observes from a hill overwatching the river where Bravo is stationed.

COLBERT

[on radio] Victors, all Victors. [into radio] Get out of your vehicles and take cover. Our sister company is finally in this war.

Colbert returns to the Humvees.

PERSON

How come Alpha gets to pop their cherry and we don't?

COLBERT

They have their mission, we have ours.

SIXTA

Love this shit! We's in the middle of it now, boys! Garza, get your stupid ass down! Ain't nothing for you to shoot at.

(In the background:

JACKS

Fuck this shit, for sure.)

Colbert walks up to Fick's position behind Fick's truck.

COLBERT

Sir, how long do we have to sit up here with our nuts out getting shot at before RCT One goes into the town?

FICK

Brad, we sit here with our nuts exposed, but when RCT One assaults over the bridge and we go in behind to get their casualties, we get our nuts blown completely off.

COLBERT

Alpha's getting smacked pretty good down there. Shall we dig in, sir?

FICK

Not a bad idea.

Colbert walks away as Fick runs to Espera's position.

ESPERA

LT! Those grunts from RCT One are taking fire from across the river.

A electric line is blown down.

ESPERA

Shit, Marine arty. That was friendly.

BRYAN

Sir, request going up there-

FICK

Go!

Bryan runs towards RCT One's position. There is constant gunfire.

INJURED MARINE

I'm hit, I'm hit.

BRYAN

Hey, buddy. I'm gonna give you a bandage. You're okay. Push it on the wound. You keep steady pressure. It's gonna be all right. Check for breathing. Stop the bleeding. I want to hear reports. Head wounds, chest wounds, bleeders.

Patterson scopes out Iraqi positions across the river as Alpha continues to be shot at.

(In the background:

MARINE

You guys see where that shot came from?)

PATTERSON

[into radio] Godfather, this is Assassin Actual. Over.

FERRANDO

[on radio] This is Godfather. Send traffic. Over.

PATTERSON

[into radio] Interrogative, request permission to engage unarmed targets, suspected enemy forward observers. Over.

FERRANDO

[on radio] Stand by, Assassin. I'll confer with division.

ECKLOFF

Division approves change in the ROE.

FERRANDO

[into radio] Assassin, this is Godfather. Change in the ROE is approved. You are approved to destroy unarmed targets suspected as spotters. How copy?

PATTERSON

[into radio] Solid copy. Out. [addressing team] We're cleared hot on civilian targets, regardless of whether they're armed. If they're spotting those mortars, take them the fuck out.

ALPHA MARINE

Roger that.

Mattis and Dowdy confer from RCT One's position.

MATTIS

Be 100% sure that these Marines...

ECKLOFF

Sir, it's Colonel Dowdy from RCT One with General Mattis. They're up on the MSR.

Dowdy and Mattis walk along a bridge outside Nasiriyah.

DOWDY

With the resistance we're seeing, I'm concerned that initiating movement too hastily-

MATTIS

The question is why the fuck am I standing here looking at a fucking bridge that doesn't have my Marines rolling across it.

DOWDY

Sir, we're 30 miles from initiating the armored assault to engage the enemy along the MSR through the city. Our problem has been refuelling the tanks.

MATTIS

Not only "no", Colonel, but "fuck no". Okay? I don't give a rat's ass about the resistance in this city. Your mission is to punch through this city, put RCT One north of it where our objectives are. This is just a fucking sideshow. You have 7,000 Marine riflemen who have been ready to go for the past 24 hours, and you're standing here with your foot on your dick. No, check that, not your dick, my dick.

Godfather walks up.

MATTIS

Godfather, hold your Marines back for now. When Colonel Dowdy here sees fit to unfuck himself and push through this fucking shithole, I'll turn First Recon loose.

FERRANDO

That'd be my Alpha Company taking out their spotters. I'd expect this mortar fire to stop shortly, sir.

Colbert stands in a field outside the city while a Marine wanders by, looking lost.

COLBERT

How's it going?

MARINE

They shot one of my Marines in the stomach. Out there. We returned fire, blew a donkey's head off. We didn't see much else.

COLBERT

Hey buddy, do you need anything? Food, water...

MARINE

It's all good, bro.

[00:16:46]

Artillery strikes Nasiriyah at night. Godfather holds a meeting inside his tent.

FERRANDO

Expect a fight. Expect casualties when we push through Nasiriyah. Task Force Tarawa has been in that city for thirty-six hours getting chopped up pretty good while we sit here

with the Regimental Combat Team, nursing our thumbs with our assholes. Gentlemen, what does Ferrando think? We have allowed the enemy to dictate the tempo of our movements. If it were up to Ferrando, we would not have stopped at the bridge this afternoon. We'd be through that city. But the good news is, once we clear the Euphrates, General Mattis informs me that we are going to be in the game, gentlemen. And when we play, we, not the enemy, are going to dictate the tempo. Once we're over the river, we're going to detach from the RCT, push north, and flank or destroy anyone who tries to stop us. All right, that's it for now, gentlemen.

Everyone leaves the tent area.

SCHWETJE

He didn't say anything about the grooming standard. Is he giving us a pass on our men not shaving?

PATTERSON

I'd interpret what he said to mean facial hair's not going to be our focus for the next 24 hours.

Schwetje looks confused and walks away while Patterson shakes his head

Espera and Wright lie under a Humvee smoking cigars

ESPERA

[OS] 50% of Americans are obese. You know what obese means, right? Fat as a motherfucker. All these other countries, nobody's fat. Think about that shit, dawg. How does a motherfucker get fat? You gotta sit on a couch, do nothing but eat and watch TV all day. White trash, poor Mexicans and blacks... All obese as motherfuckers. See, the white man has created a system with so much excess that even poor motherfuckers are fat.

WRIGHT

Mmm.

ESPERA

A few years ago, dawg, I refused a diploma from my community college.

WRIGHT

What?

ESPERA

Yeah, I didn't want no piece of paper from the white master saying I was qualified for his world.

WRIGHT

Huh.

ESPERA

Then I joined the Corps. Figured you can't beat 'em, join 'em. See, that's what this is all about, dawg. The U.S. should just go into all these fucked-up countries, Iraq, Africa, set up American government and infrastructure. McDonald's, Starbucks, M.T.V. Then just hand it all over. I mean how else are we going to make these hungry motherfuckers want to stop killing everybody? Put a McDonald's on every fucking corner. [Wright laughs.] If we've got to blow up the corner, then build the McDonald's, so be it.

Colbert walks over.

COLBERT

Enough lecture on the white man's oppression. I need my Assistant Team Leader for a meeting with the LT.

ESPERA

I was just elucidating on the white man's burden, dawg.

Wright and Espera laugh.

COLBERT

[OS] Now, Poke.

ESPERA

You know I'm rollin' wit you. Come on.

WRIGHT

Thanks, man.

Wright and Espera get out from underneath the Humvee.

ESPERA

[to Colbert] What? Just wanted to get one last cigarette before we all die.

Bravo Two's Team Leaders meet around the hood of Two One's Humvee.

PATRICK

BBC had that U.S. Army convoy hit here. Captured 11 soldiers. Showed 'em on Arab TV. Abusing 'em on TV.

LOVELL

Shit, they raped the one woman soldier. They broke her bones and then raped her. It was on Al Jazeera.

COLBERT

News for you, Gents. [walking up] This neck of desert, when they capture soldiers, not just the women get raped.

ESPERA

In your dreams, Brad.

FICK

As we learned today from the eight hours we spent getting our asses shot at by the Euphrates, the enemy's got some fight in him. I have no word on our mission, but I assume we're going into Nasiriyah. Those are all casevac birds. Word is that task force Tarawa has taken 200 casualties in that city.

PATRICK

Any idea when we might get tasked with going in?

FICK

Godfather's meeting with Company Commanders right now.

WYNN

You all take advantage of the time now to have your men get some shut-eye.

ESPERA

LT, what's the skinny on who we're fighting in the city?

FICK

All I saw today were those guys in black pajamas, irregulars. The Fedayeen.

ESPERA

Guys in pajamas stopped two Marine regiments?

COLBERT

You know, Poke, guys in black pajamas did all right in Vietnam too. You gotta respect the pajamas.

WYNN

[OS] From the amount of arty we're putting down, I don't think we'll have as much to worry about when we go through.

ESPERA

[OS] What's the population here?

FICK

I've heard 400,000.

Loud explosion in Nasiriyah.

ESPERA

Scratch a few off that number.

FICK

Gunny and I are going over to Godfather's position, see what's coming down to the Captain.

Fick and Wynn walk away.

TROMBLEY

[from inside the Humvee] What about James Alvarez Trombley?

PERSON

That's stupid.

TROMBLEY

You're stupid!

COLBERT

Change of personnel. Gabe, you're swapping with Hasser. You've got more experience on the 50 cal.

GARZA

Fine with me.

ESPERA

Hasser!

HASSER

Yeah?

ESPERA

I'm trading you for a Mexican. You're in Brad's truck now.

HASSER

Good to go.

WRIGHT

Oh, hey, Gabe! Do you have the photograph of my girlfriend I was showing to Person the other day?

GARZA

No, I think I gave it to Leon.

WRIGHT

Leon?

COLBERT

[OS] You let these plebeians look at a photograph of your girlfriend?

PERSON

Hey, Walt, can you keep it down? I'm having trouble hearing the artillery.

Fick and Wynn confer with Schwetje beside his Humvee.

SCHWETJE

... then we have to play the game harder. Godfather said that.

FICK

Was the Colonel any more specific about our orders than that?

SCHWETJE

Godfather told us the mustache-growing contest had nothing to do with building morale. Before the war began, Division G2 had covert asset intel that Iraqis planned to infiltrate our units. The mustaches were part of the General's plan to uncover enemy infiltrators. So if you see a Marine with a mustache from now on, he might be an Iraqi. So no more mustaches. But the men don't have to shave tonight. [turns to walk away, then turns back] Oh, yeah. Bravo's on point when we roll through Nasiriyah and then break from the main force.

MCGRAW

On point? In broken-down unarmored Humvees. They should change our name to First Suicide Battalion.

WYNN

We need to make sure the stupidity in this company doesn't roll down too hard on our guys.

Two-One talk inside their Humvee.

TROMBLEY

What about just James Trombley?

PERSON

Oh, come on. Trombley, you should name your kid Jesus. I mean, your wife's Mexican. I mean fucking Mexicans do it all the time. That's what's cool about knocking up a Mexican girl. She could drop a Jesus.

COLBERT

Never have kids. In fact, Trombley, you should never have gotten married. Women will always cost, but marriage is the most expensive way to go. If you want to pay for it, go to Australia. For a hundred bucks you can order a whore over the phone. Half an hour later she arrives at your door, fresh and hot like a pizza.

Wright and Trombley laugh. Fick walks over and knocks on the Humvee's door.

FICK

2000 hours Zulu time we go in. Hitman Two is leading the battalion. Your vehicle is on point for all of us.

COLBERT

Yes, sir.

FICK

Once we cross the Euphrates, expect contact from both sides.

COLBERT

[points at the Blue Force Tracker screen] Task Force Tarawa Amtracs. Looks like a CAP team, straight-leg grunt platoon.

FICK

Gotta be careful about blue-on-blue contact. Any potential targets we see within 300 meters of our position, double-check to make sure they're not friendly.

PERSON

Hey, what time local is 2000 Zulu?

FICK

2300 hours. It'll be dark. It's to our advantage.

COLBERT

True, sir, if we had enough batteries to power our night optics.

FICK

We turn everything on when we move.

COLBERT

I'm just glad they had the wisdom to push us through at night.

FICK

I'm assured that we will be crossing that bridge before dawn. I'm assured of this.

[00:24:57]

The next day, Bravo Two approaches the bridge outside Nasiriyah

FICK

[on radio] Be advised, we're gonna see friendlies on our right immediately after the bridge.

ESPERA

[on radio] Hitman Two, this is Two One Bravo. Be advised, we have friendlies on both sides. How copy? Over.

TROMBLEY

Sergeant, I thought they were gonna send us over the bridge in the darkness.

PERSON

[chugging Ripped Fuel tablets] Nuh-ugh. Not retarded enough.

COLBERT

Careful with the Ripped Fuel.

PERSON

Fuck, man, I'm on 30 hours no sleep. Beats the record I made in high school when I was on the debate team.

WRIGHT

Wait a minute, you were on the debate team?

COLBERT

[OS] What channel's for the 1-19?

PERSON

Six, Four, and TAD Seven. Yeah, I was really, really fucking good, but all the other guys on the team thought I was high all of the time.

COLBERT

Shut up, Ray. All right! Let's make some money.

Bravo Two begins crossing the bridge.

COLBERT

[on radio] All Hitman Two Victors, this is Hitman Two One. Be advised, we have elements of Task Force Tarawa strong pointing intersections north of the bridge.

ESPERA

[on radio] Two One Bravo, copy.

PATRICK

[on radio] Two Two, copy.

Bravo Two enters Nasiriyah.

PERSON

Shit! Fucking tranny fluid from the Amtrac. Jesus, Brad!

COLBERT

Watch the road. [passing members of Task Force Tarawa, some dead] It's nothing, Trombley.

A helicopter drops ordinance nearby.

BAPTISTA

[on radio] Thees Eetman Two tree. [Continues in Portuguese]

PERSON

Fucking Baptista.

BAPTISTA

[on radio] How copy, eh? How copy?

COLBERT

[into radio] I don't copy, Hitman Two Three. I don't copy a word you're saying.

COLBERT

[OS] Every time Baptista gets excited, his English goes out the fucking window.

PERSON

He's not even a citizen. He snuck in from whatever fucking greaseball country he's from and now he's a Marine. You know, there ought to be at least some sort of grammar test before you're out here blowing shit up with heavy weapons.

COLBERT

If they did that, fucking bucktooth, cross-eyed, sister-fucking hicks like you wouldn't get in either.

Person grins.

COLBERT

I've got friendlies to my three.

TROMBLEY

Yeah, I got them on my nine.

Bravo continues driving past more Tarawa Marines.

TARAWA MARINE

Pick it up. Pick it up.

Tarwar Marines engage an Iraqi in an alley.

FICK

[on radio] Hitman Two Victors, Hitman Two Victors, be advised, Assassin and Raptor are in enemy contact to our rear. How copy?

COLBERT

[into radio] Two One copy.

TROMBLEY

Fuck! All the bad guys are opening up on the guys behind us. Why aren't they shooting at us?

A chopper shoots a bomb into a riverside building while Leon films.

MARINE

[OS] Misfit cleared hot.

LILLEY

They got some, didn't they brah?

LEON

Fuck yeah!

LILLEY

You caught that, right?

LEON

Most definitely.

LILLEY

Yo, CNN would definitely pay for drama like that, brah. That shit was extreme.

Espera shakes his head. Bravo Two continues rolling through Nasiriyah.

SCHWETJE

[on radio] All Hitman victors halt.

COLBERT

Stop here.

The convoy halts, and Marines take up position outside of their vehicle.

MARINE 1

[OS] Two ragheads, the second floor of the building, 300 meters at 12.

MARINE 2

[OS] Go a little higher, we gotta get that nine-line up.

HITMAN THREE ONE

[on radio] Three One, solid on our sector.

KOCHER

[on radio] Hitman Three Two, roger.

MCGRAW

[on radio] Hitman, this is Hitman Three. Interrogative, what are we doing here? Over.

PERSON

This is a nice place for an ambush. Why the fuck are we stopped?

COLBERT

Orders.

MARINE (SCHWETJE?)

[on radio] Hitman three this is Hitman. Raptor's casevacating a Marine from the RCT. Over.

COLBERT

Charlie's halting for five mins to help casevac a wounded Marine from RCT One.

MCGRAW

[on radio] This is nuts halting us here. We're sitting ducks. This is the last place that we should be.

PERSON

I am so sick of Captain America spazzing out on our comms.

MCGRAW

[on radio] They could be coming from all sides. They could be coming from all sides!

DARNOLD

Is our platoon commander okay?

REDMAN

We'll be all right if I turn my fifty to our six and let off a few rounds.

AK fire in the background.

KOCHER
You guys got that?

REDMAN
It's fucking ours.

KOCHER
No, it's not. It's an AK.

REDMAN
Yeah, and it belongs to our fucking platoon commander.

KOCHER
[into radio] Hitman Three, this is Three Two. Interrogative, what are you engaging?

McGraw shoots a car multiple times.

CARISALEZ
Sir, why did you shoot the car?

MCGRAW
Denying the enemy transportation.

MCGRAW
[into radio] This is Hitman Three. How much longer are we going to be halted here waiting to die in fucking ambush alley? My men really need to know. Out.

RAPTOR
[on radio] Godfather, Godfather, this is Raptor. Casevac Marine is stabilized. We're Oscar Mike. Over.

SCHWETJE
[on radio] All Hitman victors, this is Hitman. The battalion is Oscar Mike.

Bravo starts moving again. They cross a bridge and leave Nasiriyah.

BRAVO TWO-TWO
[singing OS] Nothing wrong with me.
Nothing's wrong with me.
Something's got to give.
Something's got to give.
Something's got to give.

Bravo continues driving down Route 7 outside the city.

CHAFFIN, BRUNMEIER, JACKS

[singing] Aaaaaa-ha! Let the Hajjis hit the floor.

Let the Hajjis hit the floor.

Let the Hajjis hit the flooooooor-ha!

[continue OS] Let the Hajjis hit the floor.

Let the Hajjis hit the floor.

Let the Hajjis hit the flooooooor-ha!

TROMBLEY

Sergeant, I didn't get to shoot.

PERSON

That fucking sucks, Trombley. Your recruiting officer tell you you get to shoot people?

TROMBLEY

Fucking-a, he did.

PERSON

See, Trombley asked about shooting people. I asked about pussy. The guy told me I'd get to go to Thailand, get all kinds of strange. What'd you ask about, Brad? Brad probably saw that TV commercial, the one with the knight who fucks up the dragon then turns into the Marine.

HASSER

Ooh ooh, dress blues with a sword.

PERSON

[laughing] That fucking dress-blues commercial, man, that got so many fucking guys. Now look at us! Trombley hasn't killed anybody, I am half a world away from good Thai pussy, and Colbert is out here rolling around Fuckbutt, Iraq, hunting for dragons in a MOPP suit that smells like four days of piss and ballsweat.

Wright mouths "Wow!"

HASSER

Hahaha! Nice!

PERSON

[OS] You should have rolled into battle with a sword, Brad. That would have fucking rocked.

[00:31:54]

Fick, Wynn, and TLs meet around a Humvee studying a map of the AO.

FICK

Orders are to push north along route 7 until we get to a cut-off here. Gentlemen, our AO is now Mesopotamia, the land between the Euphrates and the Tigris, cradle of civilization.

ESPERA

[gesturing towards some dead Iraqis] The Marines ahead of us sure civilized these motherfuckers.

FICK

Second LAR was out here alone last night, pushed through Nasiriyah ahead of us, set up here. RPG teams came at them all night, they cut them down with their Bushmasters.

ESPERA

Mad respect for the LAVs, sir.

FICK

Don't get too comfortable. We're losing them after 10 clicks. Cutting off the highway here, separating from the main element, and once we leave the hardball here, Godfather has us pushing through a canal area, rolling on our own.

PATRICK

[OS] Team Two, rally up!

Colbert walks up to Two Three.

COLBERT

Shady.

BAPTISTA

Wha huh?

COLBERT

I wanted to apologize for blowing my stack on comms back there.

BAPTSTA

Ah, I think to myself, why is Iceman so angry? Someone pees in his corn flakes this morning?

COLBERT

Shit, I'm not being critical of you, but sometimes when you get excited, you speak Spanish on the comm.

BAPTISTA

Hmm, this is strange. Because in Brazil, my country, we speak Portuguese.

COLBERT

Yeah, well whatever language you people speak down there, try to stick to English when we're on Marine Corps comms.

BAPTISTA

Si, Colbert, si.

Colbert walks away.

ESPERA

[OS]...25mm bushmaster, put a round through the same hole at 2,000 meters.

LEON

[OS] Yeah, man, they actually had to make the gun less accurate.

COLBERT

Still railing on the white man?

ESPERA

Man, I don't hate the white man no more. Leave that to these motherfuckers. [turns to dead Iraqi soldiers] Me? I'm just staying here in Iraq, eating my pound cake, playing on the white man's team.

COLBERT

Not the surrendering Iraqis we've seen. These guys came to fight.

ESPERA

Dawg, motherfucker died trying to get a round off. Combat discipline.

[00:33:44]

Bravo Two continues driving down the MSR. Dead bodies line the side of the road.

FICK

[on radio] All Hitman Two Victors, observe everything, admire nothing.

PERSON

Man, I am so high from not sleeping. So check this out, maybe they didn't issue the wrong color fatigues for the invasion. Maybe our blouses actually aren't green. Maybe they are desert beige. You know like sometimes colors actually start to look different when you're so sleep-deprived? Like the sun, it looks red when it actually is yellow. You know, maybe our blouses aren't green. We're just so fucking sleep-deprived that's the way that they look to us.

COLBERT

Are you making this up?

PERSON

Fuck yeah, I'm making this up. It passes the time, brother.

Two One passes a destroyed truck.

TROMBLEY

Get some! Look at that truck.

COLBERT

BM-21, a legit target.

Two One passes another truck with burnt bodies inside.

TROMBLEY

Oh, it's like a Halloween funhouse. [laughs]

COLBERT

Stay frosty. [into radio] Two One Bravo, two men in that car to our three. Do you see weapons?

ESPERA

[into radio] Two One Alpha, this is Two One Bravo. No weapons. These guys are down for the count.

Bravo Two drives by a dead girl on the side of the road.

COLBERT

She's dead. Nothing we can do.

Wright takes a picture of the girl.

PERSON

Well, well, well, who's the sicko in our Humvee now? The psycho-ass jarheads or the fucking liberal media just looking for a little exploitation?

Christopher films the dead girl.

LILLEY

Brah, get that dude right there.

CHRISTOPHER

It's not a dude.

LILLEY

Hey, Christopher, man, turn it off.

CHRISTOPHER

Turn the camera off, brah.

ESPERA

So it's a snuff film now?

[00:35:48]

Fick and Colbert scope out a possible enemy camp.

FICK

I'm seeing what you see. You and Doc take Christeson and Stafford off my truck. They need some experience.

COLBERT

Roger that, sir.

FICK

[into radio] Hitman, this is Hitman Two. We have what looks like an enemy encampment-

Schwetje and Greigo approach Fick from behind.

SCHWETJE

Hitman Two, this is Hitman actual on your six.

GRIEGO

LAR taught these Hajjis a lesson they won't forget.

FICK

Girl with the chopped off legs is sure gonna remember.

GRIEGO

The hell is your problem?

FICK

Last night my best team could only maintain night optics at 50%. You are not supplying us with the batteries we need.

GRIEGO

LT.

FICK

You've got more optics and thermals on that vest than I've got in the whole platoon. And I bet you've got the batteries to run them all night long.

GRIEGO

You're way out of line. These are for Bravo's command.

SCHWETJE

The men need to conserve resources. The Marine Corps teaches that.

Colbert, Bryan, Christeson, and Stafford investigate the enemy encampment they found earlier.

BRYAN

PFC Fucknuts, this is an enemy encampment.

STAFFORD

Yo, man, it might be booby-trapped. Don't blaze a trail. Tread in Sergeant Colbert's footsteps.

Christeson pees on a bag of rice.

CHRISTESON

"Say hello to my little friend."

COLBERT

What the fuck are you doing?

CHRISTESON

Denying the enemy.

BRYAN

We could have took that for our own.

CHRISTESON

Hajji rice?

BRYAN

These men living here on rice and beans, sleeping out here in the cold on these rags, these are some fucking hard men. You ladies bitch if you get an MRE without a fucking Pop-Tart.

STAFFORD

Movement right!

CHRISTESON

Nine o'clock!

Everyone gets in position and aims toward the movement which turns out to be McGraw. He holds up an Iraqi uniform shirt.

MCGRAW

Republican guard insignia. Special Saddam division.

STAFFORD

Bravo Three's commander. Should I shoot him?

BRYAN

Don't waste your bullet.

[00:38:40]

Bravo resumes driving down the MSR.

FICK

[on radio] All Hitman Two Victors, this is Hitman Two. Be advised, the report of an enemy gas attack was again in error. Break. All Hitman teams return to MOPP-2 posture. Over.

COLBERT

[on radio] Two One Alpha, copy.

ESPERA, LILLEY, LEON, CHRISTOPHER, GARZA

[singing] Two One Bravo in a Humvee.

I roll down my window and I start to say,

"It's all about killing Hajjis today."

'Cause the boyz in the hood are always hard.

Come talking that shit and we'll pull your card.

Knowing nothing in life but to be legit.

Don't quote me, boy, I ain't said shit.

Two One takes off their gas masks.

COLBERT

This is plain undignified.

Wright sighs.

PERSON

[holding up a gloved hand] Hello, everyone. I'm Michael Jackson.

WRIGHT

This is fucking miserable.

PERSON

Yeah but we get to invade a whole fucking country, dude.

COLBERT

At this point, I almost wish Saddam would gas us. It would make all the effort with our MOPP suits worth it.

WRIGHT

It would justify the invasion.

PERSON

Oh, there's no doubt Saddam's got chemicals. It's just you liberal dicksucks who try to pick everything apart.

COLBERT

[scoping field] Foot-mobiles, two o'clock.

KOCHER

[on radio] Hitman, Hitman, this is Hitman Three Two.

COLBERT

Maybe 900 meters out.

KOCHER

[on radio] Be advised, took a few rounds from that gas station. We're pushing through.

WRIGHT

Bravo Three's behind us, right? They're taking fire from that gas station we passed?

SCHWETJE

[on radio] All Hitman victors, this is Hitman. Raptor is taking fire from the gas station to our rear.

COLBERT

Slow down.

TROMBLEY

I guess.

FICK

[on radio] This is Hitman Two. Roger that.

COLBERT

[looking through scope] Is that an RPG Tube?

MCGRAW

[on radio] This is Hitman Three. Roger that.

COLBERT

[into radio] Hitman Two, this is Two One. We got two foot-mobiles on our two o'clock, 900 meters out in black. They appear to be carrying an RPG tube. How copy?

FICK

[on radio] Hitman Two One, wait One. Over.

COLBERT

[OS] Hey Walt, do you see them? Fucking popped down.

HASSER

I see 'em. Down that ditch.

FICK

[on radio] Two One, go ahead and halt your vehicle. Over.

COLBERT

[OS] Person, halt the vehicle.

FICK

[on radio] Hitman Actual, this is Hitman Two. We're halting to engage possible foot-mobiles. How copy? Over.

Bravo Two stops. Colbert gets out of his Humvee to scope the foot mobiles.

SCHWETJE

[on radio] This is Hitman. Solid copy. All Hitman Victors, be advised, Raptor is now actively engaged with foot mobiles to our six.

Fick walks up to Colbert.

COLBERT

Flashing. They got optics on us.

LOVELL

[on radio] Hitman, this is Hitman Two Three. Interrogative, was that the same gas station that engaged Three Two? Over.

COLBERT

One keeps popping his head up.

SCHWETJE

[on radio] Unknown at this time. Over.

COLBERT

I'm not 100% confident that was an RPG tube. But I'm sure they're putting optics on us.

FICK

[into radio] Pappy, Reyes, get the M-40 and punch out to that berm.

PATRICK

[on radio] Two Two, roger.

Patrick and Reyes take out a sniper rifle from their Humvee.

FICK

[into radio] Hitman, this is Hitman Two. Be advised, enemy foot-mobiles to our east have optics on us and appear to be armed with an RPG Tube. How copy?

SCHWETJE

[on radio] Hitman Two, this is Hitman. You are approved to engage those targets.

FICK

[on radio] Solid copy. [into radio] Hitman Two Two Echo Five Romeo, this is Hitman Two. You are approved to engage.

PATRICK

[on radio] Roger that.

Patrick and Reyes set up a sniper position on a berm.

(Background radio chatter:

ECKLOFF

Raptor, this is Godfather. What's your status? Over.

RAPTOR

Godfather, this is Raptor. We are still taking small arms fire in the vicinity of the gas station. Break. Currently...

ECKLOFF

Standing by...)

Reyes and Patrick observe the two foot mobiles through their scopes.

REYES

Range to target, niner, seven, niner. Wind moving from west to east, quarter value. On scope. [chanting Buddish hymn]

PATRICK
On target.

REYES
Fire.

Patrick fires and hits one foot mobile in the head. Patrick reloads.

REYES
Stand by for second target. Low crawling, east, five yards. You got him?

PATRICK
I tally.

REYES
Fire.

Patrick fires, and the other foot mobile drops down. Patrick reloads.

REYES
Hit.

Reyes pats Patrick on the back.

COLBERT
[To Fick] Men from that camp we found.

RAPTOR
[on radio] Raptor to Godfather. The target has been suppressed.

ECKLOFF
[on radio] Raptor, this is Godfather. Solid copy.

Jacks bumps fists with Reyes as Reyes returns to the Humvee.

FICK
[on radio] All Hitman Two Victors, this is Hitman Two. We have destroyed the RPG Team. Over.

CHAFFIN
You all got some? How'd it feel to kill?

REYES

I don't know, dawg. Felt fucking good, I guess.

CHAFFIN

Man.

REYES

I try to live my life by the Tao, bro. I can't always make my own dharma.

CHAFFIN

I hate them filthy Hajji fucks.

REYES

That's what I love about you, dawg. You're so fucking messed up.

CHAFFIN

That's how I roll.

Jacks laughs.

REYES

[OS] All right, gents, let's mount up.

RAPTOR

[on radio] Godfather. Neutralized personnel inside the gas station. Still receiving sporadic mortar fire. Over.

CARISALEZ

Charlie's still taking fire from that gas station?

ECKLOFF

[on radio] Raptor, this is Godfather. Solid copy. Out.

An Iraqi soldier stands up from behind a berm and attempts to run. McGraw guns him down with his AK.

HITMAN THREE THREE

[on radio] All Hitman Victors, this is Hitman Three Three. We're taking inaccurate fire at our 9 o'clock, about 600 meters. Cannot observe the shooter.

REDMAN

Eric, you fucking see that? I don't think that guy was armed.

SCHWETJE

[on radio] Hitman, solid copy.

KOCHER

We didn't see what the Captain saw. He's our commander.

COLBERT

[on radio] All Hitman Victors, we are Oscar Mike.

[00:43:18]

Bravo drives down an MSR.

COLBERT

See that trail? We're going to the left. The whole rest of the division is going the other way.

PERSON

Just us?

COLBERT

Just First Recon. This has the makings of a legit fucking mission. We're screening, doing a route reconnaissance, maybe movement to contact. We got 15 clicks on our own. Gonna link up with RCT One outside the next shithole town. We got no air. There's a shamal storm coming. Rotary isn't flying.

PERSON

Oh great, so we're basically just like bait for the bad guys.

COLBERT

Yeah, but we'll be the first Americans to roll down this road. Turn and we're money.

Bravo Two turns down side road.

FICK

[on radio] All Hitman Two Victors, hold 35kph, maintain dispersion.

PERSON

[on radio] Roger that. Turning left.

MARINE (LOVELL?)

[on radio] Solid copy.

COLBERT

I smell a goddamn Charms.

Trombley and Wright spit out their Charms.

TROMBLEY

Sorry, Sergeant. I had one left. [To Wright] Hey, you know what sucks? All those dead bodies we saw today, and I didn't get to shoot any of them.

PERSON

I see foot-mobiles. 12 o'clock, 100 meters.

Two One approaches some Iraqi girls. Person takes off his helmet.

PERSON

Damn!

Person puts on some sunglasses.

PERSON

Brad, they're fucking hotties! I didn't know Hajjis could be hotties. I thought they were all camel-faced hags.

Person honks, and the Iraqi girls wave.

PERSON

Hey, as-salāmu `alaykum, ladies. Damn, homie. Better than when I was in my band!

COLBERT

'Cause they haven't heard you play.

IRAQI MAN

[holding up a baby] We love you, Americans. We love you!

COLBERT

Thank you! Vote Republican.

IRAQIS

I love you Americans! I love you Americans!

FICK

[on radio] Two One, this is Two. I need you to take that bridge over the canal ahead. How copy?

COLBERT

[into radio] Hitman Two, interrogative, am I to understand you mean the near bridge? Because I don't think that's the correct turn.

FICK

[on radio] Direct order from Hitman Actual. He's going off of his map.

COLBERT

[into radio] Roger that.

PERSON

They let him have a map?

Bravo crosses the bridge and continues down the dirt road.

PERSON

Whoa whoa!

COLBERT

[into radio] All Hitman Two Victors, halt.

All vehicles stop. Colbert gets out of his Humvee.

MARINE

[OS] The fuck are we stopping for?

ESPERA

[OS] Brad, what's going on?

LOVELL

[on radio] Hitman Two One Alpha, this is Hitman Two Three. What's going on up there?

Colbert looks out across a field.

COLBERT

Motherfucker.

SCHWETJE

[on radio] Hitman Two One, this is Hitman. Interrogative, why have we stopped? Over.

PERSON

[on radio] Hitman, this is Hitman Two One. No more road.

Fick walks up to Colbert.

FICK

[Referring to Schwetje standing over his Humvee looking at a map.] Just figuring out we're lost.

COLBERT

I could have told him that a half an hour ago. The whole battalion's two clicks east of us on the other side of the Gharraf canal. We are now to the rear of everybody.

FICK

He's our commander, Brad.

Schwetje signals Colbert and Fick.

SCHWETJE

[into radio] Hitman Two, this is Hitman Actual. We're gonna backtrack. Hitman Three will be on point. Colbert's team took a wrong turn at the bridge.

Colbert presses the send button on his radio. Fick shakes his head, and Colbert lets go. Schwetje and Greigo continue to study their map.

[00:47:35]

Bravo drives across a bridge.

FICK

[on radio] Hitman, this is Hitman Two. We have multiple unarmed civilians fleeing the town en masse. We're gonna stop to question them. Over.

SCHWETJE

This is Hitman. Roger that.

Bravo begins interrogating some villagers.

IRAQI VILLAGER

[speaks aggressively in Arabic]

MEESH

Villagers say they are grateful to be liberated by the Americans and look forward to working hand-in-hand here in Iraq-

BRYAN

You're lying, Meesh, and they fucking know it.

An Iraqi villager points and mimics throat slitting.

FICK

Meesh, cut whatever fucking bullshit the higher ups have told you to say.

BRYAN

We're all alone out here, Meesh. You fuck us, I'll smile killing you.

MEESH

When they hired me, they told me to put a little spin on things, a little psy-ops. But you're right. We're in this together. These dudes are saying there are some bad dudes up ahead. They know we're coming, and they want to hit us. They hate America, man. I say we call in some air, some Cobras, fuck them up.

FICK

There is no air. The shamal is coming.

Fick, Bryan, Wright, and Colbert walk away, leaving Meesh with the Iraqis.

BRYAN

Where did we get the so-called interpreter?

FICK

He told me he works directly for General Mattis.

WRIGHT

He told me he worked for the CIA.

COLBERT

Back at Mathilda, he told me he could hook me up with free satellite TV.

Fick laughs.

ECKLOFF

[on radio] Hitman Two, this is Godfather. I can't raise Hitman Actual, but be advised, Raptor and Assassin are taking heavy fire from the town.

FICK

[into radio] Roger that. [to his men] Stay frosty. Two clicks up the road, Alpha, Charlie, and H&S are pinned down taking heavy fire from the town. Looks like another Nasiriyah.

ECKLOFF

[on radio] Hitman Two, this is Godfather. We're gonna try to find a way to bypass the town.

FICK

[into radio] Copy. [to his men] Battalion's trying to find a way around. Link up with RCT One. We hold this position until instructed further.

Person puts on his helmet. Colbert and Wright return to the vehicle.

COLBERT

Gentlemen, we're looking at a pretty short ride. We're gonna link up with Regimental Combat Team. After which, we rack out tonight.

TROMBLEY

Aren't we going through the town?

COLBERT

No.

TROMBLEY

But I didn't get to shoot yet.

PERSON

Hey, that town stopped a whole regiment with, like, tanks and shit.

TROMBLEY

But I didn't even get one-

COLBERT

Trombley, if we went through that town, we'd get smoked.

Ferrando observes artillery fire being dropped on Al Gharraf.

FERRANDO

That was a danger-close fire mission right there. On the money. Good effect on target. [into radio] Assassin, this is Godfather. How copy?

PATTERSON

[into radio] Solid copy, Godfather.

FERRANDO

[into radio] Outstanding fire mission. Stand by. [to his men] Listen, this town is just up the road. I see it's not even named here on my map. Frankly, Ferrando doesn't give a fuck what they call it. I'm not gonna visit long or make friends.

ECKLOFF

We're planning to go through?

GODFATHER

Do we have a sitrep on enemy forces inside this town?

ECKLOFF

Enough to stop Colonel Dowdy and 7,000 RCT Marines.

FERRANDO

Enough to stop Colonel Dowdy. But personally, Godfather doesn't like being told what to do by the enemy. I don't like the fact that the enemy had me sitting in this shithole for the past couple hours. I might choose a different hole, somewhere else. I plan to find that hole by going through that town up ahead. If there's one thing I learned these past days in Iraq, there's no shortage of shitholes. More shitholes in this country than oil wells.

FERRANDO

[into radio] Assassin, this is Godfather.

PATTERSON

[into radio] Roger, Godfather. Standing by.

FERRANDO

[into radio] Assassin, Godfather thinks you did a shit-hot job calling in those danger-close fires. [on radio] Just like you were shit-hot taking out those forward observers by the Nasiriyah bridge.

PATTERSON

[into radio] Roger that.

FERRANDO

[into radio] I want Assassin on point when we push through that town. How copy?

PATTERSON

[into radio] Godfather, we found there's an open route around the town.

FERRANDO

[into radio] I want you to step off in five mikes. [on radio] Push through that town. How copy?

PATTERSON

[into radio] Honored. [to his team] Through the city in five.

Colbert cleans his gun inside the Humvee.

COLBERT

\$300,000, Trombley. That's the cost to raise your average middle-class white kid. Maybe since your fiancée's Mexican and you'll have little half-Mexican babies, you can cut corners, do it on the cheap. I bet Sergeant Espera's parents didn't spend more than a hundred to raise him. But of course, look how he turned out.

TROMBLEY

You against marriage, Sergeant?

PERSON

Brad got dumped.

COLBERT

My sweetheart since junior high left me and married my best friend since junior high. We're all still friends. They're one of those happy couples that likes to take pictures of themselves and hang 'em up all over their goddamn house. Sometimes I go over there just to look at my ex-fiancee doing all the things I used to do with her with my best friend. Surfing and jet skiing. It's nice having friends.

Fick walks up to the Humvee.

FICK

Change of orders. We're going through the town. Alpha's already rolling. We're picking up the rear. It's just us. There's no air because of a shamal moving in. We're the last element to roll through. Nobody stops, nobody gets cut off. [patting Colbert's shoulder] Glad you're my team leader.

COLBERT

Thank you, sir.

PERSON

Shit.

[00:52:39]

Bravo Two begins rolling towards Al Gharraf.

CHRISTESON, STAFFORD

[singing] And can't nobody stop the juice so baby tell me what's the use.

I said,

It's getting hot in her.

So show me where you kill.

It is getting so hot, I'm gonna bust my 40s off.

With a little bit of ah, ah.

And a little bit of ah, ah.

Bravo Two approaches Al Gharraf.

COLBERT

We're way behind.

PERSON

I'm doing the best that I can. This isn't the 805 above La Jolla, you know?

FICK

[on radio] Hitman Three sustained casualty-

COLBERT

Bravo Three has a casualty.

FICK

[on radio] They were taking fire from the left and right.

COLBERT

Took fire from both sides.

WRIGHT

Who was it?

COLBERT

I don't know.

FICK

[on radio] Alpha and H&S have cleared the town.

COLBERT

Alpha and H&S are through the town. [into radio] Roger that.

Colbert kisses a grenade and loads it.

COLBERT

Gentlemen, from now on we're gonna have to earn our stories.

Bravo Two enters the town.

FICK

[on radio] Hold your dispersion.

ESPERA

Hitman Two says Alpha cleared this town under heavy fire. No casualties were reported.

LILLEY

Brah, why aren't they shooting at us?

Bravo Two approaches a building. Gunfire erupts.

WRIGHT

Gah!

COLBERT
Contact right!

Bravo Two returns fire.

PATRICK
Here we go, boys.

BRUNMEIER
Yeah? What a fucking birthday.

CHAFFIN
Happy birthday, bitch. Too bad you get shot in the face.

Weapons fire on both sides.

COLBERT
Give me a grenade!

Wright hands him a grenade. Colbert blows up a car.

ESPERA
Second-floor balcony! Shoot that motherfucker!

Garza's gun jams.

GARZA
Don't leave me here.

ESPERA
What?

GARZA
Don't leave me!

ESPERA
Take that fucking gun out!

GARZA
Fuck!

ESPERA
Hit that building!

REYES

Get down! Get down! Pick up the rate of fire.

Jacks takes out the building where Iraqis have been shooting at them.

MARINE (FICK?)

Three o'clock.

FICK

Go, go, go, go!

Two Three runs over a parked car on the side of the road.

LOVELL

Slow down!

WRIGHT

God... fuck!

Trombley shoots an Iraqi.

TROMBLEY

I got one. I got one! Saw his knee explode.

HASSER

Fuck, Mark-19's down!

Two One drives underneath some low hanging telephone lines which knocks down Hasser and chokes him.

PERSON

Hass is down. He caught a wire.

Person backs up, and Hasser is freed.

HASSER

Good, go!

COLBERT

Is Hasser good? Are we good to go?

WRIGHT

Go, go, go!

FICK

[into radio] All Hitman Victors, radio check.

Bravo drives out of Al Gharraf.

COLBERT

[on radio] This is Two One Alpha, up 120 and up.

ESPERA

[on radio] Two One Bravo is up 700 and up.

PATRICK

[on radio] Hitman Two, this is Two Two, up 200 and up.

LOVELL

[on radio] This is Hitman Two Three, up 300 and up.

COLBERT

We got fucking lit up.

FICK

[on radio] All Hitman Two Victors, this is Hitman Two. Roger.

Person laughs

COLBERT

Man! Everybody is okay, right?

WRIGHT

Yes!

TROMBLEY

Yeah.

PERSON

Yeah.

TROMBLEY

Hey, I fucking got one.

COLBERT

[OS] You all right?

Wright whistles, and Trombley laughs excitedly.

[00:57:54]

Bravo stops and makes camp.

PERSON

Fuck yeah, that was awesome! Did you see Walt? He tried to kill himself.

HASSER

Thanks to your driving.

CHAFFIN

That was fucking heavy, man.

REYES

Fuck yeah, brother.

WRIGHT

Who was the casualty in Bravo Three?

JACKS

It was Darnold, man. In the arm.

REYES

Yo, did you see my man Manimal? Fucking wall of fire. Wah, wah, wah, wah, wah! He brought that building down. He saved our asses.

PERSON

Yes, he did, he did!

JACKS

Get off me! This shit ain't funny. If it goes a little different, we could have all got killed today.

Everyone laughs.

PATRICK

Don't pet a burning dog.

ESPERA

We damn sure pet one today, didn't we?

PATRICK

Yep.

SIXTA

[singing] Grooming standard! [walks up] By first light tomorry, I expect all y'all to be clean-shaven.

WYNN

After what we've just been through?

SIXTA

There's a lots can go wrong out here. Lack of battery, cold chow, lack of pussy, but the one thing these mens can counts on is the grooming standard. I believe it always ought to be there for them.

FICK

Sergeant Major, my company commander informed me last night that Godfather said the men wouldn't have to shave.

SIXTA

In his infinite wisdom, the battalion commander never said that. You'd best check with your company commander.

Sixta walks away. Fick turns to Wynn.

FICK

The one solid piece of information he passed, and he was wrong.

[00:59:34]

Company leaders meet with Ferrando under his command tent.

FERRANDO

Ferrando believes in the violence of action. The enemy, he stared us down in Nasiriyah. But I wanted to show him today that some Americans won't back down from a fight. I can put it in terms of tactics or strategy. I could quote Boyd. The simple way to say it is that some people might reasonably fear these Iraqis running around trying to organize ways to kill us. I don't. And not because I'm a particularly courageous individual. I simply have a bigger fear. In my darkest hours, I sometimes fear that I will do something General Mattis won't like. Gentlemen, I have no such fears tonight.

[01:00:54]

That night, Person walks up to Colbert in his ranger grave.

PERSON

Brad. Brad, get up. We have a mission, search and rescue. [sighs] One of the officers went out to take a shit, stepped over the berm and hasn't been heard from since.

COLBERT

An officer.

PERSON

From H&S company. He's probably just lost in the dark somewhere.

Colbert gets up and walks out with Person.

COLBERT

Fucking officers will be the death of us yet.

[01:02:01]

End Credits.

[VO - all on radio]

HITMAN

Rolling Thunder, this is Hitman. SEAD, over.

ROLLING THUNDER

Hitman, this is Rolling Thunder. SEAD, out.

HITMAN

Grid to suppress Mike-Charlie 4-3-5 9-2-1, grid to mark Mike-Charlie 4-7-3 9-8-9, over.

ROLLING THUNDER

Grid to suppress Mike-Charlie 4-3-5 9-2-1, grid to mark Mike-Charlie 4-7-3 9-8-9, out.

HITMAN

SA 6 gainful, non-standard minus 2 to minus three 3-0 plus 3-0 to plus 1, marks smoke on the deck, two rounds AGBT, cast TOT 5-3, over.

ROLLING THUNDER

SA 6 gainful, non-standard minus 2 to minus 3-0 then plus 3-0 to plus 1, marks smoke on the deck, two rounds AGBT, cast TOT 5-3, over.

HITMAN

OT direction 1600.

ROLLING THUNDER

Message to observer, Charlie two rounds, HE delay in effect, five yards. Bravo, one round, one gun, smoke on the deck. SEAD. Cast TOT 5-3, target number Echo-Kilo 3-0-0-9, over.

HITMAN

MTO, Charlie, two rounds, HE delay, five guns, bravo, one round, one gun, smoke on the deck. SEAD. Cast TOT 5-3. Out.

HITMAN

Tourman, this is Hitman. Standby for avail flying information.

TOURMAN

Tourman, standing by.

HITMAN

TOT 5-3, SEAD, non-standard minus 2 to minus 3-0 plus 3-0 to plus 1, gun target line 0-9-3. I'm gonna talk you on.

TOURMAN

Tourman copies all.

HITMAN

West of the 7-3 Eastern, there is a large urban sprawl. Call contact.

TOURMAN

Contact.

HITMAN

Splitting the urban sprawl in half from the North to the South is an MSR. Call contact.

TOURMAN

Contact.

HITMAN

We're observing everything to the west of that MSR. Can you see the palm grove in the northwest quadrant? Call contact.

TOURMAN

Tourman. I see two prominent palm groves, not sure which one you're calling.

HITMAN

Ok, ok. Do you contact dub truck heading north in the quadrant?

TOURMAN

Tourman. Contact the dub truck.

HITMAN

In about a minute, that technical will pass through the palm grove. There's two-story structure, that's your target. Call contact.

TOURMAN

Tourman. Contact. [pause] November 1-2 off safe, one away.