



1

FIRST ISSUE
NOV '09

ERIC TRAUTMANN

MARCO RUDY

MICK GRAY

THE SHIELD

THE MISSION BEGINS!



™ and © DC Comics.
All rights reserved.

SECOND FEATURE **INFERNO**





"CLASSIFIED: CRYPTO 7.
FROM: LATHAM, J. (GEN)
MESSAGE BEGINS...

ALPHA ONE,
STAND BY,
STAND BY.

TARGET
AREA LOCATED.
INITIATING
SWEEP.

"WE'VE LOST SOME MEN, AMERICAN
SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNITS
OPERATING IN THE MOUNTAINS
BETWEEN BIALYA AND KAHINDAQ.

"AFTER BLACK ADAM TORE BIALYA APART,
THE INSURGENTS MOVED IN—ANTI-WESTERN,
ANTI-METAHUMAN. THEY'VE BEEN TARGETING
U.N. RELIEF EFFORTS, FOR THE MOST PART...

--WHERE
THE HELL IS
EVERYONE?

"...AND WE'VE BEEN
SENDING TEAMS IN TO
HUNT THEM EVER SINCE.

"ALL COVERT AND
DENIABLE, OF COURSE.

--MOVING
INTO
VILLAGE--

--NO
CONTACTS.
STAND BY.

"THREE DAYS AGO,
WE LOST CONTACT
WITH A UNIT
ZEROING IN ON
THE INSURGENT
STRONGHOLD.

"SAME AGAIN TWO DAYS
LATER, THIS TIME WITH THE
RECON TEAM SENT IN TO
LOCATE THE MISSING UNIT.

"AND THEN THEIR
BACKUP UNIT.

--GO
GO
GO--

CONTACT WAS LOST
WITH THE FOURTH TEAM
AS OF 1700 HOURS.

--ALPHA
ONE, REPORT
STATUS.

ALPHA ONE,
REPORT.

ALPHA
ONE, DO YOU
READ?

ALPHA ONE,
ALPHA ONE,
COME IN.

"THIRTY-TWO MEN,
ALL VANISHED
WITHOUT A TRACE."

"AND WE WANT YOU TO GET THEM BACK. MESSAGE ENDS."

THE SHIELD

IN
KICKING
DOWN
THE
DOOR
PART 1

SCRIPT: ERIC TRAUTMANN
PENCILS: MARCO RUDY

INKS: MICK GRAY
COLORS: ART LYON

LETTERS: SAL CIPRIANO
EDITOR: RACHEL GLUCKSTERN

COVER: FRANCIS MANAPUL
WITH JEREMY ROBERTS





LANGUAGE PACKS,
TARGETING DATA,
SATELLITE FEEDS ALL
UPLOADED TO YOUR
SYSTEM--

--YOU
GOT ALL
THAT?

THAT'S A
ROG.

YOU
PACK THAT
SPECIAL
GEAR FOR
ME?

IT'S NOT
MY FIRST DAY,
JOE. IT'S ALL IN
YOUR RUCK.

TIME TO
GO TO WORK,
THEN--



--I THINK THIS IS MY STOP.

P LACES LIKE THIS ALWAYS LOOK AWFUL ON THE GROUND.



BUT ON THE WAY DOWN?

THERE ARE WORSE WAYS TO START THE DAY.

AL-HADIDIYAH MOUNTAINS
BIALYA/KAHNDAQ BORDER

SHIELD ACTUAL
TO MUSTANG 3,
TOUCHDOWN, REPEAT,
TOUCHDOWN.



MUSTANG 3
TO SHIELD,
ROGER. THE
CROWD GOES
WILD.

GOOD
HUNTING.
MUSTANG 3,
OUT.

T 87
EP 1027
HUM 12
WSPD 03
RAD NEGL
TOX . . .

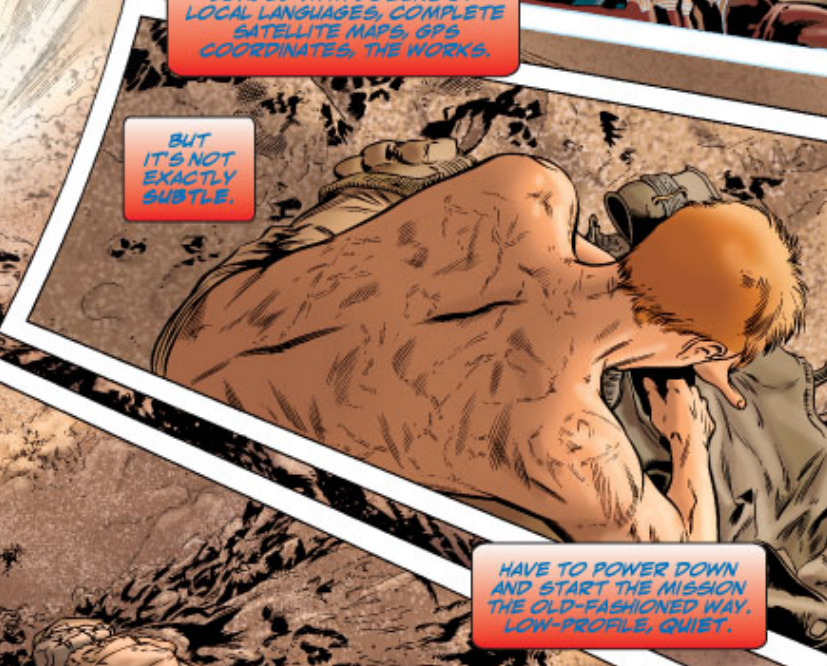
I'M STILL GETTING
USED TO THE
WARSUIT--STILL
FIGURING OUT
WHAT IT CAN DO.



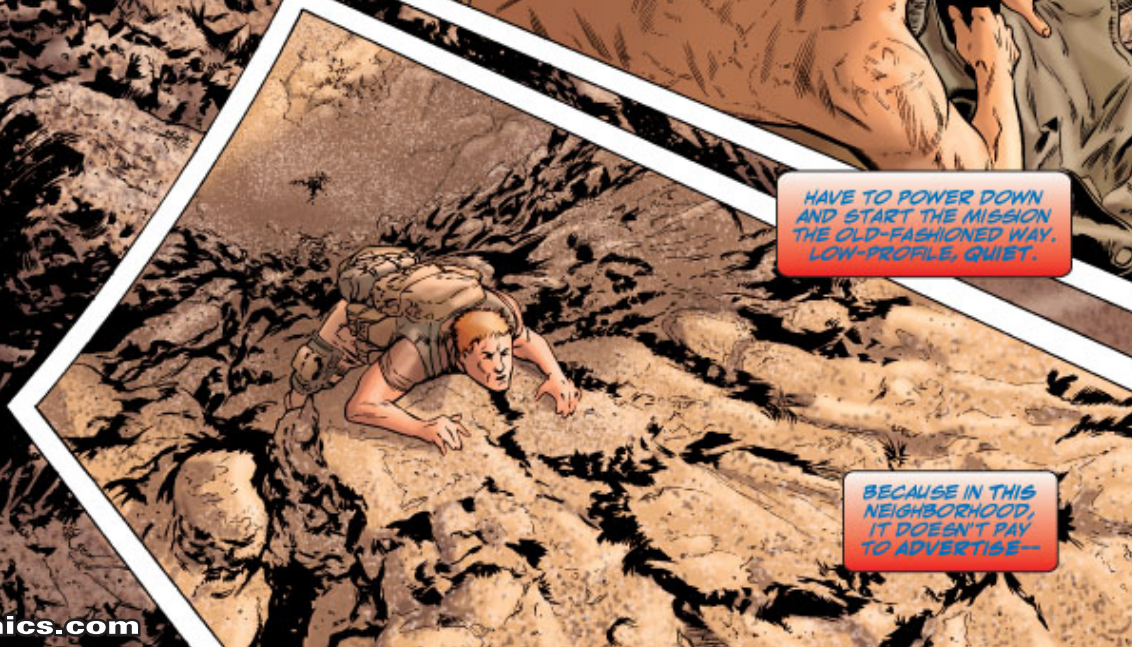
JUMPING OUT OF A
PERFECTLY GOOD
AIRPLANE WITHOUT A
CHUTE IS JUST ONE
OF THE PERKS.

THE NANOTECH HAS BEEN
LOADED WITH DOZENS OF
LOCAL LANGUAGES, COMPLETE
SATELLITE MAPS, GPS
COORDINATES, THE WORKS.

BUT
IT'S NOT
EXACTLY
SUBTLE.



HAVE TO POWER DOWN
AND START THE MISSION
THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY.
LOW-PROFILE, QUIET.



BECAUSE IN THIS
NEIGHBORHOOD,
IT DOESN'T PAY
TO ADVERTISE--

SINCE THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE AREN'T LIKELY TO RESPOND WELL TO SOMEONE IN A COLORFUL SUIT AND A MASK.

MY GOD.

MILLIONS DEAD AT THE HANDS OF BLACK ADAM. MILLIONS. IN A DAY.

MAYBE A COUPLE HUNDRED THOUSAND REFUGEES LEFT, THE ONES LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE OUT OF THE COUNTRY WHEN DISASTER STRUCK.

AND OF THOSE SURVIVORS, NOT ONE CAN SEE A MASK OR CAPE WITHOUT A NEAR-RELIGIOUS TERROR.



I'M SUPPOSED TO BE A SYMBOL, BUT TO THESE PEOPLE, ALL I'LL REPRESENT IS DEATH.



SHIELD TO MUSTANG 3.
APPROACHING WAYPOINT
DOG-ONE, OVER.

MUSTANG 3,
COPY.

FOUR HOURS,
HUM? TOOK YOU
LONG ENOUGH,
JOE.

EVERYONE'S A CRITIC,
SARGE.

ARGE* IS MASTER
SGT. WILLIAM CAYCE,
MY COMBAT LIAISON
OFFICER.

HE WORRIES LIKE A
MOTHER HEN, AND
HE'S HARDLY LEFT
MY SIDE SINCE I
GOT THE WARSUIT.

--YOU MAKE
IT TO THE
VILLE YET?

AFFIRMATIVE. BEGINNING
SURVEILLANCE...

I'M TRYING SOMETHING NEW--
PARTIALLY POWERING UP THE WARSUIT'S
DETECTION GEAR, WITHOUT LAUNCHING
THE FULL COMBAT SUITE.

IT FEELS WEIRD,
AND IT TAKES REAL
CONCENTRATION, BUT--

>>THREAT
DETECTION.
6.4 METERS
N/NW.

--IT SEEMS
LIKE IT
WORKS.



THE SHIELD

1
FIRST
ISSUE
NOV '09

ERIC
TRAUTMANN
MARCO
RUDY
MICK
GRAY

FEATURING
INFERNO



**THE
MISSION
BEGINS!**



DAY ONE

STAR CITY,
CALIFORNIA

THIS
IS NO
GOOD.



TOO MANY
PEOPLE HERE.
IT'S TOO
PUBLIC--

--IS IT IN
THE NEWS
BY NOW?
DO THEY
ALREADY
KNOW?



STOP IT.
THAT'S NOT
LOGICAL. IT
WAS BARELY
AN HOUR
AGO.

AND
IT'S NOT
LIKE YOU
KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED,
EITHER. NOT
REALLY.



IT'S SO
HARD TO
FOCUS...



...KEEP MOVING.
GET TO A SAFE
PLACE AND START
TRYING TO FIND
SOME ANSWERS.

AVOID THE POLICE.
DON'T EVEN LOOK IN
THEIR DIRECTION.



BLEND INTO
THE LOCAL
ENVIRONMENT.



SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA

--WANT A
FORENSICS
TEAM DOWN ON
THOSE DOCKS THE
MINUTE WE GET
THE ALL-CLEAR
FROM THE FIRE
CHIEF.

YOU
HAVE AN
UPDATE
ON OUR
PERP??

STREET
UNITS ARE
DOING A RADIUS
SWEEP, AND WE'RE
STILL TRYING TO
BUTTON DOWN
THE AIRPORT
AND LOCAL
TRANSIT.

WHERE'S
LIEUTENANT
BARKER?

THAT'D
BE ME...

I'M AGENT
STANDER AND
THIS IS AGENT
SANTIAGO, F.B.I.
SPECIAL CRIMES
UNIT.

IF YOU
COULD MAKE SURE
WE HAVE ALL OF YOUR CURRENT
REPORTS, IT'D BE A BIG HELP.
WE'RE TAKING OVER THIS CASE.

TAKING OVER?
I HADN'T HEARD
ABOUT THAT.

YOUR
DEPARTMENT
HAS. I'M SURE
THEY CAN FILL
YOU IN.

BZZT
BZZT

SANTIAGO,
THIS IS
CONFIRMED?
HOW LONG
AGO?

LOOKS LIKE OUR MAN
FRANK VERRANO
JUST CHECKED INTO
A HOTEL IN STAR
CITY.

GOOD.
LET'S GO
GET HIM.