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STARBUCKS COBRA WORLD ORDER



PRELUDE





COBRA WORLD ORDER

Quartered in Top-Secret armored underground bunkers—deep beneath a secret base in the Utah desert—is America's elite Counter-Terrorist strike force! Code named: G.I. Joe—the most fearsome rapid deployment team of all stands ready to fight—anywhere—any time—any way!

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AT THE SECRET HELIPAD NORTH OF THE PIT.

"WENDY LING TORRES WAS THE DARK HORSE WHO WON THE SPECIAL ELECTION AFTER THE INCUMBENT GOT INDICTED AND DIED IN A SUSPICIOUS CAR CRASH..."

...AND SHE NOW HEADS THE SENATE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE THAT KEEPS TABS ON THE G.I. JOE TEAM.

THE FACT THAT SHE'S HERE IN PERSON TO DO AN ON-SITE FAMILIARIZATION INSPECTION SPEAKS WELL OF HER.

I'LL RESERVE JUDGMENT UNTIL WE SEE HER IN ACTION.

I READ IN THE SOP THAT YOU ALL GO BY YOUR CODE-NAMES HERE—SO, I AM VERY PLEASSED TO MEET YOU, DUKE. THIS IS MY AIDE, FRED.

IT'S AN HONOR, MA'AM. LADY JAYE HERE IS NGOIC OF BASE SECURITY.

MA'AM.

I'LL TRY TO FILL YOU IN ON THE BACKGROUND AS WE TAKE YOU ON THE NICKEL TOUR.

THIS RETRACTABLE HELIPAD BUILT INTO THE FALSE MOUNTAIN FACE DOESN'T APPEAR ON THE ORIGINAL PROSPECTUS FOR THE PIT—HOW WAS IT PAID FOR?

IT WAS ALREADY HERE, MA'AM.

THE PIT WAS BUILT ON TOP OF AND AROUND A PRE-EXISTING FACILITY THAT WAS SO TOP SECRET WE DIDN'T KNOW IT EXISTED UNTIL RECENTLY.



YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS TUNNEL THAT CONNECTS THE HELIPAD AND THE MAIN PIT, EITHER?

NO, MA'AM. THERE IS STILL A LOT ABOUT THE PRE-EXISTING BASE THAT IS CLASSIFIED ULTRA-ULTRA, MANY LEVELS ABOVE US POOR MORTALS.



WE ARE ENTERING THE MAIN GARAGE AND HANGAR DECK. THIS ALSO FUNCTIONS AS A PRE-MISSION STAGING AREA.



MAINFRAME, THE TOUR PACKAGE JUST PASSED BLAST DOOR ALPHA.

THE SENATOR'S AIDE LOOKS FAMILIAR. IT WOULDN'T HURT TO RUN A FACIAL RECOGNITION SCAN ON HIM.

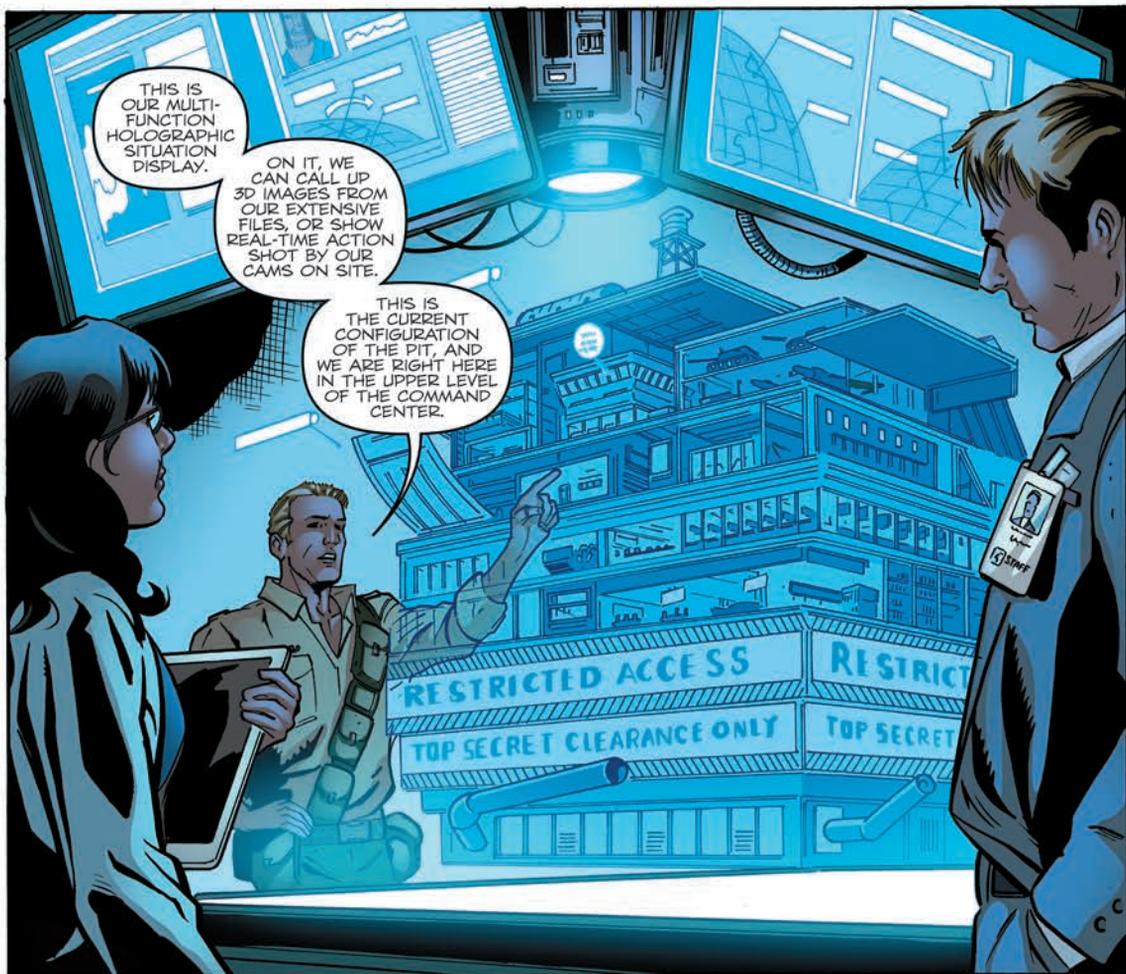


ROGER THAT, ROADBLOCK— BUT I HAVE TO BE DISCREET, SINCE THE TOUR GROUP IS ABOUT TO...



AND THIS IS OUR COMMAND CENTER.

THE NERVE CENTER OF OUR TEAM, A SORT OF COMBINED OPERATIONS, LOGISTICS AND INTELLIGENCE HUB.



THIS IS OUR MULTI-FUNCTION HOLOGRAPHIC SITUATION DISPLAY.

ON IT, WE CAN CALL UP 3D IMAGES FROM OUR EXTENSIVE FILES, OR SHOW REAL-TIME ACTION SHOT BY OUR CAMS ON SITE.

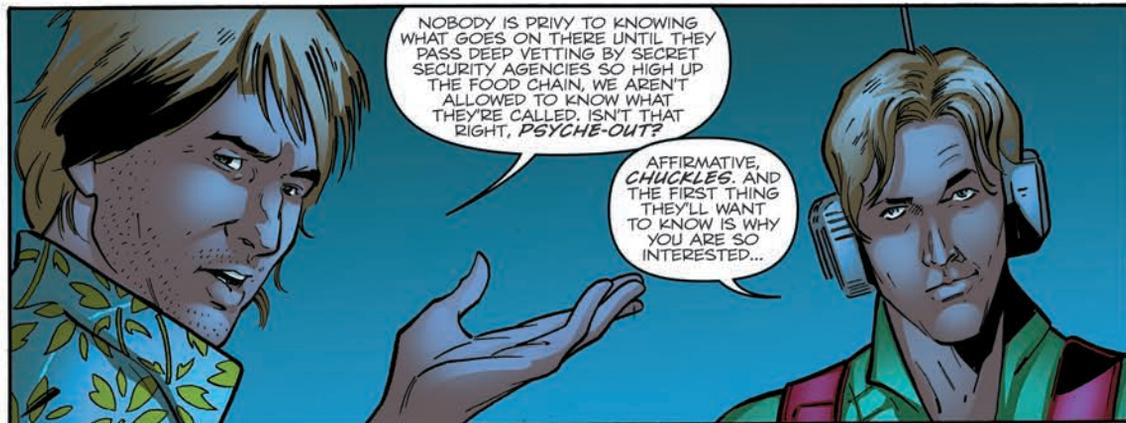
THIS IS THE CURRENT CONFIGURATION OF THE PIT, AND WE ARE RIGHT HERE IN THE UPPER LEVEL OF THE COMMAND CENTER.

RESTRICTED ACCESS
RESTRICTED
TOP SECRET CLEARANCE ONLY
TOP SECRET



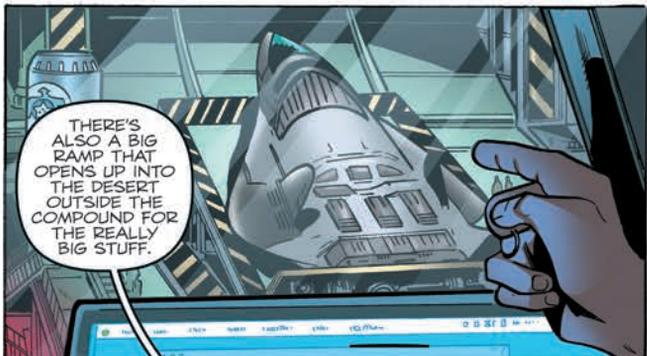
SURELY THOSE "RESTRICTED" LEVELS CAN'T BE KEPT SECRET FROM THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE?

RESTRICTED
TOP SECRET C



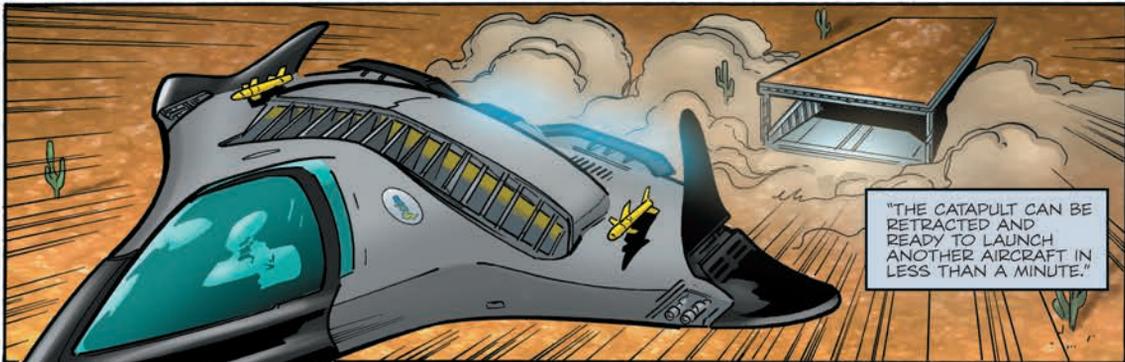
NOBODY IS PRIVY TO KNOWING WHAT GOES ON THERE UNTIL THEY PASS DEEP VETTING BY SECRET SECURITY AGENCIES SO HIGH UP THE FOOD CHAIN, WE AREN'T ALLOWED TO KNOW WHAT THEY'RE CALLED. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, PSYCHE-OUT?

AFFIRMATIVE, CHUCKLES. AND THE FIRST THING THEY'LL WANT TO KNOW IS WHY YOU ARE SO INTERESTED...

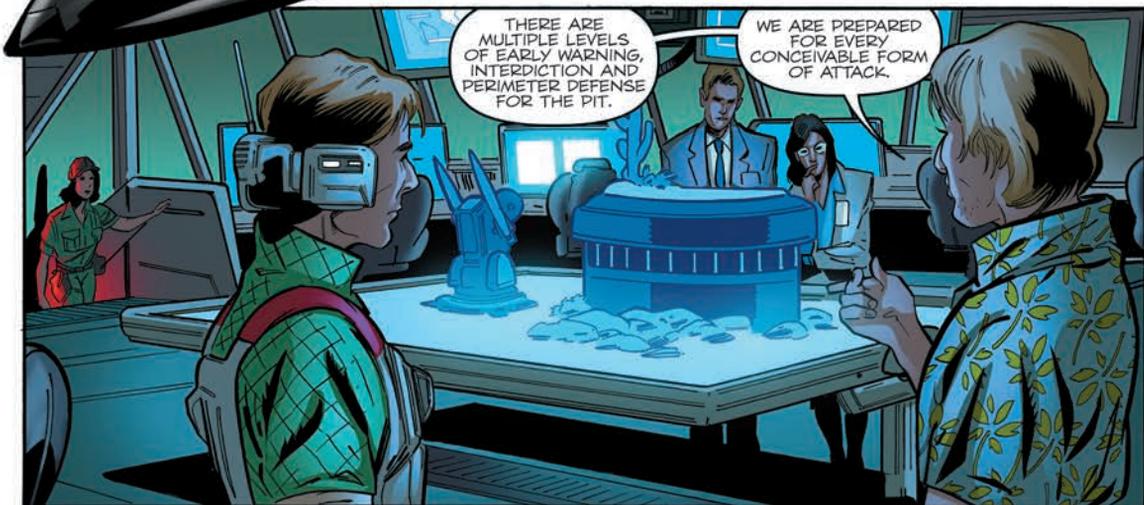




...THE CATAPULT IS LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY THROUGH THAT RAMP, AND CAN LAUNCH AN INTERCEPTOR LIKE THE X-29 IN UNDER TEN SECONDS.



"THE CATAPULT CAN BE RETRACTED AND READY TO LAUNCH ANOTHER AIRCRAFT IN LESS THAN A MINUTE."



THERE ARE MULTIPLE LEVELS OF EARLY WARNING, INTERDICTION AND PERIMETER DEFENSE FOR THE PIT.

WE ARE PREPARED FOR EVERY CONCEIVABLE FORM OF ATTACK.



WHEN WE REORGANIZED THE PIT AFTER A MAJOR COBRA ATTACK, WE DECIDED TO SPREAD OUR FORCES OUT TO CUT DOWN RESPONSE TIME.

THAT'S WHEN WE ESTABLISHED OUTPOSTS IN NEW YORK AND SAN FRANCISCO.



MAINFRAME, CAN YOU CALL UP THE IMAGERY ON FORT WADSWORTH?