

EYES AND EARS

Written by

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EXT. COUNTY ARMAGH, NORTHERN IRELAND 1986

The cold, damp air clings to the skin of the Marines as they assemble outside the briefing room. They have been told to gather all their gear and meet the boss outside, ready for the mission briefing.

As they wait in silence, the sound of their breathing is the only thing that can be heard. The overcast sky seems to match the mood of the Marines, as they know the seriousness of the mission ahead.

The boss finally appears, a tall and lean man with a stern expression. The Marines straighten up, knowing that he is not one to be trifled with.

"Gentlemen," he starts, his voice grave. "We have been given a critical task by Brigade. Our objective is to infiltrate an IRA stronghold in County Armagh, Northern Ireland, and retrieve important intelligence that could potentially save countless lives."

The Marines listen intently, their eyes trained on the boss. This is not just another mission, this is a matter of life and death.

"The stronghold is heavily fortified, with armed men both inside and outside the farm compound," the boss continues. "Our objective is to infiltrate the compound silently, retrieve the intelligence, and exfiltrate without being detected."

The gravity of the situation sinks in as the Marines mentally prepare themselves for what lies ahead. They know that this is no simple task, but they are Royal Marines, the best of the best, and they are ready to face any challenge that comes their way.

The boss hands out detailed maps and diagrams of the compound, pointing out key areas and potential obstacles. The Marines study them with intensity, trying to commit every detail to memory.

"Remember, the lives of countless innocents rest on the success of this mission. Failure is not an option," the boss says, his voice firm and unwavering.

The tension in the air is palpable as the Marines get up and start preparing for the mission. They check their gear, load their weapons, and run through their drills one last time.

As they move out towards the stronghold, the adrenaline starts to kick in. They know that the next few hours will be the most intense of their lives, but they are ready.

They are Royal Marines, and they will complete this mission, no matter what it takes.

JOHN, SNIPER

John sat in the back of the room, his eyes fixed on the boss as he spoke about the dangers of their job. Every word was like a hammer pounding on his heart, filling him with a sense of dread and unease. He knew the risks of his job, but hearing it so bluntly from the boss made him feel like he was staring death in the face.

As the briefing went on, John's mind kept wandering back to those words. He tried to shake them off, to focus on the task at hand, but he couldn't ignore the knot in his stomach. He knew that this mission would be more dangerous than any other he had been on before.

As the briefing finally ended, John couldn't help but feel a sense of relief wash over him. He stood up, grabbing his gear, trying to shake off the anxiety that was still gnawing at him. He wanted to put the boss's words out of his mind, but he couldn't.

As he stepped out of the briefing area, John felt a lump in his throat. He couldn't help but think about all the things he would be leaving behind if he didn't make it back. His wife, his kids, his parents, all of them would be devastated if something happened to him.

John took a deep breath and silently made a promise to himself. He promised to be extra cautious, to take every precaution possible to make it home safely. He promised to be alert, to watch his back, and to not let his guard down. He knew that the stakes were high, but he was determined to come back to his loved ones.

With a heavy heart, John set off on the mission. Every step was filled with a mix of determination and fear, but he knew that he couldn't let his emotions get the best of him. He had a job to do, and he was going to do it to the best of his abilities. But deep down, he couldn't help but feel like he was walking towards his own demise.

INT. BARRACKS ROOM DRAMMAD, ARMAGH CITY NORTHERN IRELAND

The room was tense as Jim, the team leader, spoke up. He was a Scottish man with a no-nonsense attitude that commanded respect from the others in the room. His voice was calm and measured, but there was an underlying intensity to it that made everyone pay attention.

Jim stood tall, his posture reflecting the confidence that came with years of experience in the field. He was a seasoned veteran, and the team knew that they could trust him to lead them into any situation.

"Alright guys," Jim began, "We've received orders to find and eliminate a high-value target, codenamed 'Viper'. Our mission is to locate his whereabouts and remove him from the equation."

Jim's words hung heavy in the air, each member of the team understanding the gravity of the task ahead. They all knew that this was a dangerous mission, one that could easily end in tragedy if they weren't careful.

As Jim continued to speak, his eyes scanned the room, taking in each member of the team. He knew that they were all professionals, but he also knew that they were human, with emotions and fears just like anyone else.

"We need to be on our A-game for this one," Jim said, his voice taking on a more serious tone. "Viper is a dangerous man, and he won't go down without a fight. But we're the best of the best, and we've been trained to handle situations like this."

Jim's words were reassuring, but there was a hint of caution in his voice that made it clear that he wasn't taking this mission lightly. He knew that the stakes were high, and he was determined to lead his team to victory, no matter what.

The room fell silent as Jim finished his briefing, each member of the team mentally preparing themselves for the task ahead. They knew that they could trust Jim to lead them through this, but they also knew that the road ahead would be a difficult one.

TOPSY, RADIO OPS

Topsy, the radio operator, was a young Englishman who looked like he was barely out of his teenage years. But don't let his youthful appearance fool you - he was a skilled and experienced operator who had already seen more action than many twice his age.

As the team prepared for their mission, Topsy spoke up. "I'll be the eyes and ears of the operation," he said, his voice confident and steady. "I'll have my radio gear on hand to relay any intel back to base."

There was a sense of respect in the room as Topsy spoke. Even though he was the youngest member of the team, he was also one of the most important.

Without his expertise, the team would be blind and vulnerable to any threats that lay ahead.

Topsy's eyes gleamed with determination as he adjusted his equipment, making sure that everything was in working order. He knew that the success of the mission depended on him, and he was ready to give it his all.

But underneath the surface, Topsy was also feeling a sense of fear. He knew that he would be the first target of any enemy attacks, and that his life was constantly on the line. The thought of leaving behind his family and friends back home weighed heavily on him, but he tried his best to push those thoughts aside and focus on the task at hand.

As the team prepared to head out, Topsy took a deep breath and steadied his nerves. He knew that this was what he had trained for, and that he was ready to face whatever challenges lay ahead. With a quick nod to the team, he turned on his radio and prepared to be the crucial link between the team and their base of operations.

RUSS,(GINGE) MEDIC

Russ, also known as Ginge, was the team's medic. He was an Englishman with a no-nonsense attitude and a gruff exterior, but everyone knew that he had a heart of gold.

"I'll be carrying necessary medical supplies," Russ said, his voice serious and focused. "Especially if we come under fire. We can't afford to have anyone incapacitated in the field."

There was a palpable sense of tension in the room as Russ spoke. Everyone knew that the risks of their mission were high, and that injuries were a real possibility. But they also knew that Russ was the best medic they could ask for - he had seen it all before and knew exactly how to handle any situation that might arise.

As Russ checked and double-checked his medical supplies, his mind raced with all the different scenarios that could play out in the field. He knew that he would have to be quick and decisive if someone on the team got hurt, and that any delay could mean the difference between life and death.

But despite the seriousness of his role, Russ also felt a sense of pride in what he did. He knew that he was making a difference in the world, even if it was just a small one. And he was honored to be able to serve alongside his fellow Marines, who he respected and admired.

As the team geared up for their mission, Russ hoisted his medical pack onto his shoulders and took a deep breath.

He knew that the road ahead would be tough, but he was ready to face it head-on. And with his medical expertise at the ready, he was determined to do everything in his power to keep his fellow Marines safe and healthy.

JOHN, SNIPER

John was the team's designated sniper. He was a skilled marksman with years of experience under his belt, and he knew that his role was critical to the success of their mission.

"I'll be the one taking the shot," John said quietly, his eyes focused and intense. "I've studied this guy's patterns and know how he moves. I'm ready to do what it takes to get the job done."

There was a sense of reverence in the room as John spoke. Everyone knew that he was the best of the best, and that his skill with a rifle was unmatched. But they also knew that his job was one of the most difficult and dangerous on the team - one wrong move, and everything could go horribly wrong.

As John meticulously checked his equipment and went through his mental checklist, his mind was focused on the task at hand. He knew that he couldn't afford to make any mistakes, and that the slightest miscalculation could have deadly consequences.

But even as he prepared for the mission, John couldn't help but feel a sense of unease. He knew that he was about to take another human being's life, and that the weight of that responsibility was heavy on his shoulders.

As he took a deep breath and shouldered his rifle, John felt a mix of adrenaline and fear coursing through his veins. But he also felt a sense of duty and honor - he knew that he was serving his country and protecting innocent lives, and that was what kept him going.

JIM THE TEAM LEADER

Jim nodded, "Good work, everyone. Let's gear up and move out in an hour. Remember, we need to stay stealthy and take the target by surprise. Let's get this done."

EXT. BARRACKS ROOM DRAMMAD, ARMAGH CITY NORTHERN IRELAND

for a covert operation. The team leader signals for the driver to start the engine, and within seconds the van is on its way to the target location.

The intel had confirmed that the target, a high-value terrorist, was holed up in a farmhouse on the outskirts of the city. The team had spent weeks rehearsing for this mission and now it was time to put their training to the test.

As the van approached the farmhouse, the team leader, Jim, gave a quiet signal to the driver to stop. The team quickly disembarked and silently made their way to the rear entrance of the building. Using high-tech equipment, they quickly breached the lock and made their way inside.

The farmhouse was surprisingly quiet, but the team knew better than to let their guard down. They moved stealthily from room to room, clearing each one as they went, searching for the target. Suddenly, they heard movement coming from the next room.

Jim signalled to John, who took his position and aimed his rifle at the doorway. The team leader counted down silently with his fingers, then on three, they burst into the room, weapons at the ready.

There, in the center of the room, sat the terrorist, surrounded by men. John took the shot he had been waiting for, and the leader fell to the ground. The team quickly took out the remaining terrorists, but not before sustaining a few injuries of their own.

With the mission accomplished, the team quickly extracted from the farmhouse, making their way back to the van and disappearing into the night. It had been another successful mission for Two One Bravo, but they knew that there would be more to come. They were always ready and primed for the next one, whatever it may be.

The mission is a success, and the team can breathe a sigh of relief. They know that their actions will help keep their country safe, and they are proud to have served. As the van disappears into the darkness, the team can't help but wonder what other missions the future holds for them.

INT.RUC BAR DRAMMAD BARRACKS

While some members of the team are hesitant to accept the invitation, they ultimately agree, seeing it as an opportunity to build relationships and potentially gain valuable information.

At the pub, the team shares laughter and drinks with the RUC officers. They chat about their respective jobs and hobbies, and soon the conversation turns to the tense political climate in Northern Ireland.

The team listens attentively as the officers share their perspectives on the ongoing conflict, and they learn about the challenges faced by law enforcement in the region.

As the night wears on, however, the atmosphere becomes increasingly tense. One officer makes a negative comment about the team's religion (Billy, Catholic), causing a few team members to exchange uneasy glances. Another officer shares his frustrations about the lack of progress in the peace negotiations, and the conversation turns heated. One team member suggests they change the subject and steer the conversation back to lighter topics, but the damage has already been done.

Ultimately, the team leaves the pub feeling conflicted. While they appreciate the opportunity to build connections with law enforcement in Northern Ireland, they also realize that the fissures of political and religious divisions run deep. They resolve to continue their work in the region, but with a newfound awareness of the complexities and challenges involved.

INT. OFFICERS MESS

They had been drinking and decided to continue drinking in the officers mess, where John standing at the bar was asked by the CO of 2 Para "Who are you?" To which John answered "Sorry Sir, if I told you that I would have to kill you"

The CO raised his eyebrow and chuckled, recognizing the well-known phrase from the movie Top Gun. "Well, I hope you won't have to do that," he replied with a smile.

John, feeling slightly embarrassed, grinned back and introduced himself properly. The CO and John ended up chatting for a while, exchanging stories about their military experiences and sharing a few more drinks.

As the night went on, more officers joined in the conversation and the mood grew jovial. They laughed and joked, reminiscing about their time in service and bonding over their shared experiences.

Eventually, John realized it was getting late and he needed to head back to his room. He said his goodbyes and thanked the CO for the enjoyable evening before making his way out.

As he walked back to his room, John couldn't help but feel grateful for the camaraderie and brotherhood he had experienced that night. It reminded him why he had joined the military in the first place and reaffirmed his commitment to serving his country.

Report on Observation Post established by Team 'Two One Bravo' near Crossmaglen

Objective

Team 'Two One Bravo' was tasked with setting up an observation post close to Crossmaglen to monitor a target located just over the border.

Location and Setup

The team selected a location on slightly elevated ground, about 500 meters from the border and 1 km from the target. The site was concealed by bushes and trees, providing a good vantage point without being easily visible from the road or nearby buildings. The team dug a shallow trench for protection and cover and erected a camouflaged shelter made of canvas and netting for observation and rest. The shelter was equipped with a high-powered spotting scope and binoculars, as well as a handheld radio and a compass.

Observations

The team conducted surveillance for 10 hours, from 8 PM to 6 AM, changing shifts every 2 hours to avoid fatigue and enhance alertness. The weather was clear and dry, and there were no major disturbances or movements in the area except for occasional cars passing on the road. The team observed the target, a small compound with a metal fence and a few buildings, using the spotting scope and binoculars, and noted the following:

The compound appeared to be a storage facility or a workshop, as there were several trucks parked inside and some tools and machinery visible.

There were at least six individuals present at the compound, some of them working on the trucks and others sitting outside smoking or chatting.

The individuals did not display any weapons or suspicious behavior, nor did they seem to be aware of the observation post.

There was a military checkpoint on the road, about 500 meters from the compound, but it was not very active or strict, with only a few vehicles passing through.

There were no other observation posts or security personnel visible in the vicinity, indicating that the team's location was secure.

Recommendations

Based on the observations, the team recommends the following:

Continue monitoring the target for at least two more days to gather more information on the activity and the individuals present.

Explore alternative observation positions and routes of access to the area to reduce the risk of exposure and enhance the team's mobility and flexibility.

Secure a backup team and pre-assigned extraction points in case of emergency or detection.

Alert the command center and report any significant developments or findings.

Conclusion

The observation post established by Team 'Two One Bravo' near Crossmaglen was successful in providing a covert and effective means of surveillance of the target located just over the border. The team operated professionally and proficiently, adapting to the conditions and requirements of the mission. The team recommends further surveillance and precautionary measures to ensure the safety and integrity of the operation.

As the team was still monitoring the target, a sudden explosion shook the observation post. Jim's food was thrown from his mess tin, covering his face and uniform. The blast knocked him off his bergan and onto the ground. His ears were ringing, and his head throbbed from the impact of the explosion. As he assessed himself for injuries, he realized that his equipment was scattered all around him, including his rifle.

With a sense of urgency, he quickly checked his surroundings for any potential threats. The explosion had left a thick cloud of dust and debris, making it difficult to see beyond a few feet in front of him. But as his vision started to clear, he saw movement in the distance. He aimed his rifle in the direction of the movement and was relieved to see that it was his team rushing towards him to offer assistance.

Despite the chaos caused by the explosion, Jim was grateful to be alive. His food may have been ruined, and his uniform may have been covered in dust and debris, but he knew that his team had survived.

EXT. OBSERVATION POST , EXTRACTION

The observation post was established by two one bravo team to gather information on the enemy, target. However, when the explosive went off, and the team's position was discovered by the hostile forces. The compromised post posed a significant threat to the safety of the team members, as they could face a direct attack or become the target of a counterintelligence operation.

To mitigate the risk and ensure the safety of the team, Jim decided to extract them quickly.

Despite the urgency of the situation, the team would need to proceed with caution and minimize the risk of leaving any sensitive information or evidence that could lead the hostile forces to their location or reveal their mission's nature.

The team quickly gathered their necessary gear including their packs, weapons, radios, and any other necessary equipment, and moved out of the danger zone.

As they moved towards the extraction point, the team maintained good communication with each other, scanning the surrounding area for any potential threats, and constantly keeping an eye on each other's backs.

As they reached the extraction point, they quickly secured the area, and as expected, the transport vehicle arrived shortly after. The team loaded up quickly and the driver raced to evacuate them to a safer location.

Throughout the trip, the team kept their weapons at the ready, continued to scan the surroundings, and kept communication going to ensure that everyone was safe and accounted for.

Once they reached the barracks, the team debriefed and went over what they could have done better during the extraction. They also assessed their equipment and checked for any damages.

Overall, the team successfully evacuated the hot situation, safely reaching their extraction point without any injuries or loss of equipment.

EXT. COUNTY ARMAGH , NORTHERN IRELAND 1986

John and Topsy had been given Tonnrer's information by intelligence, following every lead and scrap of information they could gather. It had been a grueling and frustrating task, but finally, they received the news they had been waiting for - Tonnrer was at the local public house.

As they carefully made their way down the hill towards the public house, John couldn't help but feel a mix of nerves and excitement. This was their chance to finally capture their target, but they had to be careful not to blow their cover.

The sound of laughter and music emanated from the public house, masking their approach. John and Topsy reached the door, and with a nod to each other, they stepped inside.

The room was dimly lit, with the smell of stale beer and cigarette smoke hanging in the air. A group of men were huddled around a table, engrossed in a game of cards. Tonnrer was in the corner, chatting with a few acquaintances, his guard down.

John motioned to Topsy to keep an eye on Tonnrer while he went to the bar to order a drink. As he waited, he tried to tune out the noise and focus on his surroundings, listening for any clues that could give them an advantage.

It was then that he overheard a conversation about a planned raid by the authorities on the public house that very night. John's heart raced - they had to act fast.

He signaled to Topsy, and they moved quickly towards Tonnrer. As they approached, Tonnrer saw them and tried to bolt. But John and Topsy were too quick, grabbing him before he could make it out the door.

John identified themselves as members of the armed forces, and Tonnrer knew he had been caught. He didn't put up a fight, and they took him into custody without incident.

Relief washed over John and Topsy as they left the public house, their mission accomplished. But underneath the elation, there was a sense of weariness and even sadness. This was just one mission in a long and ongoing battle, with no end in sight.

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INT. OPERATIONS ROOM

TONNRER (PLAYER)

Tonnrer was brought to a secure location for interrogation. John and Topsy watched from behind the one-way glass as Tonnrer sat nervously, shifting in his seat. The room was cold, and the sound of the harsh fluorescent lighting buzzed in the air.

The interrogation began with simple questions about Tonnrer's involvement in the arms smuggling operation. Tonnrer was initially hesitant, but as the questions continued, he began to crack. He provided detailed information about the inner workings of the group, including the names of key members and the locations where the weapons were stored.

As the interrogation progressed, Tonnrer's fear and anxiety were palpable. He knew the consequences of his actions, and the weight of his guilt was heavy on his shoulders. John and Topsy watched in silence, knowing that this was a crucial moment in the investigation.

With Tonnrer's confession, the investigation gained momentum. John and Topsy worked tirelessly to track down the other members of the group, following leads and collecting evidence. Their efforts paid off as they were able to locate several other members of the smuggling ring and seize a significant amount of arms and ammunition.

The news of the successful bust spread quickly, and John and Topsy received high praise for their bravery and diligence. They were commended for their hard work in bringing down the dangerous operation and making the streets a safer place.

As they reflected on their mission, John and Topsy knew that their work had made a real difference. They were proud to have played a part in keeping their community safe and were grateful for the opportunity to serve their country.

EXT. OBSERVATION POST , EXTRACTION

The atmosphere in the observation post was tense, with the team on high alert after two days of keeping a close watch on the enemy's movements. Jim's announcement about the SAS takeover came as a surprise, but it was clear that the elite soldiers were better equipped to handle the situation.

As we gathered our gear to leave, we couldn't help but notice the steady stream of men moving in and out of the wooden stake area. It was clear that this was a vital tactical location, and our intel would be instrumental in taking down the enemy's operations.

Our departure was not without incident, as a group of men approached our position. Jim's quick thinking and leadership allowed us to escape unharmed, and we sprinted towards the rendezvous point, adrenaline pumping through our veins.

As we reached the pickup point, we watched in awe as the SAS team moved in with their advanced weaponry and tactical expertise. We knew that they were the best of the best, and their arrival gave us a sense of relief and confidence.

Driving away, we could hear the sounds of gunfire in the distance and see the glow of tracer rounds lighting up the night sky. We knew that the SAS team was taking control of the situation, and our hearts swelled with pride knowing that our intelligence gathering had played a critical role in the operation's success.

For us, this mission was more than just a job. It was a chance to serve our country and make a difference in the fight against terror. We knew that every small action we took, every piece of information we gathered, contributed to the larger goal of keeping our nation safe.

As we reflected on our accomplishments, we felt a great sense of pride and gratitude for the opportunity to serve. We knew that this was just one battle in a much larger war, but we were honored to play our part in defending our country and upholding the values that make it great.

effort.

INT. COUNTY ARMAGH ,NORTHERN IRELAND 1986

During the year of 1986, Northern Ireland was still facing the Troubles, a period of civil unrest that had been ongoing for several decades. As part of the peacekeeping efforts, our team, Two One Bravo, was sent on a six-month tour as the Close Observation Troop.

Our mission was to gather intelligence and monitor the activities of paramilitary organizations in the area. We were trained to remain discreet and avoid drawing attention to ourselves while gathering information that could potentially prevent violent incidents.

During our tour, we faced numerous challenges, including navigating through areas with known hostility towards British soldiers and supervising controversial security patrols in the neighborhoods. We also had to deal with frequent bomb threats, some of which turned out to be real and required us to evacuate the area quickly.

Despite the challenges, our team successfully fulfilled our mission, collecting valuable intelligence that contributed to maintaining peace in Northern Ireland. Our efforts were recognized, and we were commended for professionalism and efficiency in carrying out our duties.

Looking back, our tour in Northern Ireland was a challenging but rewarding experience. It allowed us to witness firsthand the complexities of peacekeeping efforts in a society torn by political conflict and to gain valuable skills that benefited us throughout our military careers.

EXT. CONDOR BARRACKS, ARBROATH SCOTLAND

The troop sat around in a circle, staring into the flickering flames of the campfire. The night was still and quiet, interrupted only by the occasional crackling of wood in the fire. For a moment, nobody spoke, lost in their own thoughts.

Finally, one of the soldiers spoke up. "Can you believe it's over?" he said, a note of disbelief in his voice. "It feels like it was just yesterday that we landed in Belfast."

There were murmurs of agreement from the rest of the group. It had been a long and difficult tour, filled with danger and uncertainty. But somehow, they had made it through, relying on their training, their wits, and most importantly, each other.

"I'll never forget some of the things we saw," Topsy said, his voice heavy with emotion. "The violence, the hatred...it was hard to believe that people could do such terrible things to each other."

There were nods of understanding all around. They had seen the worst that humanity had to offer, but they had also seen the best. The bravery and resilience of the people they had met had inspired them, even in the darkest of moments.

"It's a testament to our training and teamwork that we were able to complete our mission and return safely," another soldier said, breaking the silence. "But we also know that luck played a role in our survival. The situation in Northern Ireland was so volatile that it could have easily turned deadly at any moment."

There were nods of agreement from everyone. They had been in constant danger, always on the lookout for potential threats. But somehow, they had made it through, and they were all grateful for that.

"We had each other's backs," one soldier said, a note of pride in his voice. "That's what got us through this. We were a team, and we stuck together no matter what."

There were nods of agreement all around. They had been through so much together, and they had emerged stronger for it. They knew that they would never forget the bonds they had formed, even as they went their separate ways.

As the fire burned down to embers, they sat in silence, lost in their own thoughts. It had been a long and difficult journey, but somehow, they had made it through. And as they looked around at each other, they knew that they would always be connected by the experiences they had shared.

