

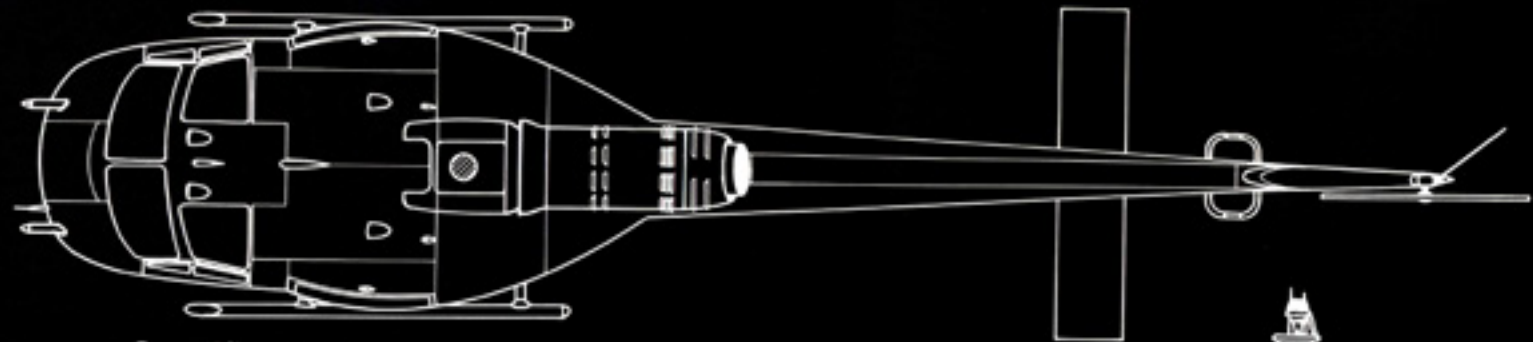
AIRBORNE

AIRBORNE



EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
ROB TAPERT • GIDEON YAGO



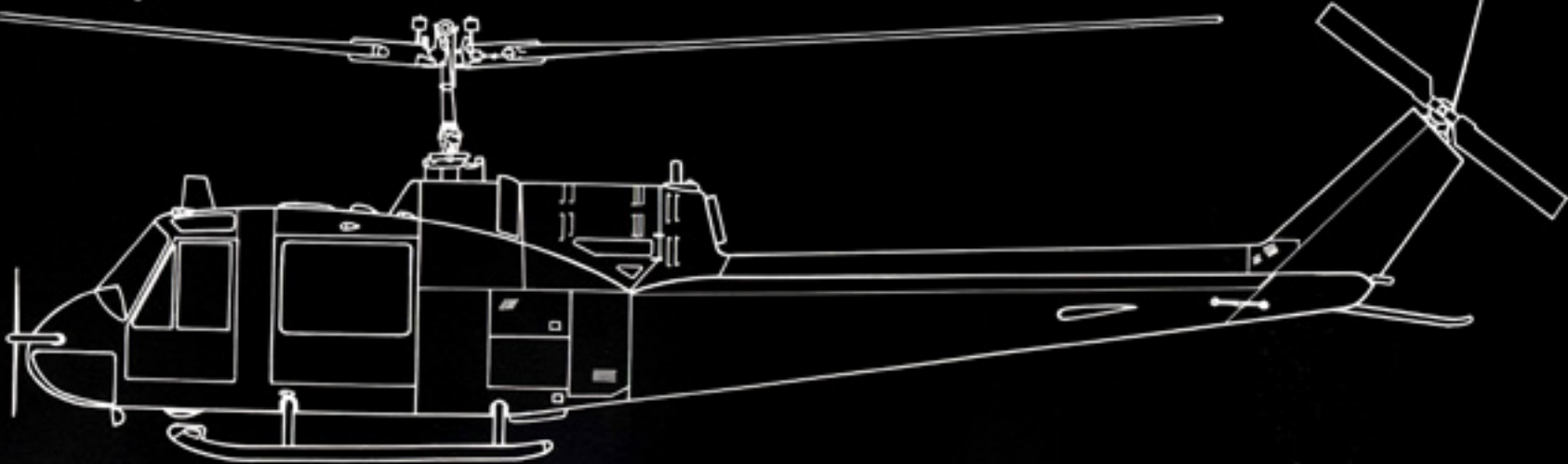


Specifications

UH-1B Iroquois (Huey)

Fuselage Length	38 feet 5 inches
Height	14 feet 7 inches
Empty Weight	4,502 pounds
Maximum Weight	8,500 pounds
Powerplant	Lycoming T-53-L-5 T-53-L-9 T-53-L-11

Performance	
Maximum Speed	138 mph
Hover ceiling out of Ground effect	11,800 feet
Range	288 miles



I KEEP HAVING THE SAME DREAM EVERY NIGHT.



I'M IN MY HOMETOWN
FLYING. HOVERING.

AND I CAN SEE ALL MY FRIENDS THERE
BUT NONE OF THEM CAN SEE ME.

1ST CAVALRY AIRBASE, AN KHE



WE ARE IN THE HEART OF THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS OF VIETNAM. THIS BASE IS THREE WEEKS OLD AND BARELY A SHIT-HOLE. IN THE BACKGROUND AMERICAN SOLDIERS PICK-AXE BUNKERS, DIG AND FILL SANDBAGS TO ESTABLISH A PERIMETER OR TEND TO TWENTY GROUNDED, NEARBY HUEY HELICOPTERS.





CAMERA FLIES WITH 20 HUEY'S ... 16 'SLICKS' LOADED WITH 101 AIRBORNE TROOPERS HANGING OUT THE DOORS.



A LOW-FLYING CONVOY OVER THE HILLY BUT OTHERWISE BUCOLIC VIETNAMESE COUNTRYSIDE.

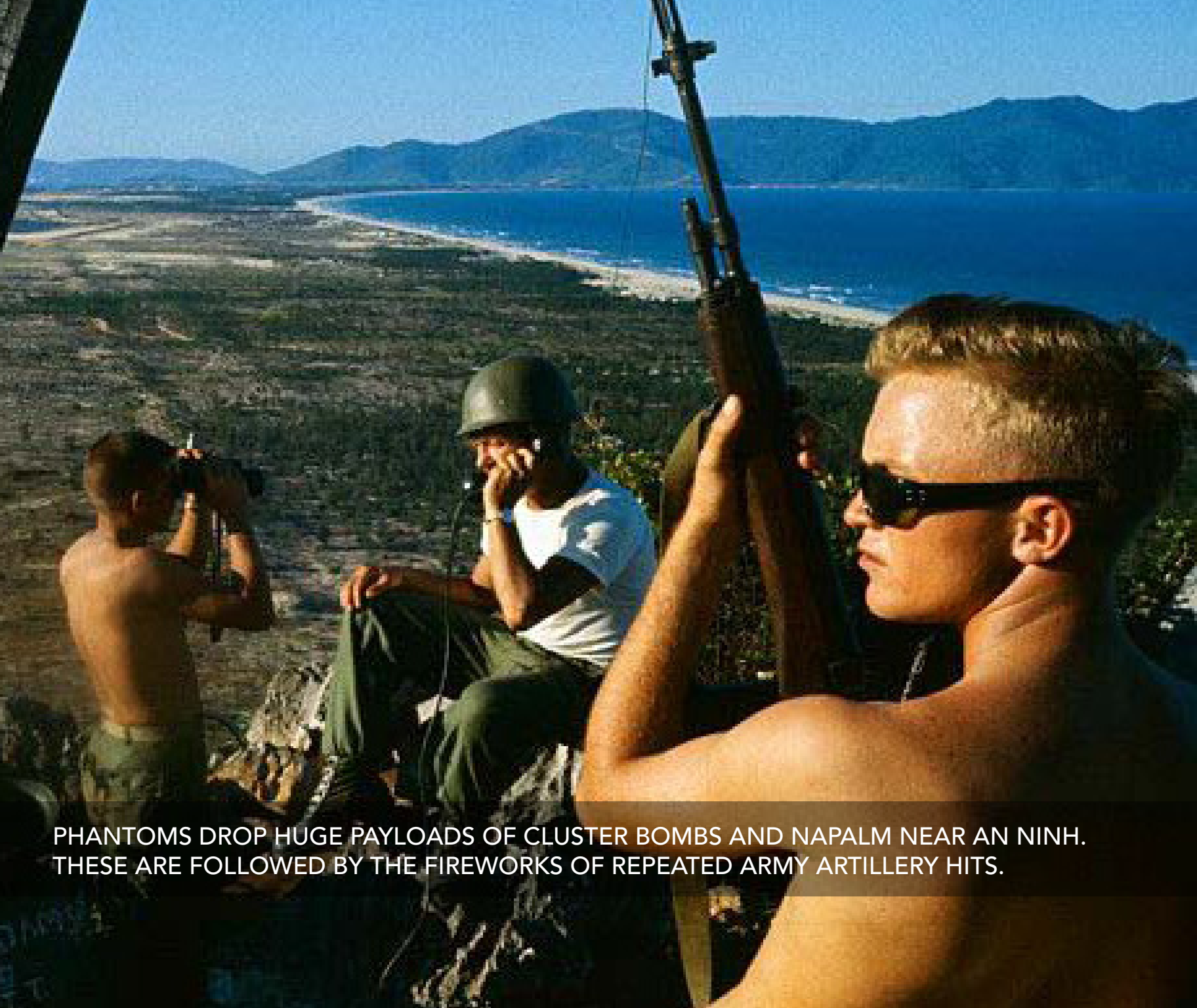




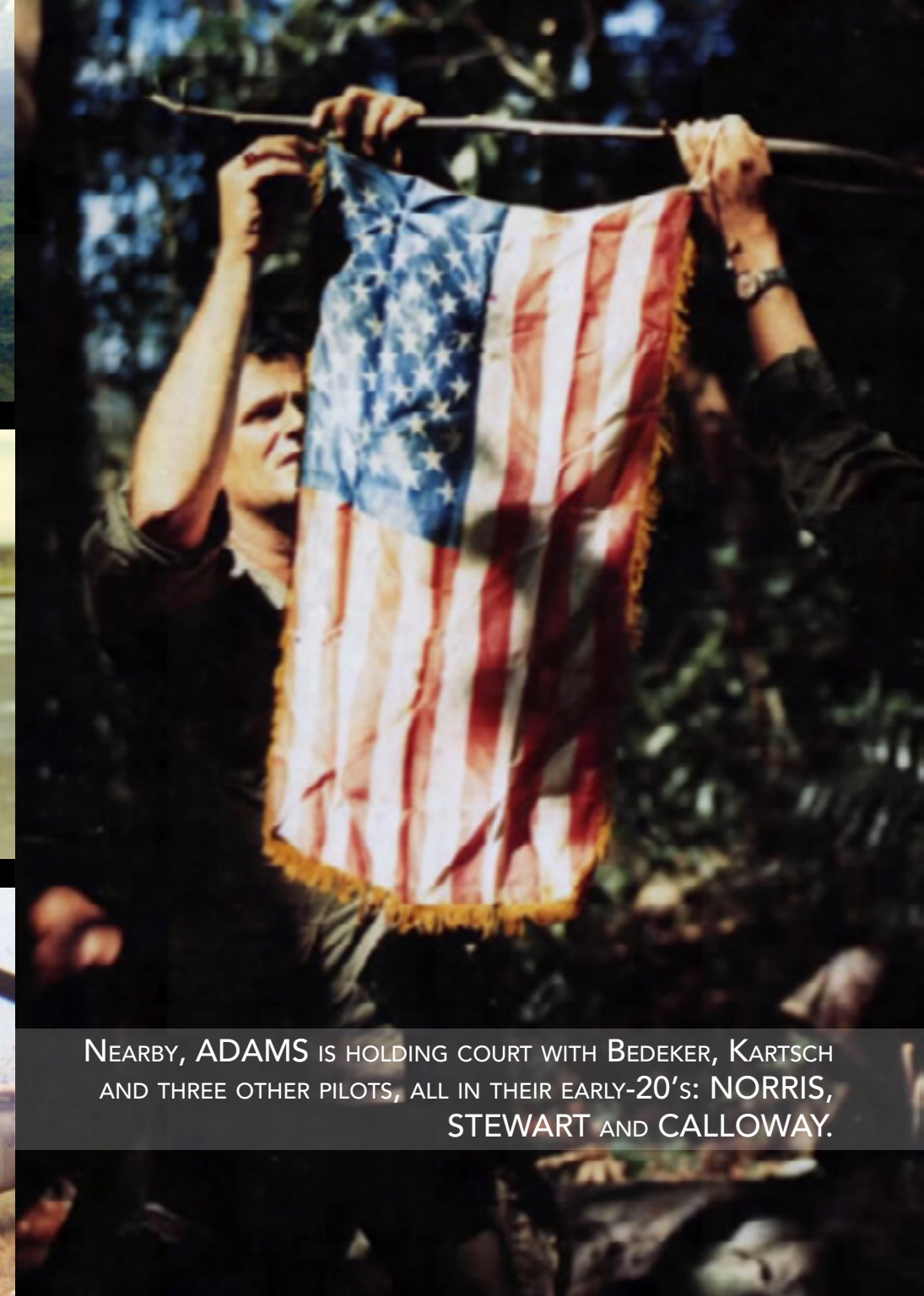
CROSS MANS A .50 CALIBER DOORGUN AND SHOOTS AT MUZZLE FLASHES IN DISTANT PADDY DIKES TO PROVIDE COVER.

A YOUNG VIET CONG GUERRILLA (20's), HIDING IN A 'SPIDER-HOLE' CAMOUFLAGED BY TALL GRASS, CAN SEE SAVIDGE AND ADAMS THROUGH THE PLEXIGLAS IN THE BOTTOM OF THEIR HUEY. THE VIET CONG GUERRILLA COCKS HIS AK-47.





PHANTOMS DROP HUGE PAYLOADS OF CLUSTER BOMBS AND NAPALM NEAR AN NINH. THESE ARE FOLLOWED BY THE FIREWORKS OF REPEATED ARMY ARTILLERY HITS.



NEARBY, ADAMS IS HOLDING COURT WITH BEDEKER, KARTSCH AND THREE OTHER PILOTS, ALL IN THEIR EARLY-20'S: NORRIS, STEWART AND CALLOWAY.

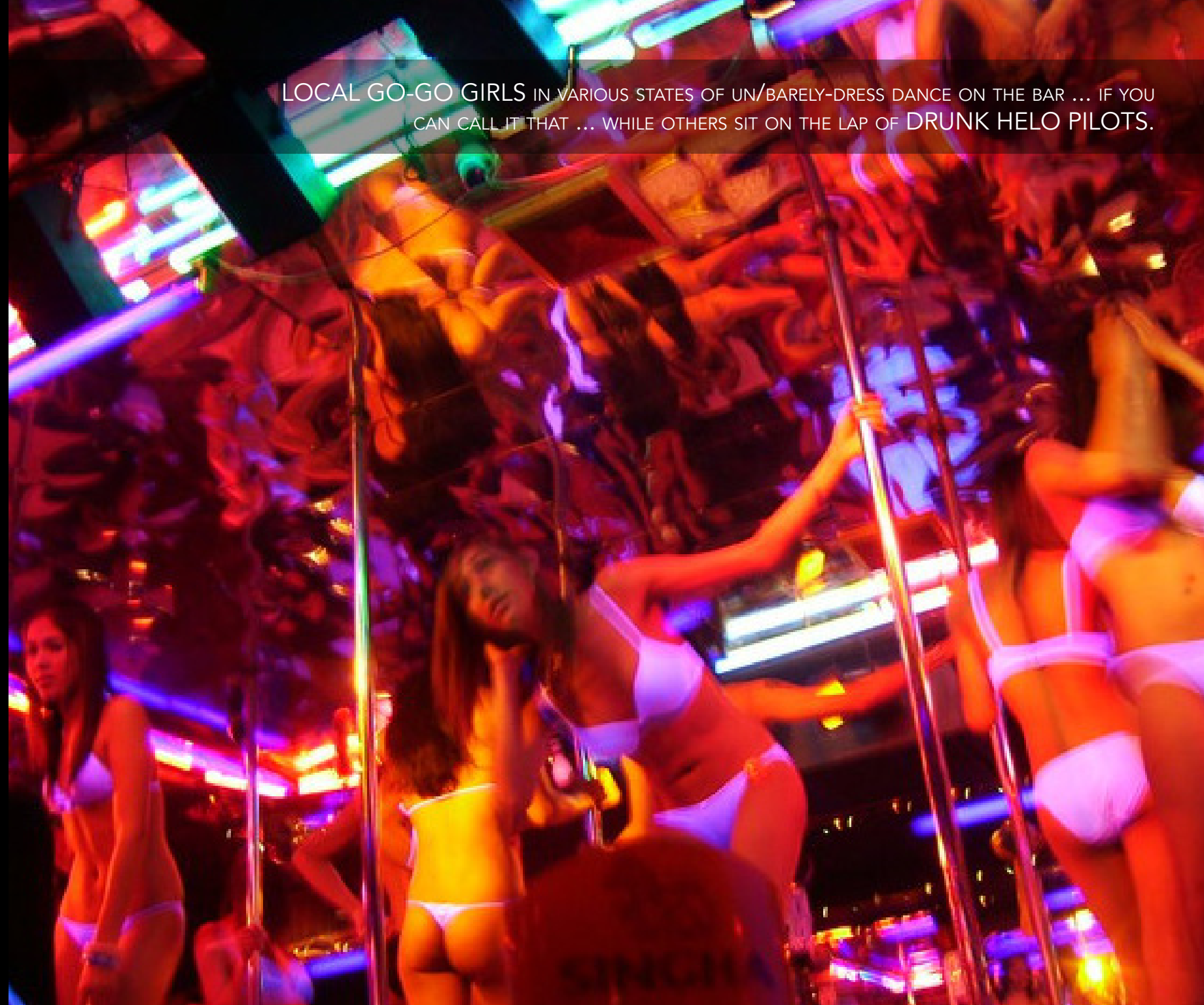


SAVIDGE LOOKS OVER TO THE DOOR OF HIS TENT AND SEES HIS WIFE (GORGEOUS, DRESSED LIKE IN A NORMAN ROCKWELL PAINTING) AND SON STANDING THERE.

BAR, AN KHE VILLAGE

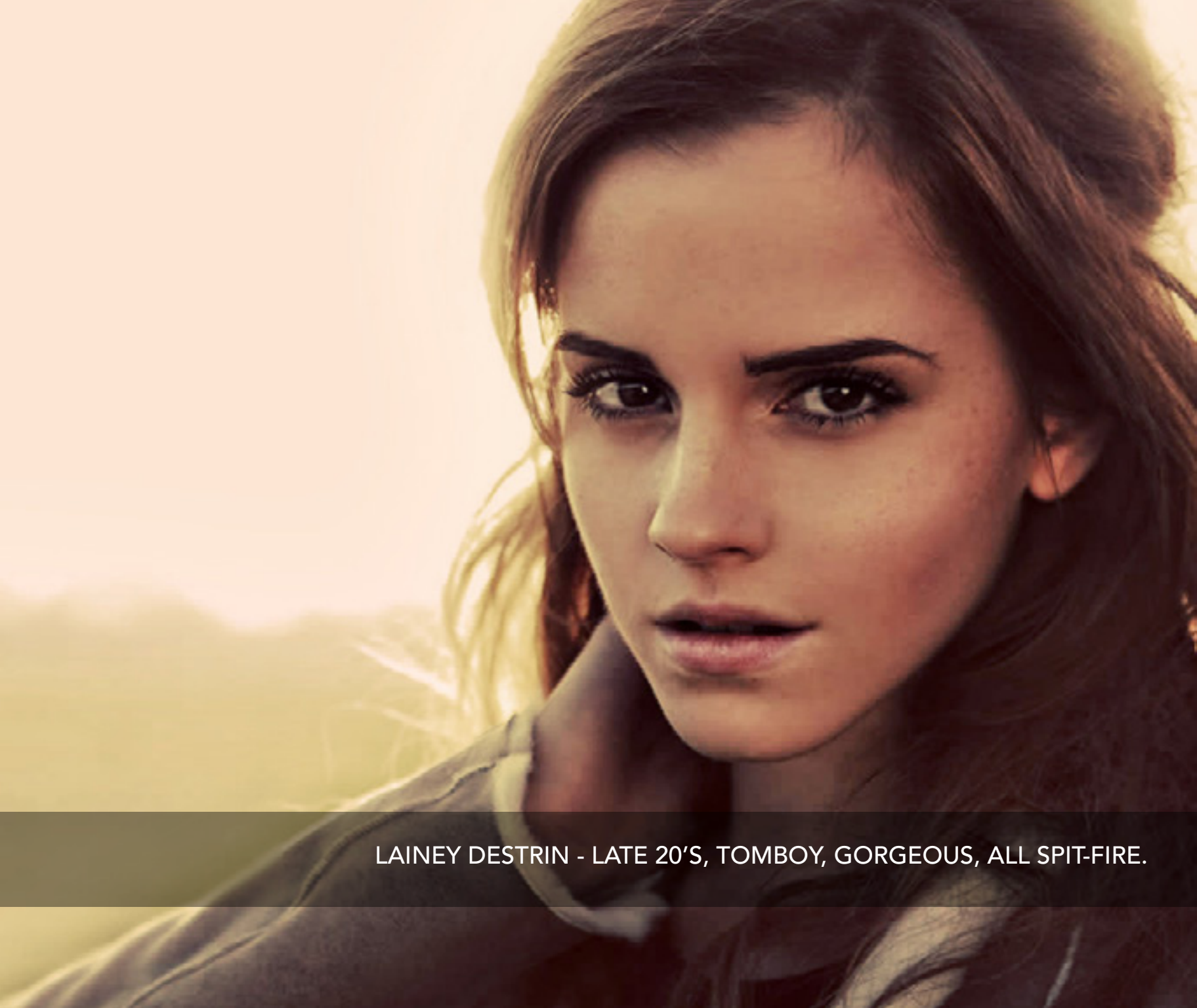


LOCAL GO-GO GIRLS IN VARIOUS STATES OF UN/BARELY-DRESS DANCE ON THE BAR ... IF YOU CAN CALL IT THAT ... WHILE OTHERS SIT ON THE LAP OF DRUNK HELO PILOTS.



THIS IS THE REMAINS OF 'LANDING ZONE GOLD'. TWO DOWNED HUEY'S SMOKE IN THE MORNING FOG. THE AFTERMATH OF A NIGHT OF ARTILLERY AND AIRSTRIKES: A FIELD OF SMOKE, CHAR AND ASH IS EVERYWHERE.





LAINY DESTIN - LATE 20'S, TOMBOY, GORGEOUS, ALL SPIT-FIRE.



SAVIDGE DROPS THE HELICOPTER BACK INTO FORMATION.



"THE REST IS JUST HOLD ON FOR DEAR LIFE."

SAVIDGE, KARTSCH AND CROSS, ALONG WITH THREE OTHER 'SLICK' HUEYS, TOUCH DOWN AT AN AIRBASE.





LAINY AND FRIAR VANH ARE WAITING WITH THE MONTAGNARD REFUGEES AND THE 101 AIRBORNE SERGEANT AND HIS SQUAD. THE WHOOP WHOOP OF AN INCOMING HUEY CAN BE HEARD.

SAVIDGE'S HUEY FLIES THROUGH THE SUNSET OF THE GORGEOUS VIETNAMESE COUNTRYSIDE. ARTILLERY STRIKES CAN BE SEEN BLOWING UP NEAR THE HORIZON NEAR AN NINH.





TROOPERS FROM THE 101 AIRBORNE COMPANY ARE MARCHING SLOWLY INTO TRIPLE CANOPY FOREST.



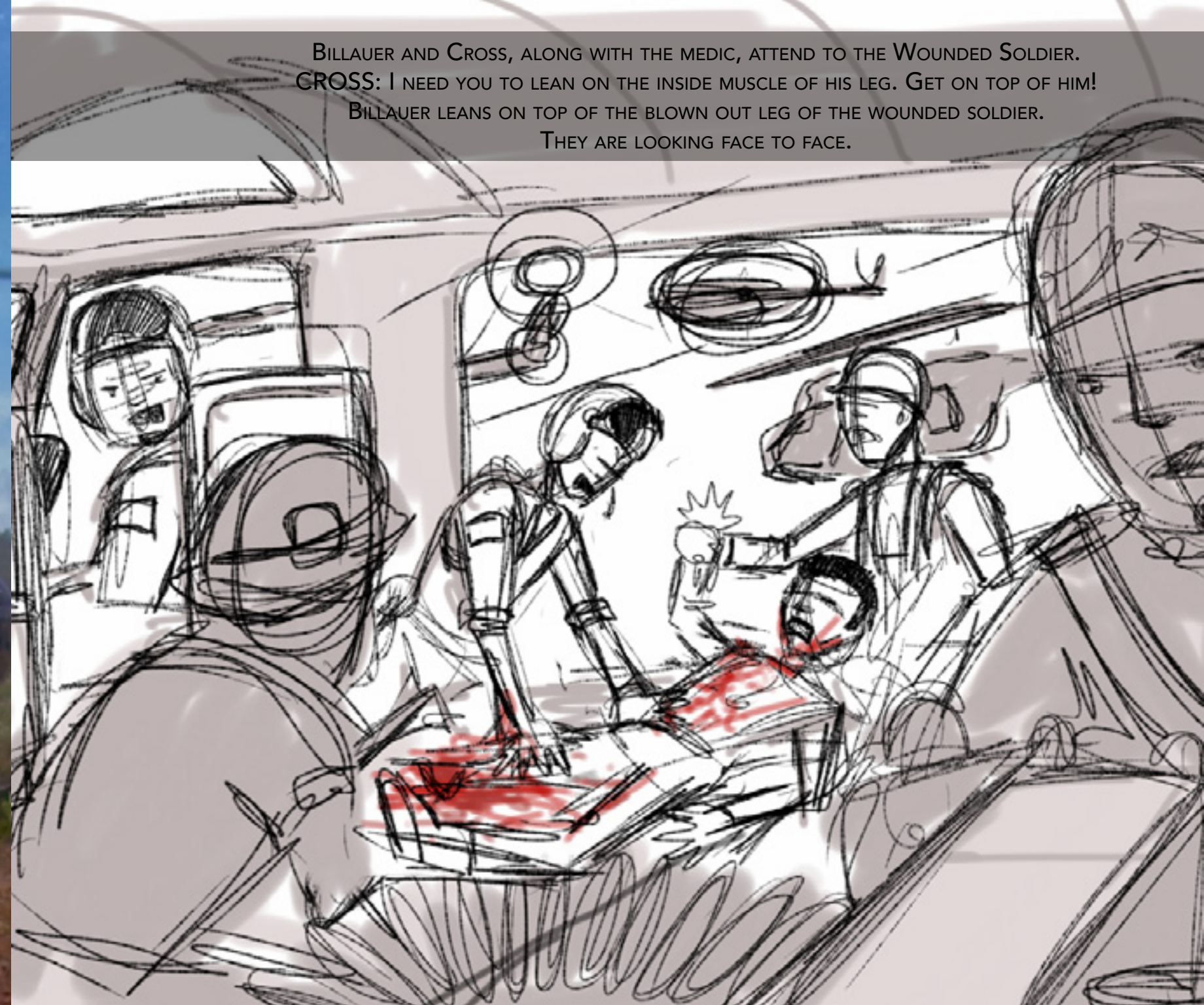
A GIANT C-130 HERCULES FLIES OVERHEAD AND DUMPS A STRING OF FLARES OVER THE FOREST LIKE WILL-O-WISPS, ILLUMINATING EVERYTHING TEMPORARILY.

SAVIDGE AND BILLAUER FLY OVER THE FORMER EDGE OF THE FOREST WHERE THEY JUST WERE. THEY NO LONGER SEE ANY TROOPS ON THE GROUND BUT TRACER FIRE OCCASIONALLY LIGHTS UP THE FOREST FLOOR. THERE IS A FIRE-FIGHT GOING ON UNDERNEATH THEM.





BILLAUER AND CROSS, ALONG WITH THE MEDIC, ATTEND TO THE WOUNDED SOLDIER.
CROSS: I NEED YOU TO LEAN ON THE INSIDE MUSCLE OF HIS LEG. GET ON TOP OF HIM!
BILLAUER LEANS ON TOP OF THE BLOWN OUT LEG OF THE WOUNDED SOLDIER.
THEY ARE LOOKING FACE TO FACE.



WE HEAR THE WHIR OF THE HELICOPTER BLADES SPIN UP SLIGHTLY. ONE OF THE MONTAGNARD CHILDREN JUMPS IN THE AIR AND IS THROWN BACK BY THE ROTOR WASH, WHERE HE ROLLS OVER HIMSELF. IT'S PLAYFULLY. LIKE BEING IN A BOUNCY-HOUSE CASTLE, PLAYING IN ROTOR WASH.





THERE IS AN OVERWHELMING SOUND OF HELICOPTER ROTORS IN THE AIR. EVERYONE AT THE PICNIC TABLE LOOKS UP. THERE ARE 212 HUEYS INBOUND FOR THE GOLF COURSE.

WELL, BOYS, HERE COMES THE CAVALRY.

