

ONCE UPON A TIME IN POKROVSK

COMICS FROM
THE RYBAR TEAM
ISSUE NO. 67
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ADVENTURES IN COUNTRY-404

 @RYBAR





Excerpt from
the operational
summary

A sniper in modern warfare must be incredibly tough — carrying heavy gear, calculating bullet trajectories on the fly, and enduring endless hours in position. Above all, staying unseen is key.

Snipers usually work in pairs — shooter and spotter. They take out high-value targets from concealment but face deadly risks themselves. If the enemy spots them, massive fire follows instantly.

Everything they do follows strict protocol. But in our story, the sniper team callsigns Pioneer and Medved face a crisis that shatters those rules. They'll have to make a brutal choice — reveal their position to save their comrades, or stay hidden and complete the mission...

СОБЕРИТЕ
СЕКРЕТНО

NOVEMBER 2025,
POKROVSK, DPR



Pattern confirmed. Day three. At 05:14:50 – spike in FPV-control frequencies.

Bearing – garage block, sector 4. Duration – matches drone boot and takeoff.



Means the bird's in the nest. Waiting for it to peek out.



Got a heat plume from the pipe, movement behind the wall. Two bodies. One heading to the exit...

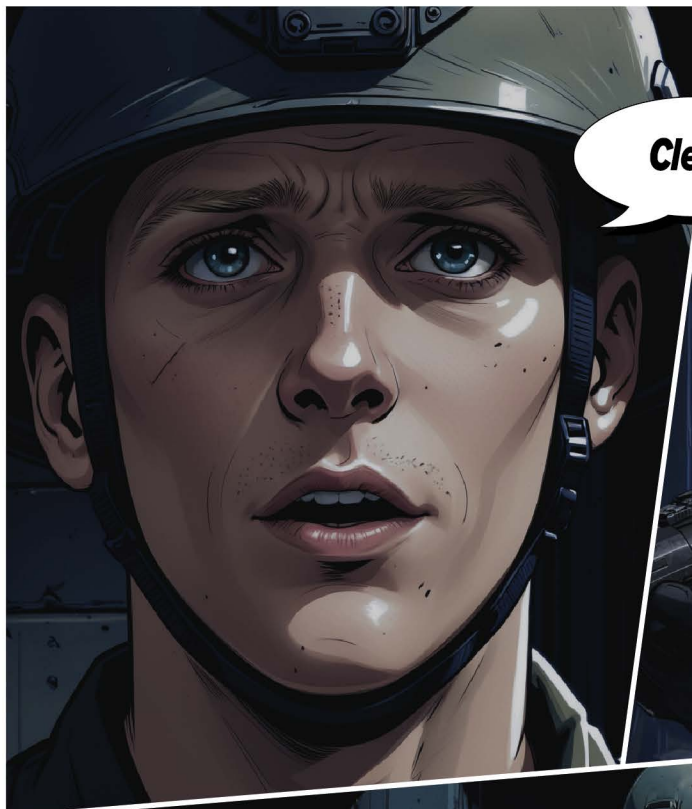


RUSTLE

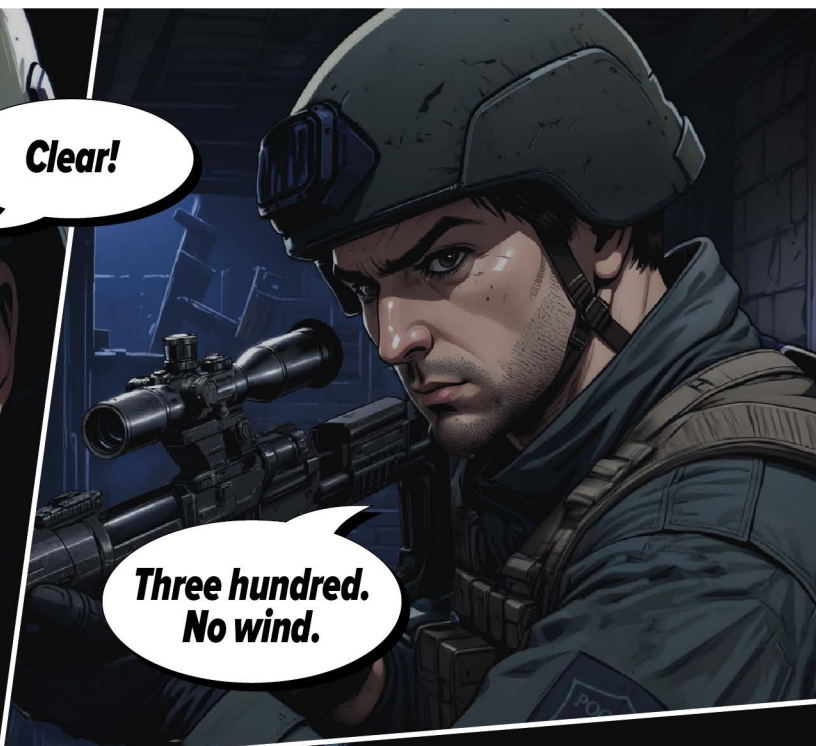
**Contact! Antenna's
up! Operator in the
doorway!**



RUSTLE



Clear!



**Three hundred.
No wind.**



RUSTLE

BANG



AAAH



BACK AT BASE,
REAR AREA OF THE RUSSIAN FORCES



Pioneer, eat. You'll
forget again.

A comic panel showing two soldiers, Pioneer and Medved, sitting at a wooden table in a log cabin. Medved is holding an open metal can of food and offering it to Pioneer, who is looking at it with a neutral expression. Both are wearing green military uniforms and tactical vests.



Thanks,
Medved.

A close-up comic panel of Pioneer. He is looking up and eating from a spoon. The spoon is held by a hand, likely Medved's. Pioneer has a slight smile on his face.



Drink too.
You'll forget that
part.

A comic panel showing Medved holding a metal can filled with a dark liquid, presumably coffee or tea. He is looking directly at Pioneer with a serious expression.



CLICK

A wide comic panel showing Pioneer and Medved at the wooden table. Pioneer is drinking from a metal can, and Medved is holding a small object, possibly a lighter or a small can. There are open food cans on the table. A Russian military patch is visible on Medved's vest.

SOME TIME LATER

**...To everyone.
Data check on the missing
team "Kedr" complete. Our
scouts found the remains.**


**Confirmed — snipers.
Repeating: confirmed,
snipers.**

**Signs show torture.
Captured snipers never make
it to the rear alive. Keep
that in mind.**

**There.
Now it's official.**

**Never doubted it.
It's been in the rules
since day one.**

**Plan "B" then —
not a backup. The only
option.**



**Here's the order.
First — for them. To cut
them off, make them duck.
Last one...**

**The last one's for us.
o end it clean. So they get
nothing. No one alive, no one
dead. Deal?**

**Deal.
First's warning.
Last's period.**

**They won't drag
me off — too tall. Easier
to just shoot me.**

**I won't let
them do it.**

THE NEXT DAY,
ON THE FRONT LINE

**Bird in the air!
Bearing... on us. No,
a bit left. Flying along
the treeline.**

**Visual. Bird.
Scanning... damn. There's
our squad by the edge!
He's tracking them!**

WHIRRRR

**Range
to drone?**

**About 120.
It's hovering, locking on.
My job. Hitting it with a rifle's
waste of ammo.**

**Don't! He'll spot
the flash! Wait till it
moves!**





Won't move. He's sending coords right now. Those boys are dead if I don't.

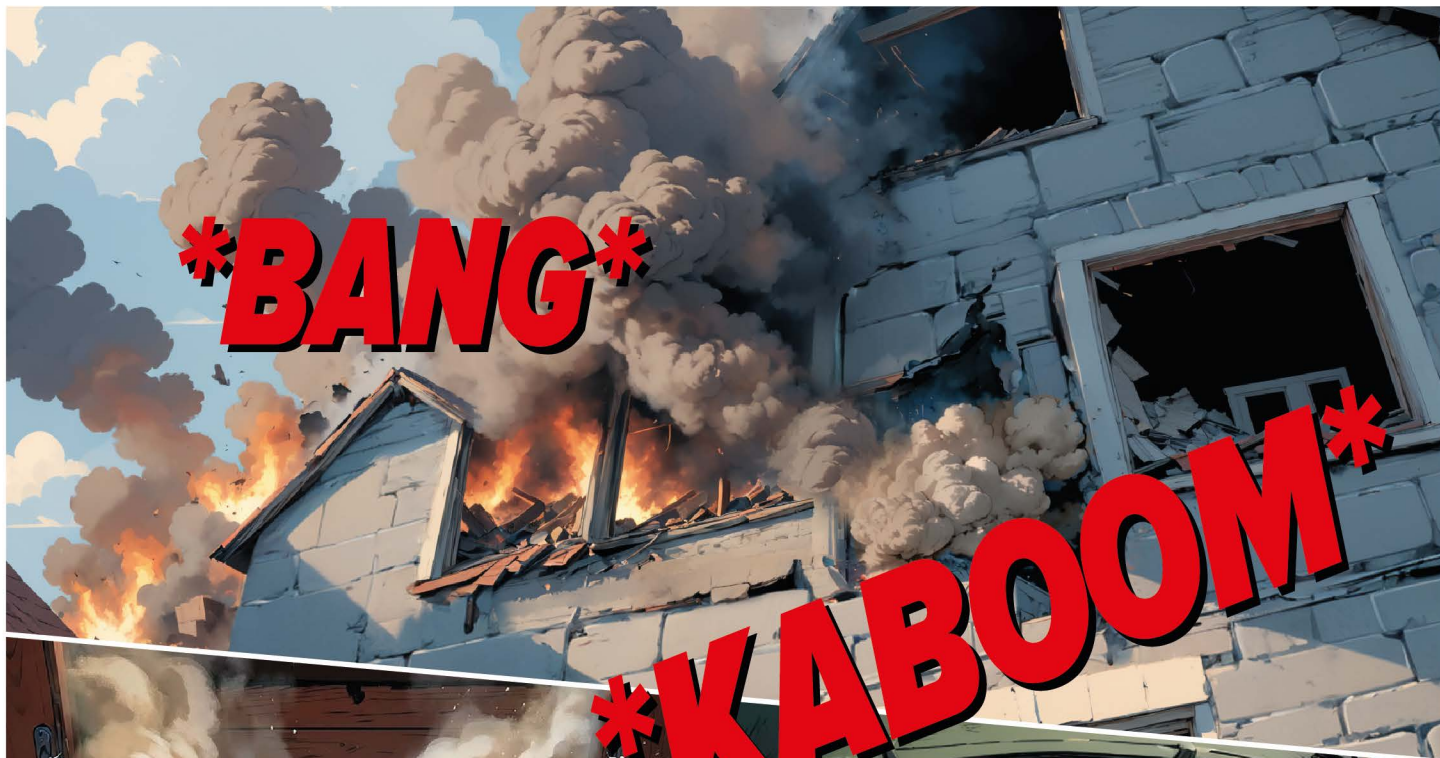
BANG

KABOOM

Got return fix on the shot already! They're lighting up the freq!

But the boys lived. Crawled away in time.

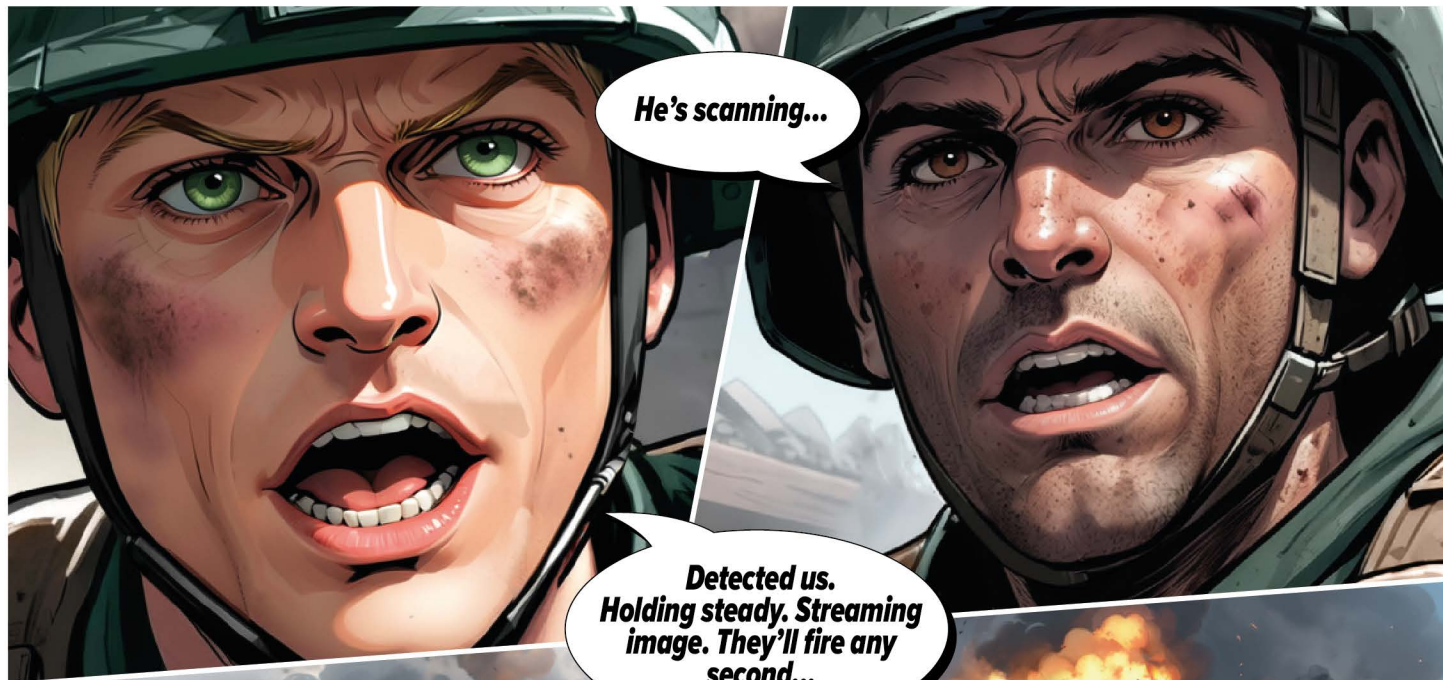
Coords are out! We've got 90 seconds tops! Move!



**Stairs collapsed!
No way down!**

**We'll jump
through the window!**





He's scanning...

Detected us.
Holding steady. Streaming
image. They'll fire any
second...

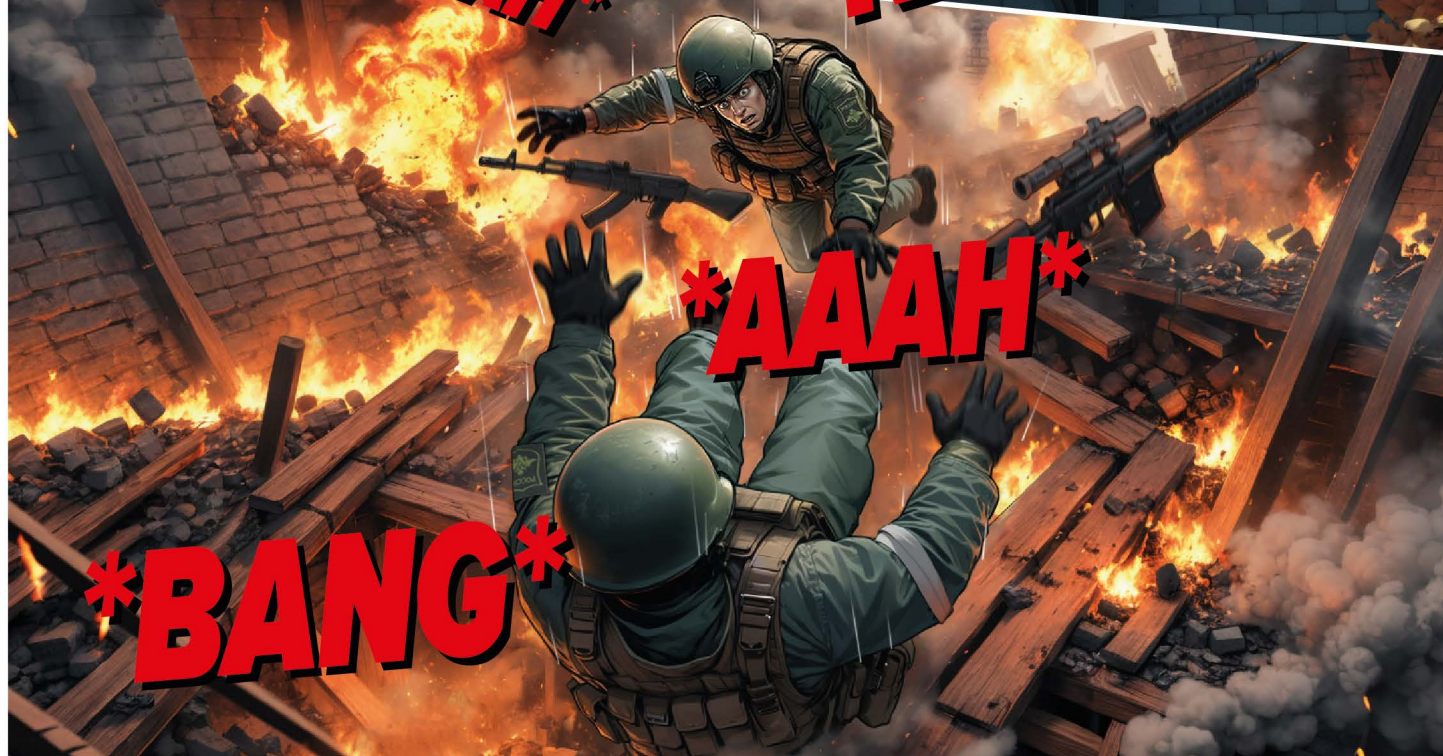
Incoming!
Down!



BANG

AAAH

KABOOM



AAAH

BANG



SOME TIME LATER

**That's it...
I'm pinned, bro.
You won't drag me out.
No escape.**

Hold on. I—

**Don't. Go now,
Tolya! While you can!**

**Misha, I'm not
leaving you!**

**You can't
carry me.**

**I'm staying. If I left you...
I'd never live with it.**

**Then you'll
remember me. Name
your son Misha!**

**Misha, I'm not
afraid.**

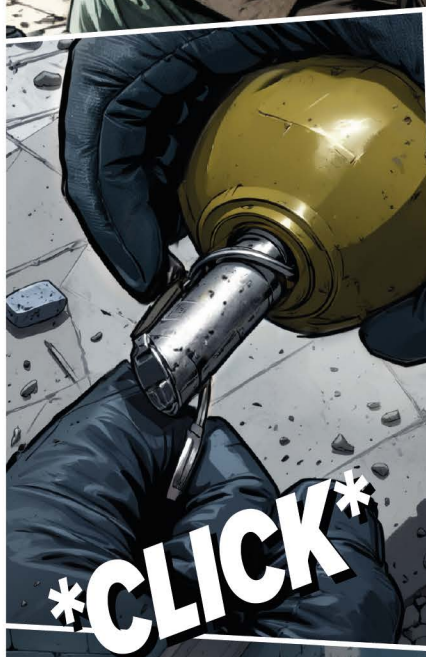
**Plan "B," Tolya.
We made a pact. Don't let
them take us. Neither me
nor you.**

**One blew
off in the collapse.
One left.**





So... no first option then. Just the second. The last one's ours. Period.



CLICK



RUSTLE



CLICK

**One for both.
Together. They'll search me,
open the pouch — and boom,
grenade goes off.**



**Good. Better that
than what they'd do
alive.**



LATER



Take the vest off him.
Might be maps, drives, docs.
Check in the cab.

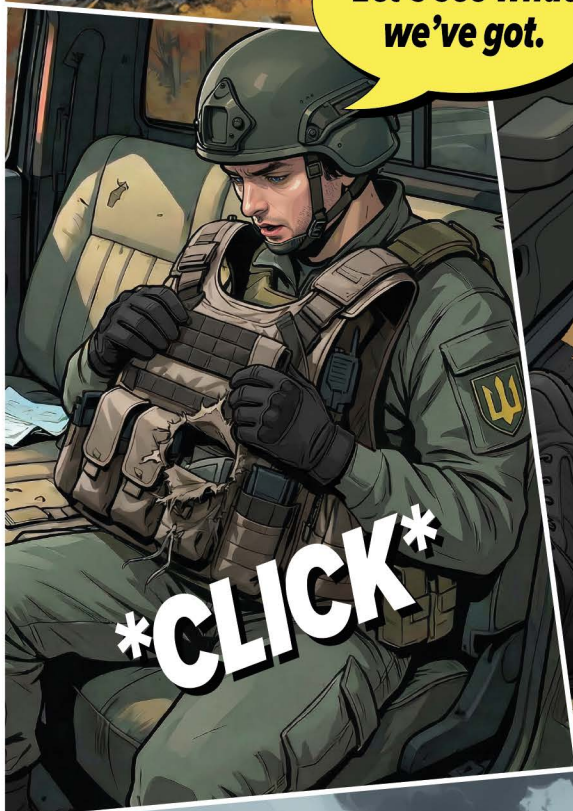


Didn't... didn't go off.
Ironic...





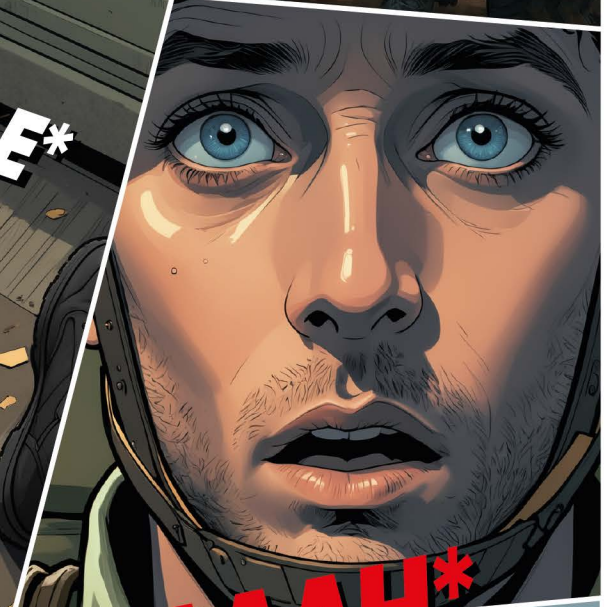
Let's see what we've got.



CLICK



RUSTLE



AAAH



KABOOM



**Medved! You hear that?!
Blew up! Driver's alive but
stunned! Now — move before
he comes to!**





CLICK



**You hear me?
We're crawling out. I'll get
you clear. Got it?**



CLICK

SOME TIME LATER



A soldier in a blue uniform and helmet is crawling through a forest at dusk. He has a determined expression and is looking forward. In the background, another soldier is lying face down on the ground. The ground is covered in fallen leaves and mud.

RUSTLE



A close-up of a soldier's face. He is wearing a helmet and has a distressed expression, looking upwards with his mouth slightly open.

**Tolya...
leave me...**



A close-up of a soldier's face. He is wearing a helmet and has a determined expression, looking forward with his mouth open as if shouting or speaking.

**Quiet... crawl...
follow me...**



**Medved, how you
holding up?**



**Misha,
answer...**



**I'll drag you
anyway!**



**Friendly.
Don't move.**

He alive?

**Alive. Breathing.
Weak pulse.**

**"Base," this is "Sokol."
Copy? We've got friendlies.
One heavily wounded, leg
shattered.**

**Second conscious,
exhausted. Requesting
medevac.**

**Copy. Extraction
inbound. Hold on.**

SHHH



**Saw you on drone
feed — crawling from
the pickup.**

**Thought it was
enemy saboteurs.**

THEIR CHOICE TO PROTECT FELLOW SOLDIERS EXPOSED THEIR POSITION AND LEFT MEDVED CRITICALLY WOUNDED. WHEN THEIR LAST-RESORT PLAN FAILED, PIONEER REFUSED TO ABANDON HIM. BY SHEER DETERMINATION AND CRAWLING TO SAFETY, BOTH SURVIVED.

THEIR ACTIONS PROVED THAT EVEN BEYOND ALL PROTOCOLS, LOYALTY, RESOLVE, AND BROTHERHOOD DEFINE SURVIVAL.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE: ONCE UPON A TIME IN VARVARIVKA



COMING IN JANUARY!

READ ON  @RYBAR



We clarify
the complicated
RYBAR

 @RYBAR

NOT FOR SALE

