OPA Report No. 2020-060 PERSEREC-PA-20-01 April 2020

Unauthorized disclosure–the communication or physical transfer of classified or controlled unclassified information to an unauthorized recipient–is an ongoing national security concern. (DoDM 5200.01)

In collaboration with DoD's Counter-Insider Threat Program and the National Insider Threat Task Force, the Threat Lab created this graphic novel to raise awareness of the harm that unauthorized disclosures may cause and help to prevent these damaging events.

Credits

STORY
David Prina
Brandon Rapoza
Kevin Hughes

CREATIVE DESIGN
Mario Ruiz

ART
David Hahn

PROJECT DIRECTOR
Stephanie L. Jaros

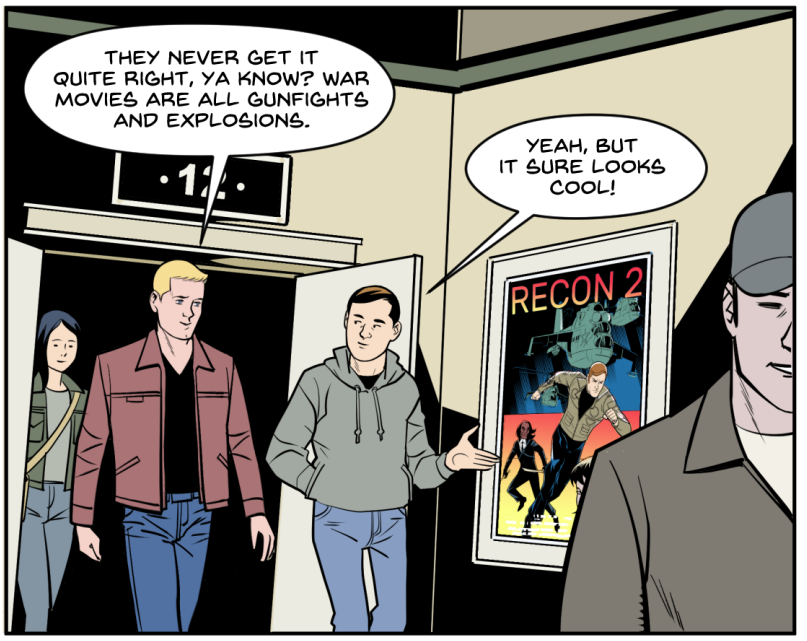
SPONSORS
Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security OUSD(I&S)

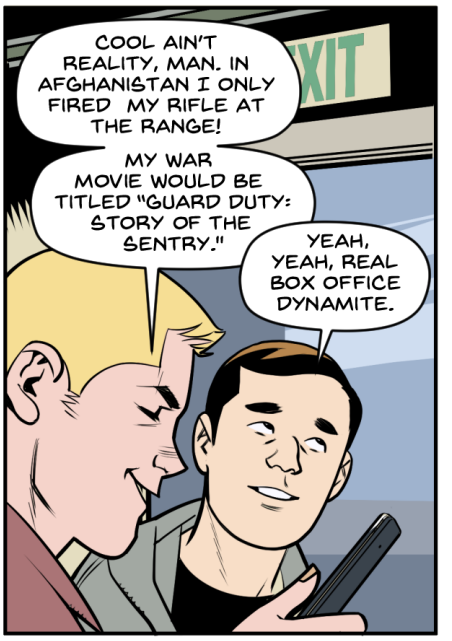
National Insider Threat Task Force (NITTF)

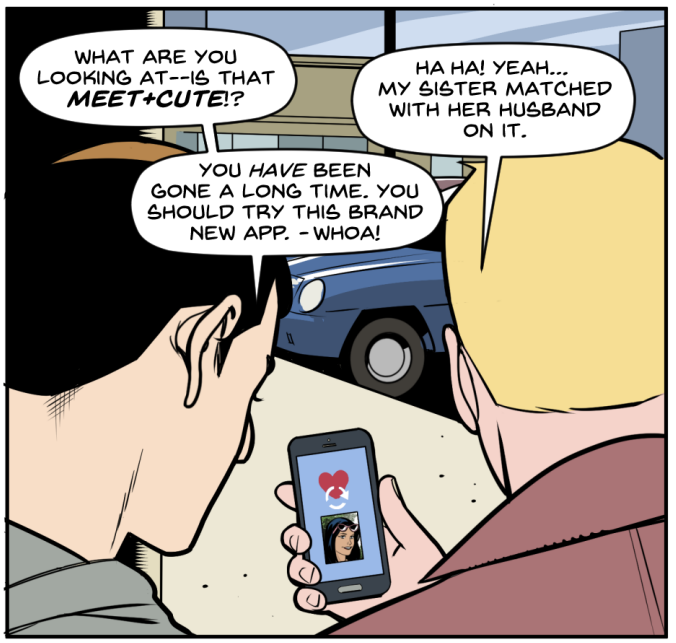
Acknowledgements

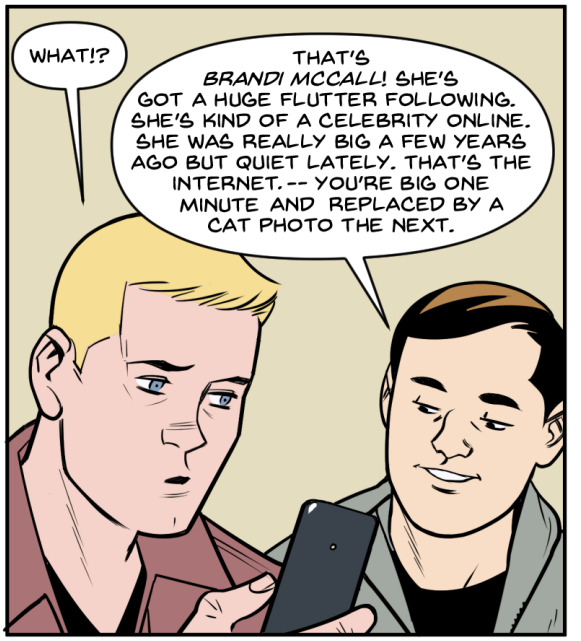
Thank you to those who reviewed early drafts of this graphic novel and shared their time and expertise with us. We appreciate their help in making this a poignant and powerful story!

the ThreatLab
Integrating Research Into Practice


THEY NEVER GET IT QUITE RIGHT, YA KNOW? WAR MOVIES ARE ALL GUNFIGHTS AND EXPLOSIONS.
YEAH, BUT IT SURE LOOKS COOL!
RECON 2

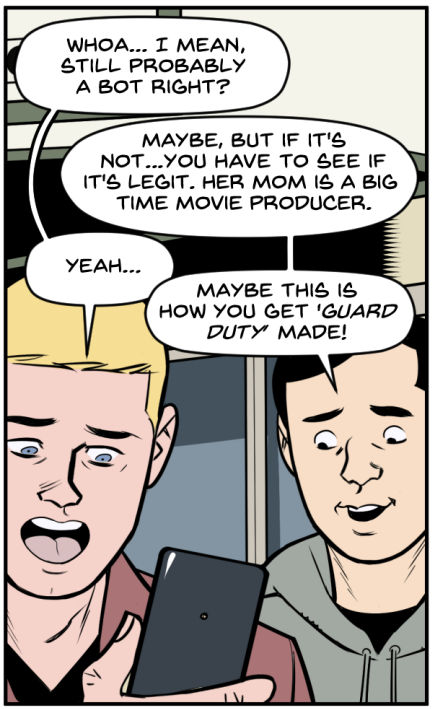

COOL AIN'T REALITY, MAN. IN AFGHANISTAN I ONLY FIRED MY RIFLE AT THE RANGE!
MY WAR MOVIE WOULD BE TITLED "GUARD DUTY: STORY OF THE SENTRY."
YEAH, YEAH, REAL BOX OFFICE DYNAMITE.
EXIT


WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT--IS THAT MEET+CUTE!?
HA HA! YEAH... MY SISTER MATCHED WITH HER HUSBAND ON IT.
YOU HAVE BEEN GONE A LONG TIME. YOU SHOULD TRY THIS BRAND NEW APP. -WHOA!

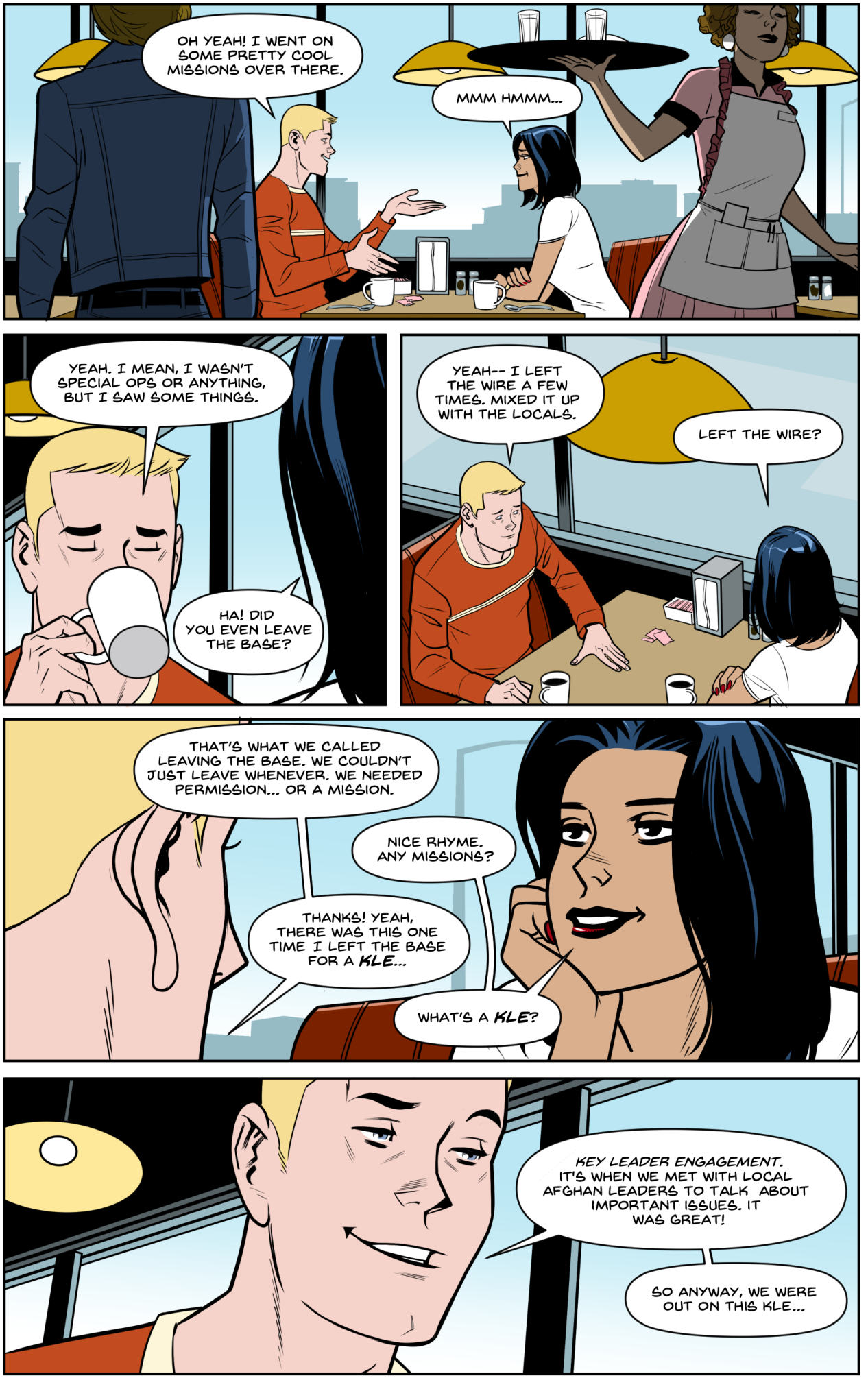

WHAT!?
THAT'S BRANDI MCCALL! SHE'S GOT A HUGE FLUTTER FOLLOWING. SHE'S KIND OF A CELEBRITY ONLINE. SHE WAS REALLY BIG A FEW YEARS AGO BUT QUIET LATELY. THAT'S THE INTERNET. -- YOU'RE BIG ONE MINUTE AND REPLACED BY A CAT PHOTO THE NEXT.

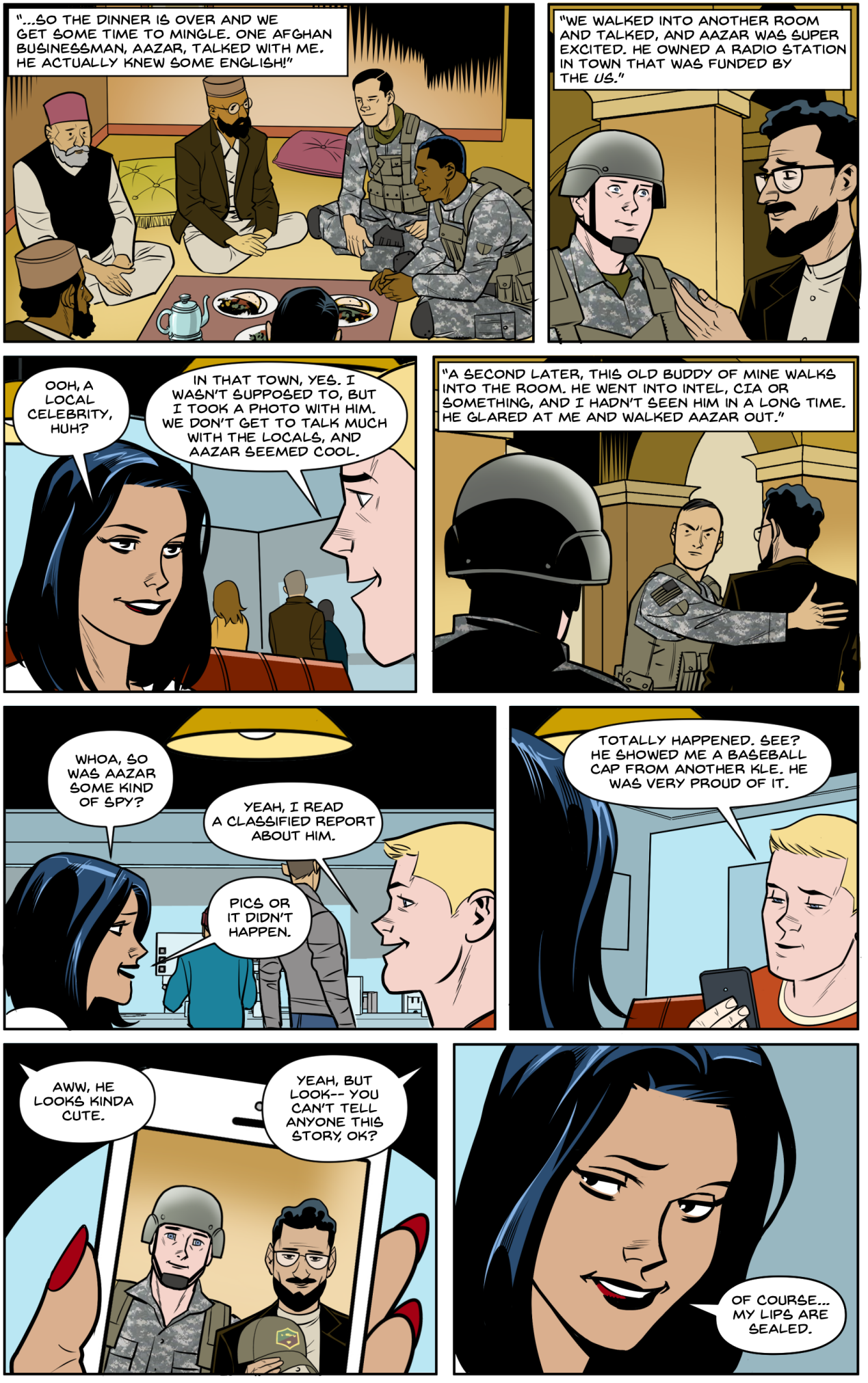
PG-13
NO WAY THAT'S HER--GOTTA BE A FAKE.
YEAH, PROBABLY. SWIPE RIGHT ANYWAY!

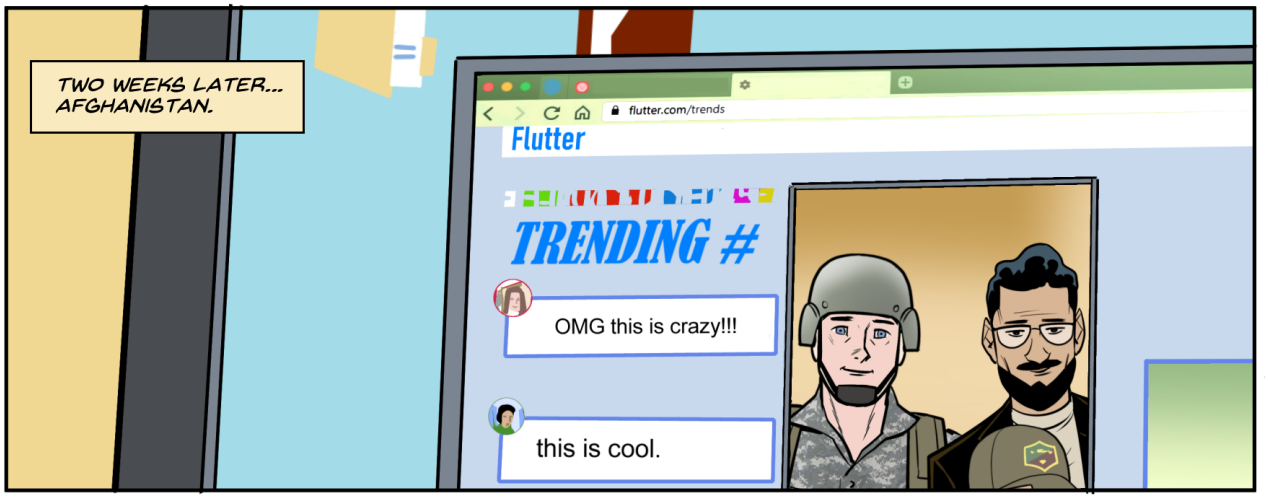
DING!
Brandi wants to connect!


WHOA... I MEAN, STILL PROBABLY A BOT RIGHT?
MAYBE, BUT IF IT'S NOT...YOU HAVE TO SEE IF IT'S LEGIT. HER MOM IS A BIG TIME MOVIE PRODUCER.
YEAH...
MAYBE THIS IS HOW YOU GET 'GUARD DUTY' MADE!

TWO WEEKS LATER....
C J's Diner
...AND SO YOU NEED TO GRAB THE ULTRA POWER-UP BEFORE YOU BEAT THE GAME'S MAIN BOSS.
HE'S GOT THESE HUGE SWORDS THAT...
MMM HMM...
WOW! IT'S GETTING PRETTY LATE...
OH... WELL...I UH... GUESS...
YEAH, I HAVE AN EARLY--
SO...UM... UH...
SO...OH! I HAVE A COUPLE CRAZY STORIES FROM AFGHANISTAN. WANNA HEAR THEM?
AFGHANISTAN? WHERE'S THAT AGAIN?
YOU DON'T...? OK. I GET YOU HAVE YOUR OWN LIFE, BUT THERE'S SO MUCH HAPPENING OVER THERE THAT PEOPLE NEVER HEAR ABOUT. REAL THINGS -- LIFE OR DEATH ALL THE TIME.
LIFE OR DEATH, HUH?


OH YEAH! I WENT ON SOME PRETTY COOL MISSIONS OVER THERE.
MMM HMMM...
YEAH. I MEAN, I WASN'T SPECIAL OPS OR ANYTHING, BUT I SAW SOME THINGS.
HA! DID YOU EVEN LEAVE THE BASE?
YEAH-- I LEFT THE WIRE A FEW TIMES. MIXED IT UP WITH THE LOCALS.
LEFT THE WIRE?
THAT'S WHAT WE CALLED LEAVING THE BASE. WE COULDN'T JUST LEAVE WHENEVER. WE NEEDED PERMISSION... OR A MISSION.
NICE RHYME. ANY MISSIONS?
THANKS! YEAH, THERE WAS THIS ONE TIME I LEFT THE BASE FOR A KLE...
WHAT'S A KLE?
KEY LEADER ENGAGEMENT. IT'S WHEN WE MET WITH LOCAL AFGHAN LEADERS TO TALK ABOUT IMPORTANT ISSUES. IT WAS GREAT!
SO ANYWAY, WE WERE OUT ON THIS KLE...

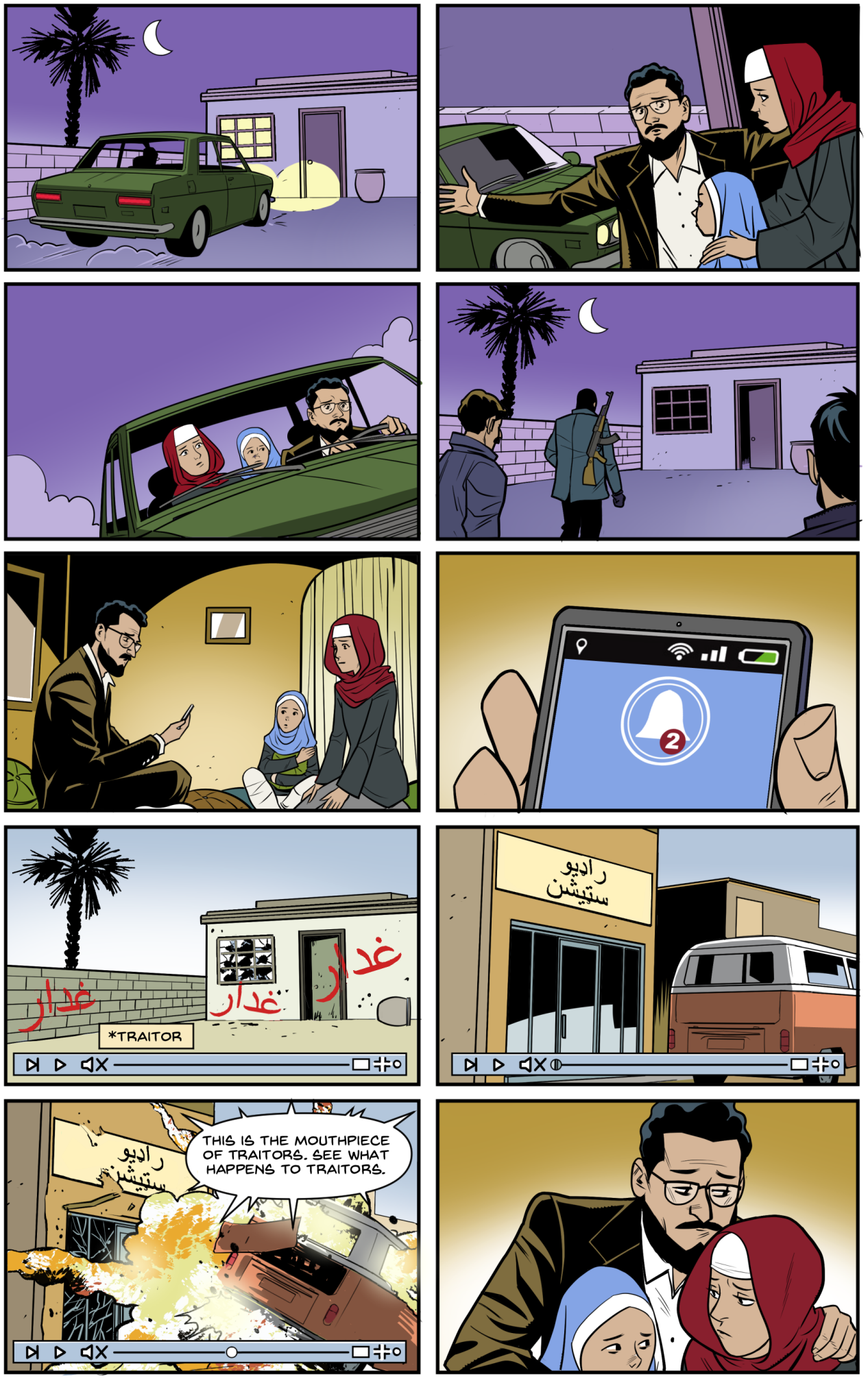

"...SO THE DINNER IS OVER AND WE GET SOME TIME TO MINGLE. ONE AFGHAN BUSINESSMAN, AAZAR, TALKED WITH ME. HE ACTUALLY KNEW SOME ENGLISH!"
"WE WALKED INTO ANOTHER ROOM AND TALKED, AND AAZAR WAS SUPER EXCITED. HE OWNED A RADIO STATION IN TOWN THAT WAS FUNDED BY THE US."
OOH, A LOCAL CELEBRITY, HUH?
IN THAT TOWN, YES. I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO, BUT I TOOK A PHOTO WITH HIM. WE DON'T GET TO TALK MUCH WITH THE LOCALS, AND AAZAR SEEMED COOL.
"A SECOND LATER, THIS OLD BUDDY OF MINE WALKS INTO THE ROOM. HE WENT INTO INTEL, CIA OR SOMETHING, AND I HADN'T SEEN HIM IN A LONG TIME. HE GLARED AT ME AND WALKED AAZAR OUT."
WHOA, SO WAS AAZAR SOME KIND OF SPY?
YEAH, I READ A CLASSIFIED REPORT ABOUT HIM.
PICS OR IT DIDN'T HAPPEN.
TOTALLY HAPPENED. SEE? HE SHOWED ME A BASEBALL CAP FROM ANOTHER KLE. HE WAS VERY PROUD OF IT.
AWW, HE LOOKS KINDA CUTE.
YEAH, BUT LOOK-- YOU CAN'T TELL ANYONE THIS STORY, OK?
OF COURSE... MY LIPS ARE SEALED.


TWO WEEKS LATER...
AFGHANISTAN.
flutter.com/trends
Flutter
TRENDING #
OMG this is crazy!!!
this is cool.

Posted 2 weeks ago
by Brandi McCall

TRENDIN
Newsr
WAZAP?
NeeNu
I.D.

ریڈیو
سٹیشن

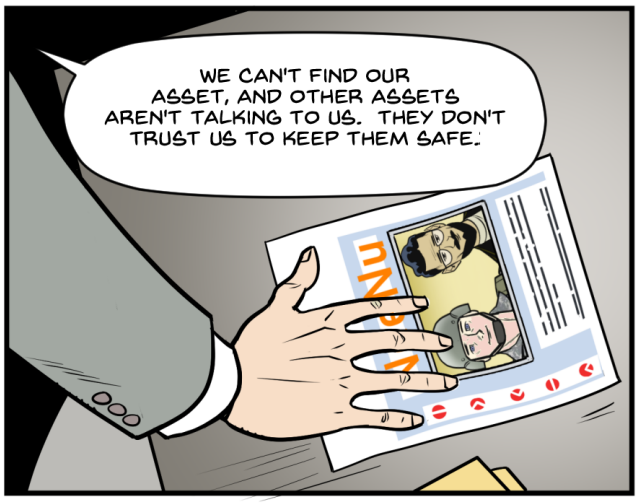

غدار
غدار
غدار
*TRAITOR
راديو ستيشن
راديو ستيشن
THIS IS THE MOUTHPIECE OF TRAITORS. SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO TRAITORS.

HELLO?
HUNTER MAISLEY! REPORT TO BASE IMMEDIATELY. WE NEED TO TALK.

SIR?
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH TROUBLE YOU'RE IN?

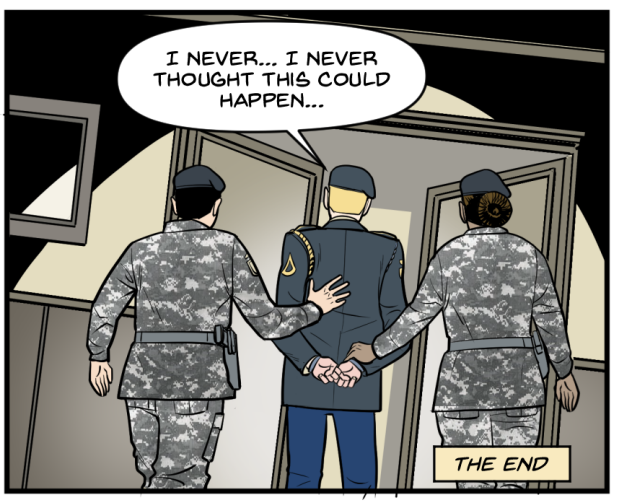
HUNTER MAISLEY-- YOU'RE UNDER ARREST.

WE WERE TIPPED OFF FROM THE FIELD THAT SOMEONE LEAKED AN ASSET'S IDENTITY.
IT WASN'T HARD TO FIND OUT WHO...


WE CAN'T FIND OUR ASSET, AND OTHER ASSETS AREN'T TALKING TO US. THEY DON'T TRUST US TO KEEP THEM SAFE.

HUNTER MAISLEY, YOU'VE BEEN CONVICTED OF THE UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION. YOU WILLFULLY VIOLATED THE TRUST THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PLACED IN YOU. YOU ENDANGERED U.S. PERSONNEL AND NATIONAL SECURITY. AND YOU PUT LIVES AT RISK.

IF YOU HAD TAKEN SECURITY SERIOUSLY, YOU'D STILL BE WEARING THAT UNIFORM TOMORROW. INSTEAD, YOU'LL BE WEARING A VERY DIFFERENT UNIFORM FOR THE NEXT FEW YEARS.


I NEVER... I NEVER THOUGHT THIS COULD HAPPEN...
THE END

The Threat Lab: A Brief History

The Defense Personnel and Security Research Center (PERSEREC) founded The Threat Lab in 2018 to realize the DoD Counter-Insider Threat Program Director's vision to incorporate the social and behavioral sciences into the mission space. Our team is headquartered in Seaside, California, and includes psychologists, sociologists, policy analysts, computer scientists, and other subject matter experts committed to workforce protection.

Our business model is simple: We work with stakeholders to transform operational challenges into actionable research questions. We then design and execute research projects that result in accessible, concise findings and recommendations that we integrate into training and awareness materials for organizations to use as-is or customize for their own purposes.

For more information or to request a briefing, please email us at
dodhra.ThreatLab@mail.mil