

# AGE OF HEROES

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AGE OF HEROES

by  
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HISTORICAL MONTAGE:

British Expeditionary Force going to aid of France.

Nazi Blitzkrieg into France

British Expeditionary Force is in disarray and in retreat - heading for the coast / Dunkirk.

(Ironic sound track - 'Rule Britannia')

CAPTION ON SCREEN:

'The following story is based on real events.'

EXT. BELGIUM/FRANCE BORDER - DAY

Four bedraggled British soldiers are crouched in a ditch, weapons at the ready, but scared - at a loss without their leader.

There is the crackle of gunshots in the distance.

Private SMITH puffs nervously on a cigarette and peers apprehensively above the ditch looking for someone.

SMITH

Where the hell is he?

SOLDIER # 1

He should've left Jim. He's bloody done for.

SMITH

Shut up! It'd be a different story if it was you laying there bleeding... Rains wouldn't leave a mate.

SOLDIER # 1

(close to tears)

We're lost too. Now we'll never get to the sodding coast...

Smith grabs the soldier.

SMITH

Quiet!

Increased sound of gunfire and Smith scans the tree line.

The sound of heavy and tortured breathing as a pair of muddy boots races through the undergrowth - the ground around being ripped up by sporadic shots.

SMITH (CONT'D)

Covering fire!

RAINS a tough young corporal is carrying a wounded comrade over his shoulder. Blood is seeping over both their uniforms. RAINS is panting, exhausted but grim faced.

The four soldiers look through their sights and start to fire on the advancing Nazis who are trying to shoot RAINS.

RAINS zigzags and goes to ground.

The four Brits go quiet.

SOLDIER # 1  
Christ - he's hit.

Two Germans approach the spot where RAINS went down.

RAINS rolls stands up and shoots one in the belly. He folds in half.

SMITH shoots the other with his Lee Enfield Rifle.

RAINS then starts his dash for the ditch.

He makes it in a cloud of dust. He stares at the others, eyes wild with adrenaline. The horrors of war etched on his face.

RAINS heaves his mate gently onto the ground and starts first aid. The dying man has a sucking chest wound and is wheezing up blood bubbles. The others look on in horror.

Smith scans the tree line.

SMITH  
Bob we got a go mate... before the others come.

RAINS  
Not 'til he's patched up. Just watch your arcs.

The young soldiers take up positions.

RAINS continues to covers the wound with a cover of the bandage and applies a field dressing, turning him over to save the lung.

The soldier chokes and more blood spills out. RAINS keeps working to save him. His face contorting with frustration as he watches the life leaving the soldier.

RAINS (CONT'D)  
Stay with me... come on mate...

CUT TO:

EXT. BELGIUM/FRANCE BORDER - TREE LINE - CONTINUOUS

Four more German soldiers break the tree line and go to ground - they are just the forerunners. Ten more start to advance from the flank. The British soldiers open fire.

SMITH

We're gonn'a get cut off Bob.

RAINS looks at the face of the dead soldier and rips off his dog tags - stuffing them in his jacket pocket.

RAINS picks up his rifle and looks into the faces of the four soldiers - they look at him like frightened children.

RAINS

Follow me.

Rains heads off at a crouch through tree line and his four men follow on.

CUT TO:

EXT. BELGIUM/FRANCE BORDER - FOREST - CONTINUOUS

They race along the sound of aircraft overhead.

RAINS makes a signal for them to go to ground. He gets out his compass, and indicates East.

SOLDIER # 2

We're lost. I knew it. We'll never get back. We're dead.

RAINS gives him a withering glare.

SMITH

Cut it out, you twillip.

RAINS studies a small map. He then briefs his men.

RAINS

Right... we've got about another ten miles to the coast. Then it's all aboard the good ship Britannia and home. Got to keep our heads boys. Don't lose it now - we've come too far. Stay alert, look sharp and we'll get through this... alright?

The four men slowly nod.

RAINS (CONT'D)  
We'll get into cover when we're  
away from that lot and then rest  
up. We'll move on at nightfall...  
Any questions?

The men shake their heads.

RAINS (CONT'D)  
I'll take point. Lets bash on!

RAINS looks at their miserable faces and gives a cheeky grin.

RAINS (cont'd) (CONT'D)  
Come on you lot - we'll be in the  
Pub tomorrow night having a bloody  
beer!

SMITH forces a grin.

SMITH  
Whose round is it?

RAINS  
Yours! Take tail end Charlie.

SMITH moves to the back of the group and watches the rear.

RAINS makes a quick scan of the ground ahead and sets off at  
a brisk pace, the troops following on.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRENCH WOODS - NIGHT

The troops are kipping against trees - all except RAINS who  
is keeping watch.

There is the sound of distant bombardment.

He searches in his pocket for his cigarettes and pulls out a  
crumpled packet of Woodbines - there is only one left.

He puts the packet back in his pocket and delves into his  
other pocket - he pulls out a bunch of dog-tags, and starts  
to sift morosely through them.

He looks up at the moon, gets out the last cigarette and  
lights up, cupping it furtively in his hand to shield the  
light. He looks over at his troops sleeping. His face showing  
the responsibility he is feeling for their lives.

The cigarette finished he grinds it out and shakes the troops  
awake.

RAINS  
(whisper)  
Time to go.

The troops gather their kit and move slowly off towards the sound of the bombardment.

They move stealthily through the woods until there is the sound of a vehicle.

RAINS makes the signal for the troops to go to ground. He crawls on his belly to the edge of the tree-line and stops.

He strains his eyes - troops are moving: British Troops.

He gives the thumbs up sign to his men and starts to advance.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROYAL MILITARY POLICE CHECKPOINT - FRANCE - NIGHT

There is a group of Royal Military Police(blue caps)standing at a checkpoint. Two soldiers and a stern faced Captain.

They grow nervous as RAINS and his men appear out of the trees.

RMP SOLDIER  
Halt! Advance one and be  
recognised.

RAINS advances one pace and stops.

RAINS  
Bloody 'ell. Are we glad to see you  
lot!

RMP CAPTAIN  
Identify yourself!

RAINS  
Corporal: Bob Rains.

RMP CAPTAIN  
Don't get all slack with me -  
unit?

RAINS  
Two Platoon, B Company, West  
Kents...Sir

RMP CAPTAIN  
Whose in command?

RAINS  
Me I suppose...

RMP CAPTAIN  
Where's your platoon commander?

RAINS  
Dead, Sir.

RMP CAPTAIN  
Platoon sergeant?

RAINS nods grimly - yes, him too.

RAINS  
Got any grub? My men haven't eaten  
in days.

The RMP Captain shakes his head.

RMP CAPTAIN  
No. But we have a job for you lot.  
Report to the Company Sergeant  
Major. We're setting up an ambush.

RAINS looks at him as if he's a lunatic, the men start to  
groan.

RAINS  
Ambushing who exactly, Sir?

The Captain looks at Rains as if he is addressing an idiot.

RMP CAPTAIN  
You do know there's a war on?

RAINS  
Absolutely Sir! It's just we're off  
to Dunkirk...

RMP CAPTAIN  
(shaking his head)  
No... your taking part in the  
ambush! I have orders to hold the  
line...

RAINS  
... But orders is orders sir and we  
was given orders...

The Captain incensed.

RMP CAPTAIN  
... AND I am giving you an order.  
What sort of soldier are you?

RAINS  
A homesick one. But I am a soldier.  
And with respect Sir... your just a  
copper!



The Captain cant believe his ears. The young troopers try to hide their smirks. Smith looks worried. Rains looking serious.

RAINS (CONT'D)  
Now we're off to Dunkirk - those  
were our last orders from our  
Sergeant.

The RMP CAPTAIN grins maliciously.

RMP CAPTAIN  
You're staying right here and you  
will fight. Or you'll be arrested.

RAINS  
We're done fighting for the time  
being sir - Come on boys.

Rains makes to leave.

The Captain signals. Two RMP SOLDIERS level their rifles at RAINS. He faces up to the RMP Soldiers. A stand off ensues. RAINS almost encouraging the RMP to shoot. The RMP look very distressed, quite clearly uncomfortable pointing weapons at a British soldier.

SMITH  
Easy Bob.

Rains looks at his men and then at the Captain. His tense face relaxing into a smile.

RAINS  
Come on, Sir. Live to fight another  
day and all that. There's no  
stopping them bastards now...

He takes the dog tags from his pocket.

RAINS (CONT'D)  
We stay here... we ain't gonn'a  
make it. Believe me...

The RMP Captain walks over to Rains. His stare never leaving Rains.

RMP CAPTAIN  
You're deserters, aren't you!  
Bloody cowards - I should have you  
shot...

Without hesitation RAINS decks the CAPTAIN. The troopers overpower the two RMP Soldiers.

The RMP CAPTAIN un-clips his pistol and points it at RAINS, who remains calm.

RMP CAPTAIN (CONT'D)  
Your under arrest...

The sound of German orders being barked disrupts the scrap.

RAINS  
Save your ammo Captain - you're  
gonn'a need it for your ambush.

Tracer bullets start whipping through the night. The RMP  
contingent leg it into cover.

RAINS and his men return fire. Rains

RAINS (CONT'D)  
Follow me.

The Brits withdraw into the trees, legging it towards the  
coast.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. DUNKIRK - DAWN

HISTORICAL MONTAGE:

The British Army is bedraggled and under siege.

Pathe World War Two Newsreel -

Chaos on beaches of Dunkirk fighters overhead, strafing the  
beach.

Flotilla of ships - Royal Navy Frigates and small Civilian  
fishing boats.

Troops disembarking at Dover.

Churchill speech - "We shall defend our island... we Shall  
Never Surrender..."

Pathe newsreel describes the fall of the Scandinavian  
countries - DENMARK and NORWAY. Prime Minister Winston  
Churchill inspecting troops. The out look is grim.

CUT TO:

INT. WAR OFFICE CORRIDOR - DAY

Royal Marine Captain - JACK 'DAVEY' JONES marches along with  
purpose. He is well built and clearly tough.

LT COMMANDER (V.O.)  
Captain Jack 'Davey' Jones, Royal  
marines. Part of the special ops  
team since 39. Commando.  
(MORE)

LT COMMANDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Quite the unconventional officer.  
Put it down to his upbringing.  
Father was the renowned explorer  
and botanist Sir Edmond Jones.  
Lived Africa, Australia, has  
travelled extensively including to  
the pole. First rate in our  
opinion. Perfect for this task.

Captain JONES stops outside a door and Knocks.

CUT TO:

INT. WAR OFFICE - DAY - LATER

A map of Europe adorns the walls. A Lieutenant Commander, Ian Fleming, from Naval Intelligence is smoking a pipe. He is sat at one end of a large table. An older officer sits in an armchair away from the table sipping a scotch. Jones is seated at the table.

LT COMMANDER  
So that's it - we're on our own.  
France gone, Norway too and now  
those bloody U-boats are hounding  
our Merchant Navy, trying to starve  
us to death Jack.

They sit for a moment in silence.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
What do you know of RDF.

JONES  
"Radio Direction Finding", those  
tall masts dotting our coast line.  
Defence I believe.

LT COMMANDER  
Very good. It actually stands for  
"Range and Direction finding".  
Technology that could save us the  
war. Problem is Jerry has similar  
technology. Recently a parcel was  
left anonymously at our embassy in  
Oslo. Intelligence has been through  
it and found astonishing  
information - rockets, magnetic  
torpedoes, glider bombs, a host of  
fantastical technology that we must  
believe Jerry has in some form of  
development. More disturbing was  
details of methods used by German  
aircrew to calculate their position  
by means of Special Radio  
Transmissions.

(MORE)

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
Our bombers are still navigating by  
compass and the bloody stars while  
the luftwaffe are being guided to  
their targets by radio beams.

Jones looks baffled.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
I know Jack... It's the stuff of  
fiction, unfortunately it's far  
from. On top of that they found  
that a German "RDF" station had  
detected RAF bombers from a  
distance of seventy-five miles.  
Gives them ample time to intercept  
us.

The commander waves him over to the map and points to Norway.  
He runs his finger down the European coast line to Spain.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
From Norway to the south of France.  
Their going to build these bloody  
things and we have got to destroy  
them.

They are interrupted by a knock at the door.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
Enter!

A WREN shows in MORTEN STEINAR. A Norwegian/American officer  
dressed for discretion, in civilian clothes.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
Perfect timing... Jack let me  
introduce Lt Morten Steinar, US  
Rangers. Morten, Captain Jones,  
Royal Marines.

The two men shake hands formally.

JONES  
A Yank? Thought your not interested  
in this war.

STEINAR  
Norwegian Yank! Moved to Boston  
when I was fourteen.

LT COMMANDER  
Roosevelt knows he's not going to  
be able to stay out of the fight  
for that long. LT Steinar has  
kindly volunteered to help out...  
Unofficially of course.

STEINAR  
Call it an invested interest.

JONES  
So I take it we're off to Norway!

Steinar smiles.

LT COMMANDER  
If it were that simple.

The LT Commander opens his desk and pulls out a red folder with 'Operation Grendel' written on it, it has a 'SECRET - UK Eyes Only - SP. OPS'.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
Now... 'Operation Grendel'

CUT TO:

EXT. RMP PRISON YARD - DAY

A grim camp where the redcaps (RMP) rule - a military prison for soldiers to be rehabilitated back into a correct 'soldierly' attitude.

The Landrover pulls up and RAINS is dragged out.

In the distance a group of prisoners is being beasted up and down a sand hill in full kit under the watchful eye of a sadistic CSM.

EXT. PRISON YARD - CONTINUOUS

RAINS in a line with seven other fellow prisoners.

The Sadistic RMP CSM inspects them with scorn, then puffs out his chest and waits.

A pack of RMP corporals sporadically prod and insult the prisoners.

It all goes quiet and the CSM addresses them.

RMP CSM  
You are here because You are scum.  
You have let down yourselves, your  
units, your King and Country.

The Prisoners look forlorn, Rains is seething. The CSM struts about with his pace-stick.

RMP CSM (CONT'D)  
I am here to put that, to put you,  
right. Set you back on track.  
(MORE)

RMP CSM (CONT'D)

I am like the father you ugly lot  
of bastards never had. You will  
leave here tougher and more  
importantly with an understanding  
of how to be a decent human being -  
not a coward, deserter, thief or  
rapist.

RAINS has had enough.

RAINS

What do you know?

MUGGS, a large shaven-headed convict thug, speaks to RAINS  
through gritted teeth.

MUGGS

Shut it, you dick!

The RMP CSM approaches RAINS and sneers.

RMP CSM

There's always one.

He takes a list from his tunic pocket.

RMP CSM (cont'd) (CONT'D)

Private Rains... Striking an  
officer, disobeying orders,  
Cowardice. Shall I go on? Your a  
bloody disgrace...

RAINS

It's a mistake - I should be going  
back to the West Kents.

RMP OFFICER

Save it for your court marshall!  
You and I are going to get along  
famously... son.

Rains looks at him stoney-faced.

RMP CSM

Why did you join the Army son? To  
see the world?

RAINS

It was that or Prison... dad!

RMP CORPORAL

Sir, you address the sergeant-major  
as sir.

An RMP corporal dig kicks RAINS in the back of the knee and  
he goes down. Another Corporal kicks him in the face.

RMP CSM

The Hill - one hour, full kit. Go!

All the prisoners are hounded over to the hill by the pack of RMP corporals and are made to run up and down it, again and again.

RAINS clearly finds it hard - but still finds time to help a fellow 'criminal', a Royal Marine, BRIGHTLING, who is in a bad way. He is immediately stopped by the RMP CSM.

RMP CSM (CONT'D)

Leave Brightling, you fucking worm!  
He doesn't need any help.  
Brightling's special, he's a  
Commando. The Hill... it's like a  
walk through Hyde park to him.

CUT TO:

INT. WAR OFFICE - DAY

The men are looking at photo aerial reconnaissance, and a photographs with the name Freya written at the top. The picture is of a RDF(RADAR)system.

LT COMMANDER

Their RDF are known as Wurzburg and the Freya. Early warning systems like our's tracking aircraft and shipping. We have the Magnetron. We believe this is far more advanced than anything they have. We are also developing RDF jamming systems. So as well as destroying theirs we need to find out if they have anti jamming equipment. They are re-fitting their U-boats, or wolf packs here in the Norwegian ports of Bergen, Stavanger and Trondhjem. They also have a new RDF and communications system set up here. Direct communication with the U-boats and our shipping. If the new technology is anywhere it will be here.

JONES

Looks like you'll be joining four commando LT Steinar.

LT COMMANDER

Not exactly Jack. Admiral Sir Roger Keys is allowing me to try out a new commando unit that deals with intelligence. Smaller more versatile "raiding parties".

STEINAR  
Like red Indians.

LT COMMANDER  
Yes... very good.

JONES  
How many men do I have.

LT COMMANDER  
Your my first... and of course you  
have Steinar. Ten maximum. You  
choose them and train them. We have  
six weeks.

JONES raises his eyebrows and looks sceptically.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
Shall we say a plan in three?

Jones studies the map. He pulls out his notebook. He's  
straight into operational mode.

JONES  
Insertion by air, ten miles inland,  
an eight to ten man team, recce,  
raid and extraction - by air.

LT COMMANDER  
Different pick up point?

JONES  
If possible. Any local resistance  
we can call on?

LT COMMANDER  
I'm speaking to S.O.E. Later.

STEINAR  
I know the area!

Jones in quick.

JONES  
I need intelligence of what we're  
going to face when we arrive... You  
can navigate of course...

STEINAR  
(embarrassed)  
That's what I meant.

JONES  
There are three of my Marines on  
attachment to SOE I'd like back,  
here are their names.

JONES hands him a list.



LT COMMANDER  
Could be tricky - they're  
instructing the demolition module  
aren't they?

JONES  
Yes. I need them.

LT COMMANDER  
The other two.

JONES  
One's in Colchester, Corporal  
Brightling - the other, Riley, is  
with the sniper section, 39 Brigade.  
I'll square that myself.

LT COMMANDER  
The one in clink - his crime?

JONES  
Fighting. Put two in hospital.

LT COMMANDER  
Serious?

JONES  
Military policemen!

LT COMMANDER  
I see. I'll make a call.

JONES  
I'll need Sergeant Mackenzie.

LT COMMANDER  
Wasn't he injured?

JONES  
He's a steel chest! (Hardened  
soldier)

LT COMMANDER  
Good man.

JONES  
Is that all Sir?

LT COMMANDER  
For now.

Jones and Steinar make to leave. Fleming is showing the men  
out.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
How's that beautiful wife of yours?

JONES shows a momentary emotion.

JONES  
Due any moment.

LT COMMANDER  
Splendid.

They smile momentarily at each other. Jones and Steinar Salute and leave. LT Commander Fleming's smile turns to a grave look of concern.

CUT TO:

EXT. RMP PRISON COLCHESTER - EVENING

The CSM has the prisoners lined up at the foot of the hill.

They have clearly already had a 'beasting' and it is not over yet.

BRIGHTLING is in a bad way - vomiting, but nothing coming up. RAINS gives him a sip of water from his canteen.

BRIGHTLING  
Your good bloke Rains.

RAINS  
This man needs to see the Doc.

RMP CSM  
Get up Brightling. Shirkers,  
Malingers - the lot of you. Get out  
of my sight.

RAINS  
That bloke need a right good  
kicking.

Rains is helping Brightling.

BRIGHTLING  
You got that right.

They walk in silence. Then -

RAINS  
What's it like...?

Brightling looks quizzically.

RAINS (CONT'D)  
Being a Commando? I'd heard about  
you blokes, didn't know you really  
existed, you know, good bit of  
propaganda an all that...

BRIGHTLING

If you can get out of here...  
become a Commando. Trust me. Theirs  
still to many old duffers running  
the army. They'll have you blindly  
going over the top just as they did  
in the great war... 'Butcher and  
Bolt' that's us... that's  
commando's.

RAINS

'Butcher and Bolt'... Like it.

The RMP corporals hound them back to their billet.

CUT TO:

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - DAY

Jones is driving, trying to be chirpy as his wife, GRACE  
heavily pregnant, sits beside him.

JONES

Your Mother said she's already  
found an old cot for the baby, she  
sounded quite excited.

GRACE

She is.

JONES

It's for the best, don't want you  
in London, with the bombs and all  
that - could get quite nasty.

GRACE

Yes - it's for the best.

They pull up at a crossroads.

JONES

Is it left or right - I always  
forget.

GRACE

It always amazes me how you get  
home - you've no sense of  
direction.

JONES

No sense at all - some say. That's  
why I need you.

They pull up at a small cottage. An old lady, Grace's Mum is  
waiting for them.

Jones pulls up, waves gregariously and races round to help his wife out.

OLD LADY  
Hello darling, you do look well.

JONES  
Doesn't she!

The Old Lady rubs her daughter's tummy.

OLD LADY  
It's a girl!

JONES  
How can you tell?

OLD LADY  
The shape of the bump - mine was just that shape with Grace.

Jones unloads the bags.

OLD LADY (cont'd) (CONT'D)  
Time for tea?

Jones shakes his head.

JONES  
Next time. Got to get going I'm afraid.

OLD LADY  
Nothing serious I hope.

JONES  
Just a training exercise - you know what the corps is like, keeping us busy.

He embraces his wife and she is stoic, but her eyes are moist. He tenderly places his hand on her tummy.

JONES (CONT'D)  
See you both when I get back.

GRACE  
Soon?

JONES  
Soon.

He leaps into the Landrover and guns the engine. Grace moves over to him.

GRACE  
Please be careful!

Jones kisses her. He smiles and nod's. Grace forces a brave smile, but holds her mother's hand very tightly. He drives off.

CUT TO:

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - MOMENTS LATER

JONES is driving the Landrover - He pull's over. He sit's for a moment. As if trying to catch his breath. The pain of leaving his family evident. He take a deep breath and exhales. His demeanour now changed, now it's back to business.

CUT TO:

EXT. RMP PRISON COLCHESTER - DAY

The Landrover pulls up at the Guardroom, he is saluted and the barrier lifted.

JONES parks up in front of the CO's office. The prisoners are being hounded about and the CSM is watching with sadistic glee. He watches the scene with interest.

INT. RMP CO'S OFFICE - LATER

JONES looks at the plump RMP Colonel who is clearly excited to see him.

RMP COLONEL  
Captain Jones?

JONES  
Colonel.

RMP COLONEL  
Had the call from the gods- am at your service. Something big's afoot eh?

JONES  
Strictly routine - come to pick up one of my men.

RMP COLONEL  
That's right, Brightling. I believe he's with the Company Sergeant Major, getting some exercise.

The RMP Colonel chuckles, Jones is stony faced.

CUT TO:

EXT. RMP PRISON COLCHESTER - MOMENTS LATER

The prisoners are doing press-ups, BRIGHTLING is wheezing.

RMP CSM  
Pathetic! Up the Hill!

The RMP Corporals start shouting and insulting the prisoners who start trudging up the sand.

BRIGHTLING is keeling over - yet is given no respite.

The RMP CSM waves his pace-stick irately at the prisoners.

RMP CSM (CONT'D)  
Faster! My grandmother can run  
faster than that - and she's dead!

RAINS tries to help him but is forced away.

CUT TO:

INT. RMP CO'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

JONES is looking out of the window at the compound.

JONES  
Seems a bit zealous your Company  
Sergeant Major.

The Colonel is sifting through some paperwork. He pushes a sheet across the desk.

RMP COLONEL  
He's certainly keen - the men  
respect him though.

Jones looks sceptical.

RMP COLONEL (CONT'D)  
Sign here and he's all yours.

Jones signs.

RMP COLONEL (CONT'D)  
Let's go and find your man - he'll  
certainly be fitter than when he  
arrived.

They exit the office.

CUT TO:

EXT. RMP PRISON COLCHESTER - MOMENTS LATER

On the hill things have deteriorated.

Brightling is dehydrated and vomiting. The Corporals are shouting at him to get up.

RAINS pushes one of them aside and tries to help BRIGHTLING.

RAINS is punched to the ground.

RAINS  
Bastards!

RAINS stares hard at the Corporal. RAINS wanting to hit out. The corporal goading him on.

JONES starts to walk over and is clearly thinking of intervening.

The RMP Colonel is flustered and not sure how to handle this.

RMP COLONEL  
Sergeant- Major!

The CSM bellows out.

RMP CSM  
Sir!

JONES moves up the hill and is furious to find Brightling on his way out. He scowls at the RMP Corporals who retreat and kneels next to his soldier.

JONES  
Water!

RAINS hands him his canteen and JONES gives BRIGHTLING a sip.

JONES (CONT'D)  
It's all right Sid - I've come for you.

BRIGHTLING looks at JONES - his view of JONES is distorted and hazy.

BRIGHTLING  
Bit tired, Sir.

JONES  
That's all right - now save your breath. Your coming with me.

JONES pulls off his pack and lifts him up as if he's a baby. He brings him down the hill. The Prisoners are watching.

The RMP CORPORALS move in on RAINS.

JONES (CONT'D)  
He was helping him you idiots. Let him go.

The RMP Corporals are unsure. The RMP Colonel nods. They back off.

JONES (CONT'D)  
What's your name?

RAINS  
Bob Rains, West Kents Sir.

JONES  
Pick up his kit and follow me.

RAINS picks up Brightling's pack and brings it down the slope.

RAINS helps JONES lay BRIGHTLING gently in the back vehicle.

RAINS  
You taking him away?

JONES  
Yes.

RAINS  
Room for one more?

JONES  
What are you doing here?

RAINS  
Misunderstanding Sir.

JONES  
I didn't ask for excuses.

RAINS  
Striking an officer and Cowardice.  
I ain't no coward. And the officer  
had it coming. Get me out...  
please.

JONES  
I'm afraid not.

Jones makes to leave.

RMP CSM  
Alright Rains get in line.

Rains doesn't respond to the order. Insistent.

RAINS  
Please Captain... I want to be a  
commando... Sir.

Jones takes notice of this. Thinks better of it.



JONES  
Sorry, not this time.

RMP CSM  
RAINS GET IN LINE.

Three guards move in on Rains. Jones looks concerned.

JONES  
You'd better get in line.

RAINS  
I'm wasted here.

The guards move in. Jones calms them with a hand signal. He moves over to Rains.

JONES  
Commandos are a special breed.  
Their no good to us here. Once you  
get out you'll find us.

Jones smiles at him and winks. Rains is both confused and incensed.

RAINS  
Bollocks.

With that the RMP CSM gives the signal. The guards attack Rains.

RMP CSM  
Swearing at an officer, how dare  
you...

Jones is amazed at the speed of Rains as he disposes of one guard after the next. A guard runs over brandishing a rifle. With lightning precision Rains decks him unarms the guard and points the rifle back at him. He then turns the rifle on Jones.

The atmosphere has become very tense.

RMP CSM (CONT'D)  
DON'T BE STUPID SON...

RAINS  
I ain't being stupid. The Captain  
is taking me out of here right now.

RMP CSM  
No he's not.

Rains points the rifle at Jones.

JONES

I think I might be Sergeant major!  
Now why don't we all calm down and  
I will drive you out.

RAINS

Don't try anything silly.

JONES

You have a rifle! Why would I try  
anything.

Jones turns to the RMP CSM and Guards.

JONES (CONT'D)

Please do not attempt any heroics.  
Someone is bound to get hurt. I  
shall be driving private Bains

RAINS

Rains... Sir!

JONES

Get in the car.

The guard and inmates alike stare on in amazement as Jones  
drives Rains through the gates and out to freedom. Not  
before...

RMP CSM

(bellowing)

THEY'LL SHOOT YOU FOR THIS RAINS!!

CUT TO:

INT. LANDROVER - MOMENTS LATER

Jones drives through the country lanes. Rains sits beside  
him. His rifle at the ready. His eyes scanning the rear and  
then on to Brightling, who is laying in the back covered with  
a blanket.

Rains look at Jones.

RAINS

I'm out and I've found you. I  
wann'a be a Commando.

Jones smiles.

JONES

Just like that!

RAINS

You said get out...

JONES  
I know what I said...

RAINS  
You gave me the nod...

JONES  
I what?

RAINS  
You winked at me...

Jones pulls the vehicle over.

JONES  
(disbelief)  
You think that was a signal for you  
to do this...

RAINS  
(anguish)  
It weren't? Your joking me!

Rains puts his head in his hands.

JONES  
Are you bloody stupid? I should  
take you back just for that...

RAINS  
You take me back and I'm a dead  
man.

Jones looks on somewhat bemused by the situation. He watches  
Rains.

JONES  
Seen any action? Real action!

Rains looks up.

RAINS  
Some - France, just before Dunkirk.

JONES  
What do you think to it?

RAINS  
Bloody carnage.

JONES nods.

JONES  
Can you climb?

RAINS  
(enthusiastically)  
Like a sodding monkey!

Jones thinks for a moment.

JONES  
Get in the back and look after Sid.  
He's dehydrated - sips of water,  
little and often.

Rains can't believe his luck.

RAINS  
Yes Sir... thank you Sir.

JONES  
Your not a Commando yet.

RAINS  
No Sir!

JONES  
You fail any part of the training  
and you will be sent back to  
Prison.

RAINS  
Yes Sir... but how will you square  
it with the police?

JONES  
I don't know.

Rains can see this is a very serious situation for the  
captain.

RAINS  
Thanks for this sir...

JONES  
(hard)  
You ever pull a weapon on me again,  
you will be a dead man!

Rains just nods. Jones turns and guns the engine and then  
their off.

CUT TO:

I/E. COUNTRY LANE - DAY

The Landrover pulls over. Jones and Rains sit in silence.  
Moments later a soldier appears out of the foliage. This is  
Sergeant 'Mac' Mackenzie, a short and stocky Highlander, he  
leaps in next to JONES with a hearty grin. Jones just becks.  
He looks back. Brightling lays in the back, covered by an old  
Army blanket. RAINS sits by his side, holding a canteen. Mac  
gives him the once over.

MAC  
Who are you?

RAINS  
Bob Rains, Sir.

MAC  
Don't call me 'sir' - I work for a living!

MAC notices BRIGHTLING in the back.

MAC (CONT'D)  
What happened to Sidney?

RAINS  
Redcaps. They're right bastards!

BRIGHTLING is out for the count.

JONES  
Rains can replace him. We'll drop Sid at St Mary's. Then we're off to Scotland.

MAC  
Training!?

JONES  
Ey... Training.

Mac smiles. They pull away and off.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BLACK MOUNTAINS, SCOTLAND - DAY

The foot of a large hill, mist strewn Mountains to all sides. It is bleak and barren - ideal infantry training ground.

A well - organised camp: there is a large green square tent, the mess tent, and six olive drab canvas tents neatly in a line. The Landrover, parked to the side.

Morten Steinar is dressed as a British commando, lined up with the other men: battle hardened and fit - Jones's commando unit.

Sergeant Mac stands in front of them with Jones to his side, a Stirling 9mm sub-machine gun slung over his shoulder.

The rest of the commandos all have Lee Enfield rifles apart from Riley, who has a sniper rifle, and Jones who has a Webley pistol. Sergeant Mac address's them.

MAC

(bellows)

Most of you know me already, those that don't are in for a great big fucking surprise. Those that do are in for an infinitely more horrible time than they care to remember. Any man here steps out of line and I will kill him stone dead it will not worry me in the slightest. Now when I say jump you ask how high. Do I make myself clear.

TROOPS

(unison)

Yes Sergeant.

MAC

I can't hear you!

TROOPS

YES SERGEANT.

MAC

The next little party we're invited to will require a level of fitness that Jesse Owens would be proud of. It is vital that we can move quickly and covertly as a team.

He scans the troops a grin spreading across his face.

MAC (CONT'D)

Right - Lets try for our first heart attack shall we? On my command double march to the base of that hill.

Mac indicates a killer mountain to his front.

MAC (CONT'D)

QUICK MARCH!

The men including Captain Jones march to the Base of the Mountain.

MAC (CONT'D)

Apparently the view from the top is wonderful. Well what are you waiting for? MOVE!

Jones has already set off. Rains looks at the task ahead and swears under his breath.

MAC takes a deep breath of mountain air and laughs.

MAC (CONT'D)

It's great to be home!

Mac sets off at pace and starts singing.

The other commandos yomp off after him.

CUT TO:

EXT. BLACK MOUNTAIN - LATER

RAINS is getting on with it, although finding the going tough; he is next to MORTEN STEINAR who clearly finds the yomp easy.

RAINS  
I've never climbed a bloody  
mountain before...

STEINAR  
Don't worry,... I imagine that you  
will have climbed plenty by the end  
of the week.

RAINS  
You a Yank?

STEINAR  
Norwegian yank!

RAINS  
You're a long way from home mate.  
What are you doing with this mob?

STEINAR  
What are you?

RAINS  
I get it, 'loose lips sink ships'  
an all that.

Rains moves off. Steinar can see Rains was just being friendly.

STEINAR  
I want to help free my country.

Rains turns to him.

RAINS  
Fuckin' Nazis?

Steinar grins, mimicking Rains.

STEINAR  
Fuckin' Nazis.

Rains puts his hand out, Steinar takes it. Rains helps pull him up.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BLACK MOUNTAINS- CAMP - DAY

The men are again lined up at Ease. Jones is addressing them.

JONES

From now on - all training will be  
with live ammunition - including  
the explosives. Sergeant Mac!

Sergeant Mac has an array of Wehrmacht weapons and equipment around him (9mm Luger Pistol, 9mm Schmeisser Machine-gun, stick grenades etc), beckons the men over.

They crouch in front of him - intently focused.

Mac picks up the Schmeisser.

MAC

This is what you're up against -  
you need to know how to use these.  
Well start with the pistol...

Mac holds up the Luger.

MAC (CONT'D)

The 9mm Luger automatic pistol,  
favoured by officers and you can  
see why.

He fires two shots into the centre and one at the head of the cardboard target behind.

MAC (CONT'D)

Fire two shots into the main body  
mass and one at the head to finish  
the job. Any questions?  
Mr Steinar be my guest.

Steinar stands up and shoots, he's a good shot.

MAC (CONT'D)

Good. Next.

Riley stands up - three quick shots, two in the heart, in between the eyes.

MAC (CONT'D)

Good shooting, Riley! If ye weren't  
so ugly I could kiss ya! Who taught  
you to shoot so well?



RILEY  
You did, Sergeant.

Mac grins and points to Rains. Riley hands the pistol to him. Rains takes aim, concentrating, and fires three shots, two in the heart and the third clips the head of the target.

MAC  
If we need a fucking barn door  
taking out I'll call on you.

Rains winks at Steinar.

RAINS  
Sorry Sergeant. That was my weaker  
side...

With that Rains swaps the pistol from his left to right hand. He fire's three shots hitting the target between the eyes. Rains beams.

MAC  
Where'd you learn to shoot like  
that?

RAINS  
Cowboy flicks...

MAC  
(grinning)  
Got ourselves a right Jessie James  
have we.

Rains still grinning. Mac face turns serious.

MAC (CONT'D)  
For being such a hot shot I think  
you deserve a little run!

Mac indicates a killer mountain

MAC (CONT'D)  
Well go on then.

The troops all smile as Rains trots off.

MAC (CONT'D)  
Next!

The remaining three commandos, (the demolition experts), DOBSON and GRAVES, and Gable, line up and shoot at the target.

CUT TO:

Montage: The Commandos carrying out intensive training.

Foreign weapons: Firing of 9mm Schmeisser Machine Gun.

Unarmed combat: Taking out of sentries / One on One fights.  
Explosives: Setting of fuse / Detonation.  
Patrolling: use of map / compass and hand signals.  
Snow Patrol and survival.

CUT TO:

EXT. BLACK MOUNTAINS - DAY

Morten Steinar leads the men up the side of a mountain and stops. He peers over a sheer rock face and invites the others to do the same.

Rains looks down and wobbles. He steps back - scared.

RAINS

Fuck this!

Steinar hands the end of the rope to Jones who knows what to do, securing it around a rock and then himself - he is ready to belay.

STEINAR

Once the rope is secure with the anchor man.

He demonstrates with the rope.

STEINAR (CONT'D)

Just throw it over and secure the rope around your shoulder like so.

Rains looks on in trepidation as Steinar disappears over the edge and abseils down.

The rest of the men line up, under Sergeant Mackenzie's watchful eye.

MAC

Follow on. Move!

Riley sets off, followed by the others, Rains at the back.

Rains hesitates when it's his turn - even with Sergeant Mac breathing down his neck.

MAC (CONT'D)

Move!

Rains looks at Mac and then down the sheer rock-face.

MAC (CONT'D)

Down the fuckin' rope man. I thought you of all people would be doing it head first. What's wrong with ye?

Jones moves in on Rains in a fury.

JONES

You said you could climb!

RAINS

I can - it's the heights that fucking bother me... Sir!

Jones takes the rope.

JONES

Follow me.

Jones disappears off down the rope.

Mac watches Rains who coolly takes the rope.

RAINS

All right. I'm going - keep your hair on.

Mac peers over at him as he descends.

At the bottom of the rock-face they all line up.

There are two figure 11 targets set up behind some rocks.

Steinar continues his lesson.

STEINAR

Coming down under in assault mode is a different matter. Riley!

Riley unslings his rifle and doubles around the back of the rock to meet up with Sergeant Mac.

Steinar unslings the 9MM Schmeisser and points it at the rock face.

STEINAR (CONT'D)

It is vital that you can not only see the enemy, but be in a position to return fire as well.

Steinar looks up at the top of the rock face. He then steps nonchalantly back.

STEINAR (CONT'D)

This is a mode of assault we practise in the Rangers.

(MORE)

STEINAR (CONT'D)

It is what you British call a 'live firing exercise'. Adds a certain reality to the training...

Steinar gives a sardonic grin.

STEINAR (CONT'D)

You gentlemen might want to step back at this point.

Steinar looks at Jones who nods his assent. Steinar takes out a whistle and gives a long blast.

Two mills grenades come hurtling from the top of the rock face and land in the area of the targets. Simultaneously, Riley rifle appears and two rounds smack into the targets' heads.

RAINS

Bloody Hell!

Rains and a couple of commandos hit the deck.

Sergeant Mac comes roaring down the rope, facing forwards, a Thompson machine gun at his hip, firing at the targets.

Steinar lets rip with the Schmeisser, firing to the flank, the rock face spitting up shards.

Riley is hot on his heels and they take the position and assume firing positions.

Rains and the other commandos are on their feet again.

STEINAR

Thank you Sergeant Mackenzie. Any questions?

The troops are quiet.

STEINAR (CONT'D)

Good - in pairs. Pick up one grenade each. On yer go!

The commandos grab a grenade each and double back up to the start point. Rains is with Gable.

Gable assumes the cover firing position, Rains faces down with the machine gun, grim determination on his face.

Sergeant Mac at his shoulder.

MAC

Don't let a Yank show you up.

Rains nods.

RAINS  
No way, Sergeant.

Steinar blows the whistle and Mac pats him on the shoulder.

MAC  
Go!

Rains hurls his grenade and shouts in anger. He races down the rock face, gun blazing with Gable above him.

Steinar lets loose again but Rains doesn't bat an eyelid, focused on the job at hand.

It is a good effort and Steinar is pleased.

STEINAR  
You learn fast.

Rains shakes hands with Steinar - it is clear there is quite a bond developing between these two.

CUT TO:

INT. MESS TENT - NIGHT

The troops are devouring stew from their mess tins. Steinar sits next to Rains.

RAINS  
When do you reckon they'll tell us  
what we're training for?

Steinar shrugs his shoulders.

STEINAR  
They'll keep us in the dark for as  
long as they can, but if Captain  
Jones is involved, it's going to be  
a big one.

RAINS  
Some sort of raid, but where?

STEINAR  
No idea.

RAINS  
I'd say you already know?

Steinar smiles.

STEINAR  
What's your story Rain's.  
You have a family? A girl?

RAINS

Don't change the subject...

STEINAR

Rains, if I knew, you think I'd be telling you!?

RAINS

Fair enough.

STEINAR

So family, girl...

RAINS

Nah! Free agent me. Come from nowhere - going nowhere.

STEINAR

You must come from somewhere - even someone as ugly as you must have a mother.

Rains looks at him - momentary sadness, then chuckles.

RAINS

No. I was dumped outside St Mary's hospital, in a shopping basket. Could say I'm like Moses.

Steinar looks embarrassed.

STEINAR

Sorry.

RAINS

Worse for the mother - she must of been in a right state. Poor cow.

Sergeant Mac interrupts the troops dinner.

MAC

Come on you lot - night navigation, ten minutes. Let's go.

The Troops groan but get on with it.

CUT TO:

EXT. BLACK MOUNTAINS - DAY

The troops are sitting in huddles, cleaning weapons and chatting.

Rains and Steinar sit together.

A Landrover pulls up and Jones greets it. Rains and Steinar look on.

Lt Commander Fleming and a civilian are led quickly into the mess tent.

RILEY  
Intel Briefing in five.

The troops assemble their weapons.

Sergeant Mac appears and jollies them in. He holds Rains back.

RAINS  
What's up Sergeant?

The rest of the commandos file into the mess tent for a briefing.

CUT TO:

EXT. MESS TENT - MOMENTS LATER

Rains is standing alone outside the tent. He spies LT Commander Fleming and Captain Jones walking over to him.

He immediately stands to attention and salutes as they arrive.

LT COMMANDER  
At ease soldier. So your my escaped convict are you.

Rains nervously nods yes.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
Can't you speak?

RAINS  
Yes Sir. I did escape from a prison.

LT COMMANDER  
Well, they want you back.

Rains looks to Jones who sternly looks back.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
The bloody mess you have caused. They've had a man hunt out looking for you. There are people in Whitehall who want your head. And will want mine if I don't deliver.

RAINS  
I'm sorry Sir.

LT COMMANDER

If these were unremarkable times  
you'd be shot and Captain Jones  
court marshalled. But these are  
remarkable times and Captain Jones  
a remarkable leader. He has somehow  
persuaded me to let you take part  
on this operation.

RAINS

Thank-you Sir.

LT COMMANDER

Don't thank me... thank your  
Captain.

Rains extends his arm to shake hands with Jones.

RAINS

Thank-you. I won't let you down.

Jones shakes his hand.

JONES

No you won't!

CUT TO:

INT. MESS TENT - DAY

Captain Jones stands in front of a Map of Norway.

Seated to the side with his head in a book is a young man,  
Flight sergeant Roger Rollright. He looks some what mal-  
nourished and fatigued.

LT CMD Fleming is seated at the front with Steinar.

Sergeant Mac watches the men as they file in.

MAC

Sit down, open yer ears and keep  
yer mouths shut. Listen in.

The men start to take out pocket note-books.

JONES

No notes please gentlemen, there  
will be questions at the end.

The men return the notebooks to their pockets.

JONES (CONT'D)

Suffice to say that everything I'm  
about to brief you is secret and  
should remain so.

(MORE)



JONES (CONT'D)

The operation we are about to embark on is a matter of national, indeed international importance.

He has the men's full attention. He points to the map.

JONES (CONT'D)

Operation Grendel -Norway - that's where we are headed.

Rains and Steinar exchange glances, the latter with a broad grin.

JONES (CONT'D)

Jerry has their northern U-Boat operations out of Occupied Norway. Causing mayhem to our merchant shipping and Navy. The RAF can't get at them from the air. To make things tougher Jerry have installed their latest RDF and communications devices in the mountains effectively spotting our ships and planes.

He pauses to let the gravity of the situation sink in.

JONES (CONT'D)

Our mission is to infiltrate into occupied Norway and assault their main communications centre in the mountain range north of Narvik. I say 'assault' because it must seem to Jerry that it is a straightforward demolition job - but this is a secondary aim. The primary part of the mission is get our hands on the latest RDF kit. Flight Sergeant Rollright will now enlighten you.

Rollright stands up and clears his throat, he pulls a sheet of paper from a battered leather attache case.

ROLLRIGHT

Good morning, the 'kit' that the Captain was referring to is the latest and best technology in this war to date. It is so sensitive that it gives the opposition forewarning of any movement, by sea or air, some hundred miles in advance. Where I work we are developing equipment that can... jam the signals to their radio towers. We believe they have developed... an anti jamming device there by making our work redundant.

ROLLRIGHT (CONT'D)

If they have it, I need to see the real thing, analyse it and steal its technology. Thank-you.

The Lt Commander stands up and pats Rollright on the back.

LT COMMANDER

Gentleman Flt.Sergeant Rollright will be going along on your little jaunt, to help you identify, dismantle and bring it home with you.

The troops, and especially Rains, look at Rollright with shock - he does not the type for commando raids.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)

Look after him? Captain.

Jones starts off.

JONES

Right, down to details. I've been informed we have a local contact, an SOE agent - Beowulf.

LT COMMANDER

You'll get the details of the rendezvous just prior to the insertion. Try to keep radio traffic to Beowulf to a minimum, for obvious reasons.

JONES

Insertion - Plane. There is a disused airstrip that will do the trick. It's only available at certain times of year, so the Nazis are unaware of it at the moment. It will be a tactical air landing, the aircraft will not even turn off its engines. A parachute drop may be considered if the weather dictates.

Rains is not amused.

RAINS

Sod that!

LT COMMANDER

Any questions?

Rains thinks on his feet.

RAINS

Who are the opposition?

LT COMMANDER

There is a battalion of General Dietl's 5th Alpine Division. We are yet to ascertain from Beowulf the numbers at the objective, but is unlikely to be more than a platoon...

RAINS

Are they any good Sir?

LT COMMANDER

Yes. Very!

JONES

But so are we, and they won't be expecting us.

LT COMMANDER

Exactly. I must be getting back to London, but will leave Rollright with you to get acquainted.

Sergeant Mac chivvies the troops out of the tent.

MAC

All right you lot - work to do, outside!

The men file out. The Lt Commander nods at Jones.

LT COMMANDER

A word, Jack.

Jones ambles over to him.

MAC

You too Mr Rollright - sounds like we need to teach you how to shoot!

Rollright puts away his book, shakes hands with Fleming, and follows the men out.

ROLLRIGHT

I know how to shoot!

MAC

Well come and show us.

Fleming watches Rollright go.

LT COMMANDER

Think you'll be all right with him in tow. He's a clever man.

JONES

So it seems.

LT COMMANDER

Very clever. Knows a hell of a lot about our RDF set up. The magnetron.

Jones looks at him, the penny is dropping. The Commander lights his pipe - all the while giving Jones a steely look.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)

Can't afford him to get into the enemies clutches...

Jones gets it.

JONES

Understood.

EXT. BLACK MOUNTAINS - DAY

Riley is standing next to Rollright at the pistol range.

Sergeant Mac blows his whistle. Rollright looses off a couple of rounds.

MAC

Not bad!

Rollright turns around, the pistol pointing at Mac.

MAC (CONT'D)

Keep that fucking weapon pointed down the range, Rollright.

Riley turns Rollright around and he has another go. Rains is shaking his head as he watches. Jones sidles up to him.

RAINS

He's not up to it, Boss. It's not fair on the man.

JONES

That's why you're going to look after him.

Rains is annoyed.

RAINS

Oh come off it.

JONES

I did some research on you. I've read your record, you bring your men back... make bloody sure you bring him back.

RAINS

Do me best.

JONES

Keep him close at all times when we're on the ground - if he falls off a rock, you dive after him, if he goes for a dump, you carry the shovel. I don't expect you to become best mates, I expect you to keep him near...

RAINS

I get the picture captain.

JONES

Do you?

RAINS

Baby sitting job - simple.

Jones leans closer to him and whispers coldly.

JONES

If it looks like he's going to be captured... Shoot him.

Rains is shocked.

RAINS

Sir.

Rains looks at Rollright who has returned from the range with a grin as he walks up to them.

ROLLRIGHT

You know Captain Jones, I think I'm going to enjoy this, see how you boys really do things and do my bit.

Jones gives Rollright a warm handshake. Rains watches Jones's change of tone with fascination.

JONES

It's great to have you aboard.

He introduces Rains to him and they shake hands.

JONES (CONT'D)

This is Bob Rains, he's going to show you the ropes and watch your back on the ground.

ROLLRIGHT

Delighted.

Rains forces a smile. Jones starts to lead Rollright away.

JONES

Let's go and grab a cup of tea and  
talk about how we're going to grab  
that precious machine of theirs...

Rains watches them go. In the background the commandos are getting ready for a route march.

MAC

What you waiting for Rains? Get  
your kit ready we're off...

Rains joins his fellow men and they set off up another mountain.

CUT TO:

EXT. HANGER- AIRFIELD - NIGHT

Jones stands at the front, the map of Norway behind him. The troops stand dressed in Arctic Whites with cam cream.

JONES

Lets go through it again. We're to  
rv with Agent Beowulf on the ground  
at Grid 266768, an old shepherd's  
hut, disused.

The troops note the grid in their notebooks.

JONES (CONT'D)

Enemy forces - 5th Alpine, probably  
in the form of a platoon, guarding  
the objective.

The troops listen attentively.

JONES (CONT'D)

The Mission - To assault the enemy  
communications centre at grid  
277890, secure the jamming kit and  
destroy the position.

More note-taking as Jones repeats the mission.

JONES (CONT'D)

Five phase operation.

Jones looks at his orders.

JONES (CONT'D)

Phase I - insertion by plane. Phase  
II- Rendezvous with Beowulf for  
update.

(MORE)

JONES (CONT'D)

Phase III - Assault on objective, three teams, assault, led by me, cover with Sergeant Mac, and retrieval of Kit, led by Lt Steinar. Sergeant Mac's team will blow the place once the team is clear. Detailed orders for the assault will be given in the form up point. Phase IV Move to Rendezvous with plane. Phase V - Extraction.

Jones looks at the men.

JONES (CONT'D)

You've trained bloody hard for this operation. Let's make it work. Any questions?

There are no questions.

JONES (CONT'D)

Right lets go. - pack your kit, and get some rest. We leave tomorrow night..

The troops move excitedly back to their tents to prepare.

CUT TO:

EXT. AIRFIELD - NIGHT

A small airfield just outside Carlisle. A converted Halifax bomber sits on the runway.

The troops are lined under the watchful eye of Sergeant Mac.

MAC

Load!

The troops load their weapons - rifles, Sten machine guns.

MAC (CONT'D)

Make ready!

The troops cock their weapons and apply the safety catches. Jones and Rains are off to the side with Lt Commander Fleming. Rains makes his Stirling sub-machine gun ready.

LT COMMANDER

How's Roger getting on?

JONES

He's all right - he's just a little nervous.

RAINS  
He isn't the only one.

Fleming addresses Rains.

LT COMMANDER  
You know the gravity of the situation?

RAINS  
I'll do what has to be done.

LT COMMANDER  
Good man.

JONES  
All right. Let's get on with it.

The RAF pilot ambles over, large sheepskin and cravat, calm and jovial.

PILOT  
The weather's good, so just remember, I will land, turn and slow down, you dismount, throw your ski's first.

JONES  
Right.

PILOT  
I'll be back for you in 72 hours - red flare if you're in contact with the enemy. Green for all clear.

JONES  
Got it.

PILOT  
Parachutes on - just in case...

The pilot ambles off.

Jones gravely hands Fleming a bundle of letters.

JONES  
These are in the event of.

Fleming stashes them solemnly in his jacket.

LT COMMANDER  
See you in 72 ours.

They Salute each other.

The engine starts and the troops mount up under the guidance of an RAF Jump Sergeant. The commandos are burdened like Sherpas with their packs, weapons and parachutes.



Jones exchanges a last glance at Fleming.

CUT TO:

INT. FUSELAGE - NIGHT

The troop are all sitting on their kit, weapons on their chests.

There are two large bundles of kit - skis / grub and explosives pre-loaded onto sledges with parachutes attached.

Rollright between Rains and Steinar.

The plane lurches up - they are off.

Jones surveys his men proudly - some are already trying to get some shut-eye.

CUT TO:

FLIGHT MONTAGE: STOCK FOOTAGE

Aircraft in clear skies.

Aircraft over the sea - flying low.

Aircraft over coast of Norway - flying low.

Aircraft over scenic snow covered pine trees and mountain range.

CUT TO:

INT. FUSELAGE - NIGHT

The commandos are dozing.

The RAF Jump sergeant returns from the cockpit.

The fuselage jump light switches to Red.

The RAF Jump Sergeant nudges Jones awake and gives him the signal with a spread raised hand- 5 minutes.

Jones passes on the signal to his men who start to grip their weapons more tightly - in some cases, with white knuckles.

CUT TO:

STOCK FOOTAGE POV FROM AIRCRAFT . POSSIBLE STOCK POV FOOTAGE OF FIGHTER AIRCRAFT ENGAGING.

INT. FUSELAGE - NIGHT

Suddenly. The fuselage is being torn apart by bullets.

The sound of the bullets and the scream of the planes engines is terrifying.

RAF JUMP SERGEANT (SHOUTING)

Hook up!

The commandos try and hook up their static lines - it is difficult as the pilot is taking evasive action.

DOBSON is hit in the back and his Arctic Whites go crimson.

RAINS

Jesus Christ!

Rains moves to him to carry out first aid. He applies a field dressing to his back but he is coughing up blood.

Dobson coughs up blood, squeezes Rains's hand and checks out.

Rains shakes his head at Jones who is about to jump.

Another burst of machine gun fire and the RAF Sergeant drops dying to the deck, his chest riddled with bullets.

The Copilot comes into the back and hollers loudly.

CO-PILOT

Get out - now!

The Copilot races back into the cockpit and Jones looks at Sergeant Mac.

Jones shoves the two sledges out.

JONES

Everybody Out!

Sergeant MAC chivvies the men out, they shuffle towards the exit hole in the bottom of the fuselage.

Rains grabs Rollright who is frozen with terror.

RAINS

Come on - let's go.

Rollright is reluctant.

RAINS (CONT'D)

Jump!

Rains pushes Rollright and then follows on.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKY - CONTINUOUS

The moon illuminates the scene. Rains hurtles through the night sky, the air rushing past him.

Rains looks down as the ground rushes up to meet him.

Rains lands in a crumpled heap buried in snow, his parachute billowing above him.

He clambers up, dusts himself down and collects in the chute. He then searches for Rollright.

CUT TO:

EXT. NORWAY MOUNTAIN RANGE - MOMENTS LATER

Rollright is being dragged towards the edge of a rocky outcrop.

Rains races after him and manages to dive on the shoot, cutting the lines with his commando dagger.

Rollright comes to a halt near the edge. Rains buries the chute and runs up to him.

RAINS

Come on, we've got find the others.

Rollright is extremely grateful.

ROLLRIGHT

Thank you, though I was a going to die.

RAINS

You still might if we don't get out of here. Move!

They start back towards the others.

The commandos have landed at the foot of a mountain range, just short of the pine forest that skirts the mountains.

Sergeant Mac is summoning the men to him with a shout.

They start to drift in. He counts them, one is missing - Graves.

MAC

Where the hell is Graves?

A parachute drifts along in ghostly silence.

RILEY

Dig in!

Graves does not respond so Riley and Steinar race after him.

RILEY (cont'd) (CONT'D)  
Dig in you idiot!

Graves is still, being bumped along the snow - dead.

Steinar and Riley collapse his chute and go to him.

Graves lies up against a rocky outcrop - he has broken neck.

Steinar checks his pulse and shakes his head at Riley.

STEINAR  
Get his chute.

Steinar rips the dog-tag from Graves's neck.

The sound of shouting in German and the odd shot.

Steinar and Riley hightail back towards the rest of the men who are engaged in a fire-fight with a small Nazi patrol. The image is surreal as they fight in limited vision. Shadows moving in an almost total white environment.

Rains is putting down fire in the direction of the German patrol.

Riley unslings his sniper rifle as Steinar covers him. He scans the area through the scope-movement-fire's-German goes down.

Steinar and Riley head towards him and find a radio.

The remaining two are in a ditch - Rains, Mac and Gable put down heavy fire. Rollright tries to join in, but Rains shoves him back into cover.

RAINS  
Stay down.

Rollright keeps his head down.

MAC  
Rapid Fire!

Mac and the fire support give a heavy covering fire as Jones approaches the ditch.

The men cease firing as Jones moves up.

Jones storms the ditch - grenade first followed by a burst of machine- gun fire into the Nazis. Jones then goes to ground and scans the scene. All clear.

He signals to the others who close in. Mac and Gable stand-to at the tree-line.

Rollright stares in fascination at the dead Germans.

Steinar and Riley appear with the radio.

JONES

Graves?

Steinar hands Jones a set of dog-tags.

STEINAR

Broken neck.

Jones stuffs them in his pocket.

Riley starts to heave the dead bodies into the undergrowth - he motions for Rollright to help.

RILEY

Don't worry - they won't bite. The boss saw to that.

Rollright follows Riley's lead and grabs a German by the webbing straps.

CUT TO:

EXT. NORWAY MOUNTAIN RANGE - NIGHT

The men have regrouped going through what remains of their kit. Jones is studying a map and compass with Steinar. Mac, Rains, Riley, Gable and Rollright count out explosives, ammunition etc. Jones and Steinar move over.

JONES

Alright men, gather round.

The men close in for a quick brief. He looks at their eager face's.

JONES (CONT'D)

I know it's been a rough start. We've lost two good men before we've started, our ski's and sledges are strewn about the mountain somewhere and we have a bloody long yomp ahead of us. But we have ammunition and explosives. We're here now and we're going to fulfil this mission. Right?

Mac and the others nod their assent.

JONES (CONT'D)

Next stop.

He points up the mountain range.

JONES (CONT'D)  
We've got an RV with Beowulf.

Rains looks sceptical.

RAINS  
Can we trust him? It looks like  
they were waiting for us...

JONES  
When we get to the RV we'll go to  
ground. You and Steinar go in - at  
the first sign of a trap, shoot him  
and return to the ERV. We'll cover  
you in and out.

Rains and Steinar nod.

JONES (CONT'D)  
The codeword is 'Grendel' and the  
response is 'Viking'.

STEINAR  
Got it.

JONES  
Jerry know we're here so be ready  
for anything. SOP's on ambush.

Rains helps Rollright on with his pack and gives him a wide  
grin.

RAINS  
You stay right behind me, if we  
come into contact you go to ground.  
Understood?

ROLLRIGHT  
I know how to shoot.

RAINS  
Understood?

Rollright gives a sullen nod.

The men set off stealthily through the pine forest towards  
the mountain range.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION - DAY

Tucked away below a sheer drop, with just a small track  
leading to it lies the enemy communications centre.

Caption on Screen: 'Objective Grendel - Northern U-Boat Fleet  
Command and Control.'

A team patrol the perimeter - low key defences, with a machine-gun post covering the approach road.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - DAY

Jones comes to a halt and goes to ground. He scans the open ground before him with his binoculars - all clear.

He makes a signal for RV (Circle) and for Steinar and Rains to come up.

Rains gets up and looks at Rollright.

RAINS

You stay close to Mac and Riley.

Rollright nods and is clearly warming to Rains.

ROLLRIGHT

Be careful!

RAINS

Yes mother!

Rains and Steinar huddle up to Jones.

JONES

The RV with Beowulf is beyond that spur. This is the ERV, lay up until night with eyes on the hut - he should appear soon after.

Rains and Steinar nod.

JONES (CONT'D)

Any sign of trouble - back here, pronto.

RAINS

Boss.

JONES

We'll move up at dusk to a lay up point and cover your move in. Wave us in when it's clear.

STEINAR

Right.

Jones indicates for them to go with his eyes. They move off with the others covering them.

CUT TO:

EXT. GULLY - DAY

Rains and Steinar move stealthily along the edge of the forest. It is growing dark as they enter the gully to the side of the spur.

Rains disappears down a crevasse. A stream of expletives as he goes. Steinar rushes to the gap and gets a rope. He fastens it to a tree.

CUT TO:

INT. CREVASSE - DUSK

It is pitch black. Rains groans in pain and fumbles for his torch.

CUT TO:

EXT. GULLY - DUSK

Steinar is leaning over the edge.

STEINAR

Rains? Rains are you hurt?

He peers into the gloom.

STEINAR (CONT'D)

Rains. Hold on - I'm sending down a rope.

CUT TO:

INT. CREVASSE - DUSK

Rains finds his torch, doesn't work at first so he gives it a thump.

A yellow light illuminates the grisly scene.

Rains is open mouthed and horrified - he is next to the frozen corpse of a soldier, a Norwegian, his face blown apart from a bullet in the back of the head.

He scrambles away in disgust and shines the torch down at the ground to search for a better footing - he then beholds an even grimmer scene: the mangled and strangely contorted corpses of more soldiers - all with their faces blown away. Their hands tied.

Rains swallows - shaken. He is sick. He shines the torch upwards and calls out.



RAINS

Morten?

The rope slithers down the crevasse like a snake, finally within reach of his grip.

He pulls it, it holds fast, and he begins to climb.

CUT TO:

EXT. GULLY - DUSK

Steinar is heaving on the rope, helping Rains ascend.

Rains appears ashen faced at the top.

STEINAR

Quite a shock, eh? These crevasses are killers. As child we would...

Rains looks at him - Steinar appears a little hazy.

STEINAR (CONT'D)

You all right?

Rains lights a fag, he is clearly spooked.

RAINS

There are bodies down there... They've been executed... dumped.

STEINAR

Military or civilian.

RAINS

Does it matter?

STEINAR

Come on lets go.

RAINS

(incensed)

'Let's go'!

Steinar turns on Rains. He is angry.

STEINAR

What can we do Rains! They are dead. This is what the Nazis do. They fight you, defeat you and execute you. There's no Geneva convention here. You think if we're caught it's a POW camp for us. We have torture and a bullet to look forward to. But not before we kill some Germans. Now lets go!

Steinar coil's the rope and they head off.

CUT TO:

EXT. GULLY - NIGHT

Night has fallen, Steinar and Rains move quickly, but quietly towards their objective - a seemingly abandoned ski hut.

Steinar is about to break cover and approach the hut when Rains drags him back down.

A lone Skier is approaching the hut from the far slope - just a small figure in the distance, but clearly comfortable with the terrain.

RAINS

It could be a patrol - give it a minute.

Rains and Steinar watch the Skier gradually come closer. They look at each other.

The Skier has a balaclava on and a hunting rifle slung over the shoulder.

The Skier comes to a halt just short of the hut and unslings the rifle.

Having propped the skis silently by the door, the Skier listens, then enters, barrel first.

Rains and Steinar get up as one and start to move towards the hut.

They halt outside the door and make silent hand-signals - Steinar is to open the door while Rains enters.

CUT TO:

INT. SKI-HUT - NIGHT

Rains pokes his head into the gloom and steps inside.

He is thrown to the floor with a Judo throw and a barrel pointed at his chest.

Steinar bursts in the Skier steps back, rifle levelled.

There is a brief 'Mexican stand-off' before Rains speaks.

RAINS

Grendel.

The Skier lowers the rifle barrel and pulls down the scarf. The SOE Operative, 'Beowulf', turns out to be LIV JENSEN, a plucky petite bi-lingual blonde, who seems to find men faintly amusing.

She watches their faces with a laugh as they take in that they are dealing with a woman.

JENSEN  
Vikings - I presume.

Steinar and Rains exchange glances with raised eyebrows.

Steinar and Jensen exchange pleasantries in Norwegian before Rains gets annoyed.

RAINS  
What are you two on about?

STEINAR  
Liv Jensen, may I present Bob Rains.

RAINS  
Jensen? You Norwegian then?

Jensen lights a candle and the hut assumes a warm glow.

JENSEN  
When required. Where are the rest of you.

Steinar signals with his pocket torch in the doorway - there is a brief flash in response.

STEINAR  
They're en route.

Jensen sits down on one of the bunk-beds and takes off her jacket. She gives Rains a warm smile and points to the fire.

JENSEN  
Be a dear and put some scoff on -  
I've had a hell of a journey...

Rains and Steinar light the fire and start preparing some tucker. Jensen starts to consult a map.

CUT TO:

INT. SKI HUT - LATER

Jones appears and is shocked by the scene.

JONES  
Rains?

RAINS  
Hello Boss.

JONES  
Beowulf?

RAINS  
That's right.

Jones walks over and introduces himself.

JONES  
Jack Jones, Combined Operations.

JENSEN  
Jensen, S.O.E. North. Welcome to  
Norway!

She smirks as she looks at Rains and Steinar at work.

JENSEN (CONT'D)  
The boys are kindly making us  
something to eat. Shall we discuss  
tactics while we wait.

JONES  
My sergeant is securing the  
outside. Any update on the  
objective.

JENSEN  
Well, the Boche certainly know  
you're here, Captain Jones. Their  
Alpine troops are all over the  
shop. Had to go over the mountains  
to get here.

JONES  
So you weren't followed?

Jensen gives him a 'don't be stupid' look and he is suitably  
embarrassed.

JENSEN  
Here is a sketch of the target  
area.

Jones pulls up a chair and looks at her sketch / map.

Steinar opens a couple of tin cans which they intend to cook  
up.

Rains starts melting snow to get some tea on.

Sergeant Mac appears rubbing his hands and stamping his feet,  
Rollright behind him.

MAC  
Beautiful country - but freeze the  
balls of a brass...

He stops mid-flow as he spots Jensen, who doesn't even bat an eyelid.

Mac is all apologetic - she is diplomacy personified.

MAC (CONT'D)  
Uch. Sorry Mam, didn't know you  
were a woman. If ye catch my  
drift...

JENSEN  
I wasn't until it froze 'em off.  
You must be Sergeant Mac - pleased  
to meet you.

Sergeant Mac almost bows he's so taken with her, then sets  
about sorting the kit: ammo / explosives / radio.

Rollright heads for the fire and Steinar hands him a hot  
drink.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE SNOW COVERED MOUNTAINS - NIGHT

In the vast expanse a small glow can be seen. It is the light  
from the Ski Hut.

CUT TO:

INT. SKI-HUT - NIGHT

Jensen is briefing Jones. The others listen on.

JONES  
Numbers?

JENSEN  
About 20 Alpine troops at the  
communications centre, plus some  
naval radio operators.

She shows them her sketch.

JENSEN (cont'd) (CONT'D)  
The approach road is covered by a  
heavy machine gun post, here. There  
is also a 4-man patrol who cover  
the immediate area.

JONES  
Good work. Inside?

JENSEN

The operations room is on the top floor - the troops are on the ground floor next to the kitchen.

Jones studies the sketch map.

JONES

What do you suggest?

JENSEN

In through top - the rock face behind the hut is not covered. It'll be tough ascent but you could get to the roof with ropes.

JONES

How long from here?

JENSEN

Ten hours.

JONES

You seem very certain.

JENSEN

I am. I did it last night to be sure.

JONES

Good.

He turns to Sergeant Mac.

JONES (CONT'D)

Mac - O group in 30 mins. Then we move.

MAC

Roger that.

Mac calls over to Steinar.

MAC (CONT'D)

Get Gable and Riley in. See that get some scrum.

Steinar exits.

JONES

Nearest reserves?

JENSEN

There is a ski lodge 5 miles east of the target above the village. It's their company Headquarters and doubles as R and R for the U-Boat commanders.

JENSEN (CONT'D)  
Anything else?

JONES  
You staying here or...

JENSEN  
I'm coming with you.

Jones is unsure.

Steinar returns with Gable and Riley. Jensen smiles warmly at him.

JENSEN (CONT'D)  
I'm extracting with you tomorrow night.

JONES  
Good.

Jensen opens her pack and digs out her radio. Jones starts preparing orders.

Rollright joins the others for food / weapon cleaning.

Jensen starts to send a message in Morse code.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNTAIN RANGE - NIGHT

A German patrol come to a halt near the Landing Zone and start to search for signs of the enemy.

CUT TO:

INT. WAR OFFICE - NIGHT

Lt Commander Fleming is gazing out of the window, scotch in hand.

CUT TO:

EXT. WAR OFFICE CORRIDOR - NIGHT

A naval rating walks quickly down the corridor, clutching a signal. He heads towards Fleming's office and knocks.

CUT TO:

INT. WAR OFFICE - NIGHT

The rating enters and Fleming puts down his drink.

RATING  
Despatch from Beowulf, Sir.

The rating hands Fleming the signal and waits.

LT COMMANDER  
Ummm.

The rating takes out a notebook and pencil.

RATING  
Any response, Sir?

LT COMMANDER  
Yes- 'Proceed'.

The rating salutes and exits.

Fleming picks up his scotch and carries toast.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)  
Good luck.

CUT TO:

INT. SKI-HUT - NIGHT

The commandos are listening to Jones's brief.

JONES  
Order of March: Steinar and Jensen  
will take point, then me and Riley,  
Rains with the Professor, and Gable  
with Mac.

The men listen intently.

JONES (CONT'D)  
I'll carry out a close target recce  
with Jensen when we're at the  
summit. Then we go in.

He looks at Mac.

JONES (CONT'D)  
Fire Support - with Gable and  
Riley.

MAC  
Aye.

JONES  
Steinar - you oversee the abseil  
assault.

STEINAR  
No problem.



JONES  
Rains, Jensen and Rollright come  
with me. Right. Any questions?

There are no questions.

Jones chucks his orders on the fire.

JONES (CONT'D)  
Let's go.

There is a real sense of urgency as the men gather their kit together.

JONES (CONT'D)  
Leave a present for Jerry.

Mac and Rains stoke the fire, chuck on some more wood and then set a trip wire rigged to two grenades just inside the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKI-HUT - NIGHT

The commandos move out as per the order of march up the mountain side towards their objective.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNTAIN RANGE - NIGHT

The commandos are breathing heavily as they make their ascent. Rollright stumbles but Rains is on hand as ever to help him.

Jensen is up front with Steinar, scanning for the best route up.

They find the goat track and start to speed up.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKI-HUT - NIGHT

Hauptmann Model's alpine troops are circling the hut.

Model indicates for two troops to enter.

CUT TO:

INT. SKI-HUT - NIGHT

The two troops move carefully into the hut.

They stop short of the trip wire and one of them gives the all clear to Model.

Then one of them spies some chocolate on the table - a gift from Rains and goes for it.

ALPINE TROOP # 1  
Schokolade!

His pal spots the wire and grins.

ALPINE TROOP # 2  
Nein!

Too late - The wire pings and both men are dead.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKI-HUT - NIGHT

Model watches the explosion with fury.

MODEL  
Verdamnte scheisse!

He looks at the ground for a sign - he sees footprints and looks up at the mountain range. He waves his men on.

MODEL (CONT'D)  
Let's go - they're close.

The Alpine troops set off after him at a blistering pace.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUMMIT - NIGHT

Jensen and Steinar have gone firm. Jones comes up and scours the scene with his binoculars.

JENSEN  
There it is.

Directly below them is their objective.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION - NIGHT

Scene: Through Binoculars.

All is quiet. The lights are on in the top floor, and there is a soldier having a cigarette at the machine gun post.

JONES (V.O.)  
All right. This is it.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUMMIT - NIGHT

Steinar comes up with the ropes and starts to secure two to the rock face. There will be a double abseil onto the roof.

Riley assumes a fire position with his sniper rifle to the flank next to Mac who is scanning the position with his Binoculars.

JONES  
Make ready.

The troops cock their weapons.

Rains looks at Rollright and takes out his pistol checking the rounds. Jones and Rains clip grenades to their webbing.

STEINAR  
All set, Jack.

JONES  
Let's go.

Rains leans over to Jensen with a cheeky grin.

RAINS  
Good luck kiss?

Jensen holds out her hand formally.

JENSEN  
Good luck!

They shake. Jones and Rains start their descent. Jensen and Rollright follow up, then Steinar.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION ROOF - NIGHT

The commandos land on the roof and then start to rig up a second abseil: they are going in through the windows.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUMMIT - NIGHT

Mac scans the front entrance with his binoculars. Riley has his sights on the door.

Gable takes up a fire position.

MAC  
Stand by.

RILEY  
Ready.

GABLE  
Ready.

Riley starts to control his breathing and applies the first pressure on the trigger.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION - NIGHT

Jones and Rains smash two separate windows on the top floor. They hurl in grenades and swing away.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION - NIGHT

German Alpine Troops buckling up their webbing as they come down start to exit the main door.

The first two are picked off by Riley.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION MACHINE GUN POST - NIGHT

The gunners are on alert. The sergeant, Feldwebel, is pointing at the summit.

FELDWEBEL  
Achtung! Angriff!

They ascertain where the assault is coming from and start to adjust the gun.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUMMIT - NIGHT

Mac now his gaze fixed on the machine gun post.

MAC  
Switch targets.

Riley and Gable adjust positions and aim at the gunners.  
Bullets start to rip into the rock face below them.

CUT TO:

INT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION TOP FLOOR - NIGHT

Jones and Rains are clearing the room - all the radio operators and the Duty Officer are dead.

JONES

Clear!

Rains leans back out of the window.

RAINS

Clear!

Rollright and Jensen clamber in. Rollright stares stunned at the scene.

RAINS (CONT'D)

The kit. Find it.

Rollright starts to look for the RDF kit.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION - NIGHT

Steinar sails past the top floor and leaps the final few feet into the snow.

He gets up and starts to move stealthily towards the machine gun post.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION MACHINE GUN POST - NIGHT

A gunner gets one between the eyes. The others take cover. The Feldwebel pops his head above the parapet.

Bang - Riley scores again.

Steinar appears in the dead ground to a flank and hurls in a couple of grenades.

There is a dull thump as they explode and some groaning.

Steinar storms in with machine gun blazing and finishes them off.

He then slings his weapon and gets to grips with the enemy gun.

Steinar brings the gun to bear on the main door where a handful of Alpine troops have just emerged.

He guns them down.

This brings him to the attention of the four-man patrol who start to fire move in on a flank.

Steinar is unaware.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUMMIT - NIGHT

Mac has his binoculars on Steinar, then he notices the enemy patrol moving up on him in dead ground.

MAC

Bollocks - enemy in dead ground,  
moving in on Edwards.

Riley adjusts his position.

MAC (CONT'D)

Riley - Target 2 - Enemy 4'  
o'clock, 200 foot.

Riley has one in his sight, but then he disappears into dead ground.

RILEY

Lost 'em.

Mac scans again.

MAC

3 o'clock - 100 feet.

Riley adjusts his sights and scans.

He pulls the trigger - the patrol leader goes down.

RILEY

Lost 'em again.

Mac stashes the binoculars in his tunic and starts for the edge.

MAC

Come on lads! The cavalry is  
required.

Steinar rolls out of his fire position and follows Mac.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNTAIN RANGE - NIGHT

There is gunfire in the distance.

Model's Alpine Patrol are nearly at the summit.

MODEL

Schnell!

He starts to peg it up the hill, his men are with him.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUMMIT - NIGHT

Sergeant Mac is starting his descent.

Gable is already racing down in large jumps, gun at the hip, firing.

Mac looks back up for Riley.

MAC

Come on Riley. Move it!

Riley approaches the edge and grins at Mac.

RILEY

Just one more go.

He kneels on the edge and is taking aim at the enemy in the compound.

He fires.

Through his scope another Alpine Trooper goes down.

There is another shot - not his. He has been shot in the back. His tunic goes from dirty white to red. His face is in shock and he falls off the edge.

His body flies past Mac.

Mac turns to face downwards and abseils at lightning speed to the bottom.

Gunfire peppers his descent from above.

Gable is at the bottom of the rock face, blazing away.

The crumpled body of Riley turns the snow red.

Model and his men have arrived.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION MACHINE GUN POST - NIGHT

Steinar is blazing away.

Two Alpine troops are nearly on him from the rear.

Mac and Gable are racing toward the scene.

The two Alpine troops appear taking out Gable. Steinar gun's them down.

Model's troops are descending from the commandos' abseil ropes.

Mac starts to spray the rock face with covering fire, Steinar feeds the gun link ammunition.

CUT TO:

INT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION TOP FLOOR - NIGHT

Jones is holding off the enemy at the doorway. Rains is firing out of the window.

Rollright and Jensen are stripping down a piece of RDF communications kit.

Jensen stows it in Rains' pack.

JENSEN  
We've got it.

RAINS  
Let's go then.

JENSEN  
Which way?

Jones has to think.

Jensen is rigging up an explosive device.

It is momentarily quiet - apart from Mac's gun outside. Rains starts to fire again out of the window.

RAINS  
Not this way.

Jones peers outside the door way.

JONES  
Follow me.

He starts out of the door. Jensen loads up Rains with his pack.



Rollright exits with Jensen. Rains sets the timer on the explosives and follows.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE MACHINE GUN POST - NIGHT

Mac wires a couple of grenades on the gun - pulls the pins and leaves the bunker.

STEINAR

Let's grab some transport.

MAC

Good idea, laddie. Go.

Steinar hightails it towards a VW Kubelwagen, (Wehrmacht Jeep). Mac follows on, covering him.

CUT TO:

INT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Jones leads his team down the stairs. German bodies litter the way.

Jones throws a couple of grenades down the stairs for good measure.

There is an explosion and they all descend.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION - NIGHT

Jones covers his team out of the building.

Steinar pulls up in the Kubelwagen, Mac in the back.

Jones and his team pile in and race off.

An alpine trooper goes for the heavy machine gun, he swings it around but this triggers the grenades and it is all over.

Model surveys the scene and grabs the handset off his radio operator.

It doesn't work. The operator points to a bullet lodged in the metal casing.

Model then flings the handset back at his operator in a fit of pique.

CUT TO:

INT. KUBELWAGEN - NIGHT

Steinar at the wheel, Jones beside him. Mac, Jensen and Rollright in the back.

Rains is returning fire out of the back.

Jensen notices blood on Mac's shoulder.

JENSEN  
You've been hit.

MAC  
Not again.

She grabs a field dressing and wraps it around the wound.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS STATION - NIGHT

The top floor goes up as the explosives kick in.

CUT TO:

INT. KUBELWAGEN - NIGHT

Jones consults his map.

RAINS  
It's blown.

JONES  
Do you think we could make it to  
the airfield?

Steinar shakes his head.

STEINAR  
I think we should head for the  
hills and lay up.

JONES  
You know a place?

STEINAR  
I do.

JONES  
Good man.

Jensen is on her radio - tapping away in morse.

JENSEN  
Not sure if they'll get this.

JONES

Send it anyway. Pick up to stand by  
for 1800hrs onwards. PUP to be  
notified.

Steinar scans the road ahead, there is a sharp bend. He grips  
the wheel tightly as the vehicle swerves on black ice.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - NIGHT

Dawn is fast approaching.

The sound of enemy aircraft overhead - searching for the  
commandos.

The Kubelwagen has been camouflaged and the troops are  
resting - all bar Rains, who is on watch, and Jones who  
trying the radio - no joy.

He gets up and shakes Jensen awake.

JONES

Our radios had it. Do you mind  
trying again?

Jensen rubs her eyes and hauls out her radio.

Jones helps her rig up the antenna. She starts to transmit.

JENSEN

Message?

JONES

Pick up at 2000hrs - location  
grid...

He shows her his map, indicating a Pick Up Point with a twig.  
Jensen nods her assent, and sends the grid.

She waits for a return signal.

JONES (CONT'D)

How bad is Mac?

JENSEN

It's not pretty, and he's lost a  
lot of blood, but he seems tough as  
old boots.

JONES

He most certainly is.

Steinar approaches Jones.

STEINAR  
I'm going to the Village.

JONES  
I don't think that's a good idea.

STEINAR  
Jack, we need some supplies and  
more importantly - intelligence.

Jones knows he's right.

JONES  
Take Rains. He can cover you as you  
go in. No engaging the enemy unless  
absolutely necessary. You  
understand.

STEINAR  
Yes.

Steinar leaves.

CUT TO:

INT. WAR OFFICE - NIGHT

Fleming is asleep on a makeshift bunk in his office.

The Naval Rating enters with a knock and turns on the light.

Fleming stirs - blinking.

RATING  
Sorry to wake you, Commander  
Fleming, but you said to...

LT COMMANDER  
Of course, what is it?

The Rating reads from the signal.

Fleming gets up and looks at the map while he listens.

RATING  
From Beowulf - Grendel destroyed,  
many losses, ready for Pick Up.  
2000HRS...

Fleming motions for him to hand over the signal.

LT COMMANDER  
Tell them to stand by. Come back in  
10 for further instructions.

RATING  
Sir.

The Rating exits.

Fleming reaches for the phone.

LT COMMANDER  
Evening Operator - RAF Strategic  
Command please.

OPERATOR (V.O.)  
Of course, please hold.

RAF COMMAND (V.O.)  
Strategic Command?

LT COMMANDER  
SOE Special Ops - Pick up required.  
Urgent?

RAF COMMAND (V.O.)  
Authority?

LT COMMANDER  
Grendel.

RAF COMMAND (V.O.)  
Please hold.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNTAIN PASS - DAWN

Rains and Steinar move stealthily through the pass.

CUT TO:

INT. WAR OFFICE - NIGHT

Fleming reaches for his pipe, the first match breaks.

LT COMMANDER  
Damn it.

RAF COMMAND (V.O.)  
Special Ops?

LT COMMANDER  
Need priority pick up tonight at  
2000HRS Alpha from North -  
Operation Grendel.

There is a pause.

RAF COMMAND (V.O.)  
Not possible I'm afraid.

LT COMMANDER

This is a top priority extraction - don't give me that. Send a bloody plane.

RAF COMMAND (V.O.)

Not possible - poor weather, snow storms imminent over objective.

LT COMMANDER

Right - notify SOE OPS if there is a window. The slightest window of opportunity.

RAF COMMAND

Wilco, sir.

Fleming puts down the phone and curses under his breath.

The rating enters.

RATING

Sir?

Fleming studies the map.

LT COMMANDER

Tell Viking - RAF Pick up not possible. They are to move to Sweden for Naval Pick up. Friends will arrange. Also inform sunray that wife and daughter, Sarah, both well. For Beowulf only: go it alone - with the prize.

The rating looks at him.

LT COMMANDER (CONT'D)

Send it.

The Rating salutes and exits. Fleming thumps the map in frustration.

CUT TO:

EXT. VILLAGE - DAWN

The Nazi occupied Ski- Lodge dominates the village from the side of the mountain.

The village is serenely quiet. Model and his patrol appear on the brow of the hill they are with an SS patrol.

The SS Officer surveys the scene and a vicious smile reaches his lip.

Model gives his sergeant a cold stare.

The unit starts to move into the village.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - DAWN

Jones and Jensen exchange glances.

JONES  
Sweden! How difficult?

JENSEN  
It's not going to be easy. They  
have started border patrols... But  
it's a big boarder!

There is an anguished silence.

JONES  
That's all they said, just go to  
Sweden.

JENSEN  
That and your a father.

Even with this news Jones seems demoralized. Jensen starts to  
pack up the radio.

JENSEN (CONT'D)  
Congratulations on your baby!

Jones doesn't respond. Sergeant Mac gets up and wanders over.

JONES  
How's the arm?

MAC  
It'll do. What's the latest?

JENSEN  
The captain's had a baby girl.

MAC  
Good job!

He shakes Jones's hand. Jones tries to smile.

JONES  
Poor weather - pick up cancelled.  
We're on shank's pony.

MAC  
Oh aye - where to?

JONES  
Sweden. Going to be rough.

This is serious.

MAC  
I'll get the men.

JONES  
Steinar and Rains have gone to the village.

CUT TO:

EXT. RIDGE LOOKING OVER THE VILLAGE - DAWN

Rains and Steinar are watching as the villagers are herded together by the SS.

RAINS  
What are they going to do?

STEINAR  
(Norwegian)  
Jesus Christ - No!

RAINS  
What's going on mate?

STEINAR  
Reprisal!

RAINS  
Reprisal?

STEINAR  
Execution!

RAINS  
Execution... no fucking way.  
But... they didn't do nothing. What  
can we do... we're go and get  
Jones!

Rains looks back at the village, seemingly helpless.

CUT TO:

EXT. VILLAGE - MORNING

The village is silent.

Model stands surveys the scene with menace.

Ten men have been lined up in the street - all kneeling down.

Model struts behind them, Luger pistol in hand.

The community looks on helplessly in silent anguish.



The SS Officer struts about, directing a soldier who has a hand-held camera, filming the villagers.

SS OFFICER  
(German)  
The Reich fuhrer wants to see  
everything Schulz.

Schulz starts filming the grim scene.

One of the women, a GRANDMOTHER, runs out and tries to plead with him. He knocks her to the ground.

The SS Officer addresses the prisoners.

SS OFFICER (CONT'D)  
(Norwegian)  
Today we stop you helping the  
British.

The men are executed. There is screaming and crying.

MODEL  
The British are the guilty ones -  
they attacked the Third Reich.

The village elder / mayor steps forward and tries to reason with Model. He is shot dead.

The body of the man is dragged away and dumped in a ditch.

What happens next is a massacre.

Steinar and Rains look on in horror. Steinar wanting to shoot at them but stopped by Rains. It would mean them dying too.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - MORNING

Jensen looks at the two commandos and Rollright - unshaven, bloodied and knackered.

JENSEN  
It may best if we split up.

Jones nods.

JONES  
You can go if you like - you'd  
probably have a better chance on  
your own.

JENSEN  
What about the RDF kit?

JONES

That stays with us.

Jensen eyes the pack near Rollright jealously, then smiles.

JENSEN

Of course.

There is the sound of commotion from the nearby track. The troops grab their weapons and stand to.

Steinar and Rains come into view. The horror of what they have seen still evident on their faces. They scramble into camp.

JONES

Bob what's wrong?

Rains just stares hard at Jones. Unable to speak.

JONES (CONT'D)

Steinar?

Their behaviour encourages Mac to start packing up gear and prepare for escape. Jensen grabs her automatic weapon and scans the track.

JONES (CONT'D)

STEINAR!

Steinar turns to Jones.

STEINAR

They killed the village...

He has their attention.

STEINAR (CONT'D)

Murderd them.

RAINS

We just watch... those bastard just... slaughtered them.

JONES

There was nothing you could do.

RAINS

But it's our fault.

MAC

That's war son...

Rains is angered by the comment.

RAINS

Bollocks! Their civilian.

Everyone listens on horrified. Jones knows he has to take charge of the situation. He puts a hand on Rain's shoulder.

JONES

Mac's right. This is war, and before it's over thousands, hundreds of thousands are going to die, soldier and civilian alike. Those people have died because of us - yes, because we carried out a raid, have destroyed a RDF system, stolen the technology... For that people have died. But by doing that we have probably saved even more lives.

He address them all.

JONES (CONT'D)

Our mission is only fifty percent complete. We still have to complete this mission. Getting home!

Steinar visibly upset.

STEINAR

I am home.

Jones feeling for this man.

JONES

Not yet Morten.

The men sit stoically, Jensen sits besides Rains.

JONES (CONT'D)

Our pick up has been cancelled - we're to make our way to neutral Sweden

Rains takes an intake of breath. Jensen looks at him.

JONES (CONT'D)

Jensen is going ahead to liaise with the embassy in Sweden.

Rains looks at Jensen.

RAINS

You be all right on your own?

JENSEN

I'll be fine

Steinar has been holding in his feeling. He address the group.

STEINAR

This my first time back in norway  
for nearly five years. The last  
time I was here I still had two  
uncles and aunts. Five cousins. I  
know my uncles are now dead and the  
rest of my family on the run. I'm  
staying.

Jones is annoyed by this outburst.

JONES

To do what exactly? Get yourself  
killed!

STEINAR

I'm going to kill those SS  
bastards.

MAC

You'll have a better chance to make  
it right by getting back to  
Britain.

JONES

We're too many men down, your part  
of this team. I cant let you go.

STEINAR

I'll help you to the boarder.

JONES

I could order you.

STEINAR

I know.

Rains is concerned.

RAINS

You can't stay on your own mate.  
You can't take on them alone.

STEINAR

I'll find others...

RAINS

Sod that! If your staying, then I'm  
staying.

MAC

Now listen Rains... your a British  
soldier so you will obey orders.

Rollright has been watching and listening intently. He stands  
up.

RAINS

You didn't see what those bastards just did.

ROLLRIGHT

Surely we could do something. I'm responsible for a lot of this.

MAC

Don't you bloody start.

ROLLRIGHT

I'm serious. I identified the RDF station and it's technology. They planned this raid for me and my colleges. We've already lost some good men here. We may die getting to Sweden, so if there a chance to help Steinar achieve... a revenge I'm in.

Jones is staggered.

JONES

Right that's it! Enough! We're a Commando unit, not an assassination squad. We are not on a suicide mission.

Jensen buts in.

JENSEN

The Ski lodge. The SS officers and some U boat captains spend their R and R there. It's not heavily guarded.

JONES

Can I get some order here?

He looks at Steinar.

JONES (CONT'D)

So you go kill some Germans and they kill another village?

STEINAR

Or maybe that village will fight?

Jones thinks for while. He is visibly torn.

RAINS

SS officers and U boat captains. That's got to be worth something sir.

Mac pipes up.

MAC

Listen you crazy bastards. I'm all for killing Jerry, but something like this needs planning...

Mac looks over at Jones.

MAC (CONT'D)

I hate to do this sir... The Captains just had a baby...

JONES

(annoyed)

Mac...

MAC

It's our responsibility to get him home to meet her.

The group take his point. Jones is clearly torn.

JONES

I'm not your responsibility. I do have a responsibility to my child, and that's stopping Jerry in his tracks. I don't want her growing up speaking German. So if your all set on revenge... we do it my way. You follow my orders to the letter.

The group look on admiring Jones's stance.

JONES (CONT'D)

Jensen what else do you know about the Lodge. We need to know every detail... Once you've briefed us you will take the intelligence and get to Sweden and on to Britain. I'd tell you take rollright with you but we're going to need him.

Rollright nod's approvingly.

MAC

When do we do this boss?

JONES

Tonight!

DISSOLVE TO:

SCRIPT NOTE: THIS SECTION IS INCOMPLETE BUT GIVES THE GIST OF WHAT WILL HAPPEN.

EXT. RIDGE LOOKING OVER THE SKI LODGE - NIGHT

Jones, Mac, Rains, Steinar and Rollright, spy the lodge from their position. They are armed and ready for action.

Jesen's VO will be heard explaining details of the lodge, the number of guard's, entrances, staff.

Jones looks at his men. He know's this could be for the last time.

JONES  
So we all know our jobs?  
Explosives?

MAC  
Check.

The men are ready and fuelled with adrenalin.

JONES  
Don't let him out of your sight...

Rains knows what he means and looks to Rollright.

RAINS  
Understood.

Rollright faintly smiles.

JONES  
There will be no rendezvous. Just  
do your worst and then head for  
Sweden... Good luck to us!

They all shake hands. Jones looks at Rains.

JONES (CONT'D)  
You made a hell of a commando.

He winks. Rains nods. The men take off into the darkness.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKI-LODGE - NIGHT

All is calm. Music can be heard playing on the radio. The faint sound of talking and laughter vibrates through the Lodge windows.

It is basically an officers' mess for the high command and off duty U-Boat officers.

A pair of guards patrol. Mac and Jones take them out with knives.

Rollright and Rains lay an explosive trip on the approach road to the ski-lodge.

The men move into their positions.

From Steinars point of view through the window we can see a group of men drinking and being entertained by some girls. They are very relaxed and certainly not expecting a raid. Steinar recognises the SS officer from the village massacre.

Rains and Rollright have climbed on to a balcony. From their position they can look down into the officers party. Rains checks his watch. He swallows hard.

Rains signals one minute to Rollright who nervously squeezes his rifle.

CUT TO:

INT. SKI-LODGE - CONTINUOUS

In unison the men enter the building stealthily. We follow each man as again they take up positions. The tension is palpable.

Jones and Mac have entered a hall way leading into the living area. Suddenly a German Navy Waiter exits holding an armful of dirty plates and glasses.

Jones shoots him between the eyes. There is a clatter of plates and Mac bursts into the room, shortly followed by Jones.

Jones and Mac operate as an elite team can, fire and manoeuvre, taking out Nazis.

Steinar goes straight for the SS officer.

Steinar is on him - SS officer is knocked to the ground and Steinar rips his chest open with a burst of his machine-gun.

They chaos has begun.

More officer and men appear weapons ready. A fire fight ensues.

CUT TO:

INT. SKI-LODGE - CONTINUOUS

Rollright and Rains rig the building - starting with a trip wire outside the dining-hall.

An officer comes running down the stairs - bleary eyed and hangover, but weapon ready.

He clocks Rains rigging a bomb he goes to shoot - Rollright clocks him and shoots him in the chest.

Rains looks up at Rollright.



## RAINS

Right - let's get the fuck out of here. Once we're out just keep running. Get to the forest. Don't stop. I'll meet you there.

Rollright heads out of the back of the building.

Rains checks his fuses. He senses something and looks up the stairs.

An SS officer is racing down, Luger at the ready. Rains takes aim and pulls the trigger.

One shot and then nothing.

The SS Officer starts his descent.

Rains has no time to fit a fresh magazine.

They engage in hand to hand. The pistol goes off and hits the ceiling.

Rains disarms him and knees him in the groin.

The SS officer rolls away and pulls an SS dagger.

Rains tries to kick it out of his hand but the SS man is too fast and upends him.

The SS officer is on him and trying to slit his throat.

Rains holds the dagger at bay and rolls over.

The two men are locked in a deadly embrace, exchanging insults through gritted teeth.

He head-butts the SS officer, jabs his eyes and twists the knife into the man's temple.

The SS man expires and Rains breathes heavily. It has been a close call.

He takes the SS Officer's pistol and exits.

CUT TO:

INT. SKI-LODGE - CONTINUOUS

The fire fight is intense and frenetic. Jones make the signal to leave. The men retreat.

CUT TO:

INT. SKI-LODGE - CONTINUOUS

Mac, Steinar and Jones step over the trip and head out the back, past the a dead SS Officer.

They appear at the back door - they encounter a group of Alpine troopers coming around the corner. There is a fire-fight. Jones is shot in the thigh. Steinar see him go down. He immediately pulls a grenade and makes to throw. He is shot dead and drops the grenade. Mac dives for it and manages to scramble it away just in time.

Jones and Mac cover each other towards the woods.

EXT. PINE FOREST - CONTINUOUS

Rains and Rollright are chugging up the slope through the trees.

Rollright is knackered.

ROLLRIGHT

I'll only slow you down. Leave me.

RAINS

No sodding way, come here.

Rains takes off Rollright's pack and slings it on his shoulders.

Rollright looks at Rains.

ROLLRIGHT

I don't think I can make it.

RAINS

Stop fucking thinking and walk.

Rains gives him a shove up the slope and looks back down the slope at the mayhem. A flare illuminates the sky and ground beneath. Rains can see Jones and Mac struggling to get through. Pursued by Alpine troops. Rains quickly changes magazine.

RAINS (CONT'D)

COVERING FIRE... Come on boys -  
this is my last magazine.

The two men lay down covering fire. In the distance more Alpine Troops are gaining. There is suddenly a burst of gun fire from behind Rains, he instinctively turns. There Firing her weapon down the hill is Jensen. She looks down at Rains.

JENSEN

Thought you might need a guide to  
Sweden.

Suddenly there is a series of explosions from the ski-lodge.

EXT. TRACK / PINE FOREST - CONTINUOUS

Mac and Jones move to a ditch and Mac looks back down the track.

MAC  
Ammo?

JONES  
Low.

MAC  
What you want to do?

JONES  
I'll cover you. Go.

MAC  
No - You go.

They know what is coming.

They look at each other for a moment and Mac starts to take aim.

A blizzard has started and the enemy come in and out of view.

The enemy are heading for them and it doesn't look good.

Jones joins him at the edge of the ditch and they start firing off the last of their ammunition.

EXT. PINE FOREST - CONTINUOUS

Jensen has joined Rains and Rollright. They are trying to lay down covering fire in increasingly difficult conditions.

JENSEN  
A storm is coming. That's good news. It will give us a chance. They won't see anything for hours.

RAINS  
We can't leave Jones and Mac?

JENSEN  
We have to.

Rains can hardly see anything below.

JENSEN (CONT'D)  
This weather might just be the cover they need.

ROLLRIGHT

She's right Bob. If anyone can make it, it'll be the Captain and Mac.

Rains stares down the slope. His eyes welling up. He bites his cheek. Breaths deeply. Turn to Jensen and Rollright.

RAINS

Right, lets get you home. That was my order. Get you home.

ROLLRIGHT

And shoot me if I can't.

RAINS

I'm getting you home... lead on.

The three take off into the dark blizzard.

What follow is a series of shots of the three struggling through until ....

EXT. MOUNTAIN RIDGE - SUNRISE

A breath taking view of the terrain. The three survivors stand looking out to the beautiful panoramic view.

Rains looks at Jensen. He smiles. She smiles back.

RAINS

Sweden?

JENSEN

That's Sweden!

Rains pats Rollright on the shoulder

RAINS

Bloody good.

They begin the trek down into SWEDEN.

TO BE CONTINUED...