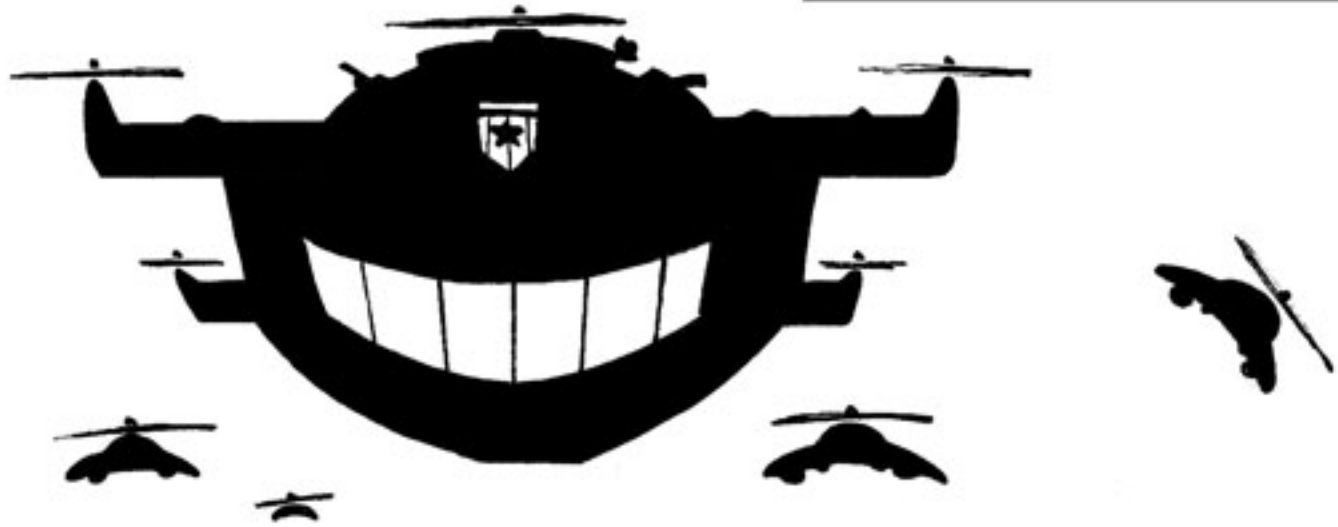


THEY SAID WAR WOULD SOON
BE A DISTANT MEMORY.

THEY SAID OUR TECHNOLOGY WOULD
MAKE PHYSICAL CONFLICT OBSOLETE.



FUNNY THING IS, THE WARS
NEVER STOPPED --

THEY JUST GOT
MORE COMPLICATED.

CAPTIVE AUDIENCE

STORY & LETTERS: NICK MARINO
ART: KUNDO KRUNCH



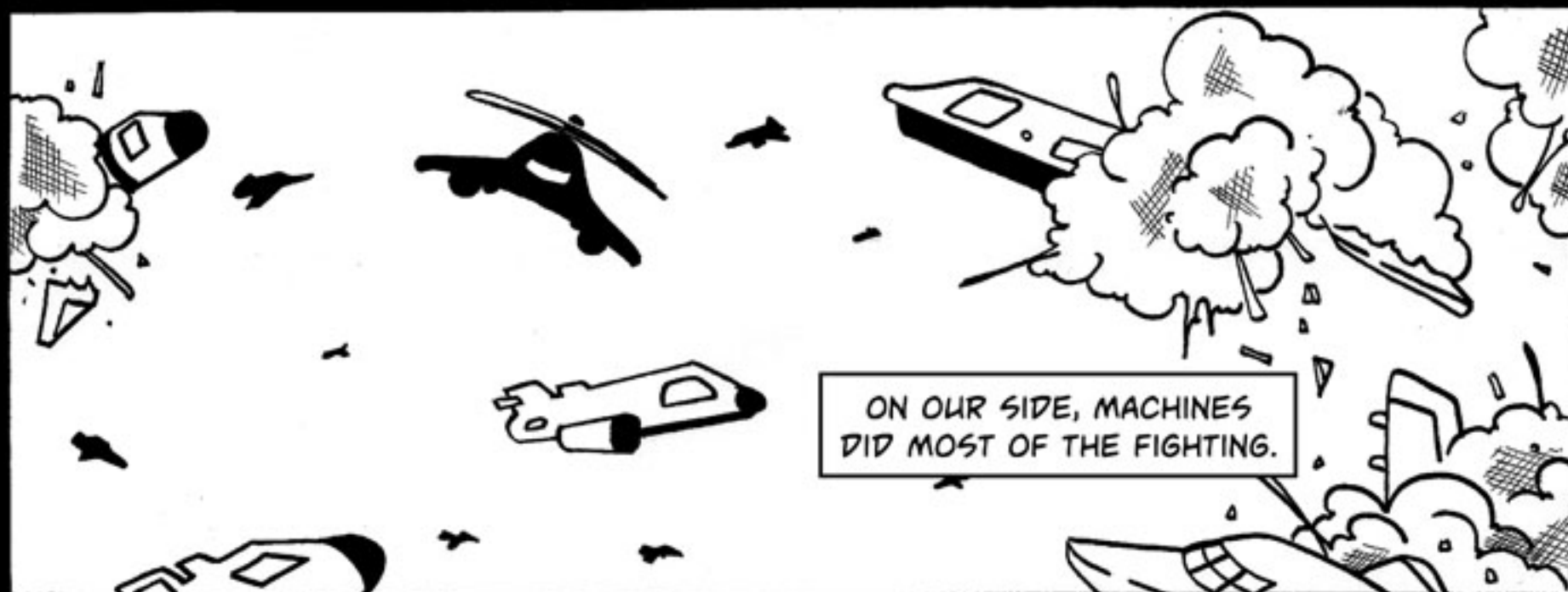
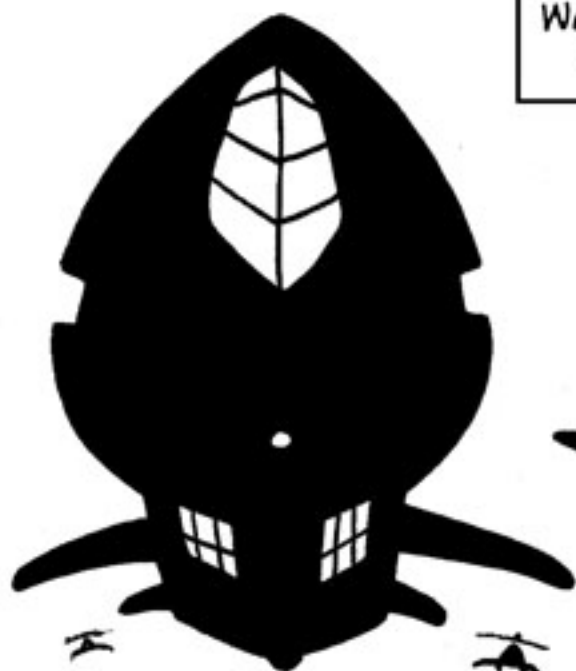
I SHIPPED OUT OF FORT
MAUI, FIGHTING ON BEHALF
OF THE UNITED CULTURES.

I WAS DEPLOYED TO AUSTRALIA,
ONE OF THE MAJOR HOTSPOTS
IN THE GLOBAL WAR.



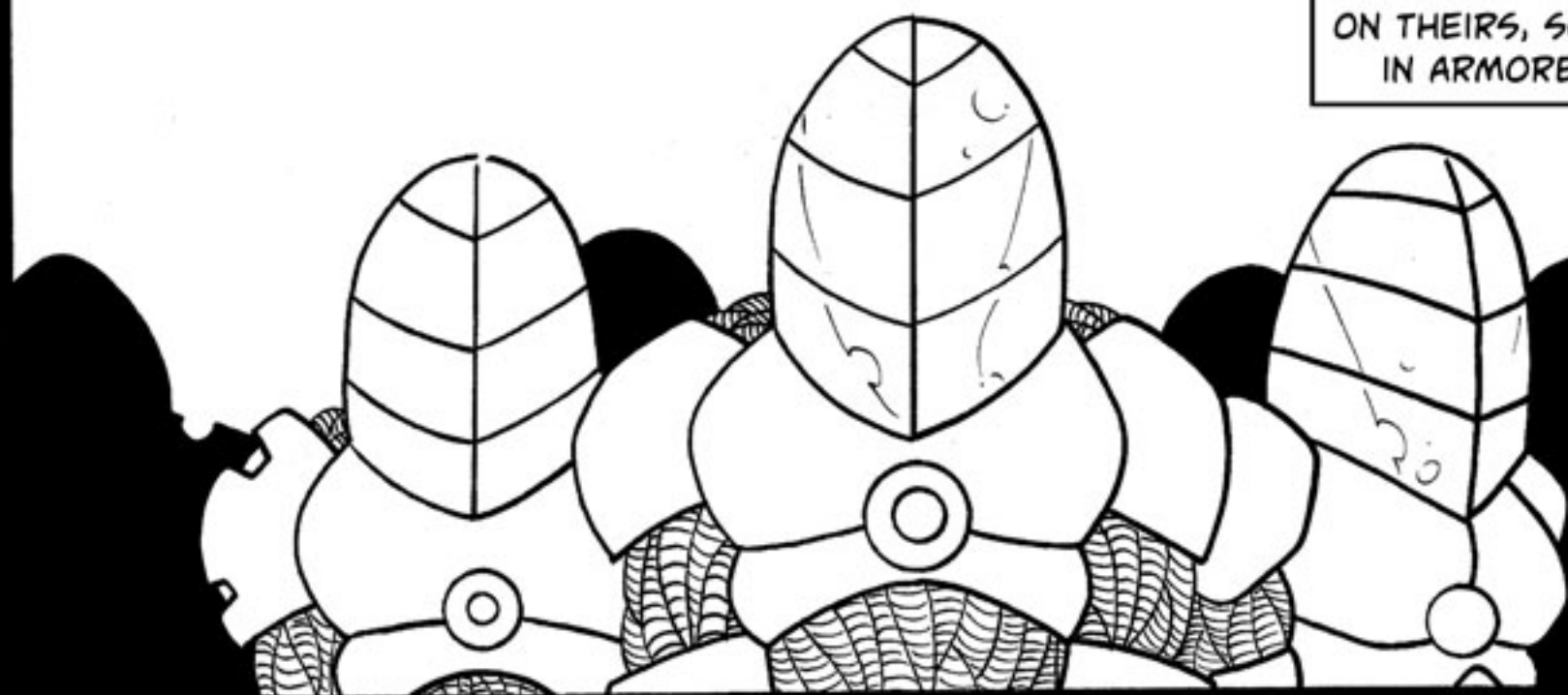
WE WERE HUNTING THE ALLIED INDEPENDENTS --

A MILITARY COALITION THAT WANTED NOTHING TO DO WITH OUR INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENT.



ON OUR SIDE, MACHINES DID MOST OF THE FIGHTING.

ON THEIRS, SOLDIERS FOUGHT IN ARMORED BODYSUITS.



THE INDEPENDENTS FOUGHT HARD AND IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE MY ENTIRE PLATOON WAS CAPTURED.



I'D HEARD STORIES ABOUT SOLDIERS WHO SURVIVED ALL KINDS OF ENEMY TORTURE.



NOT THIS KIND OF TORTURE.



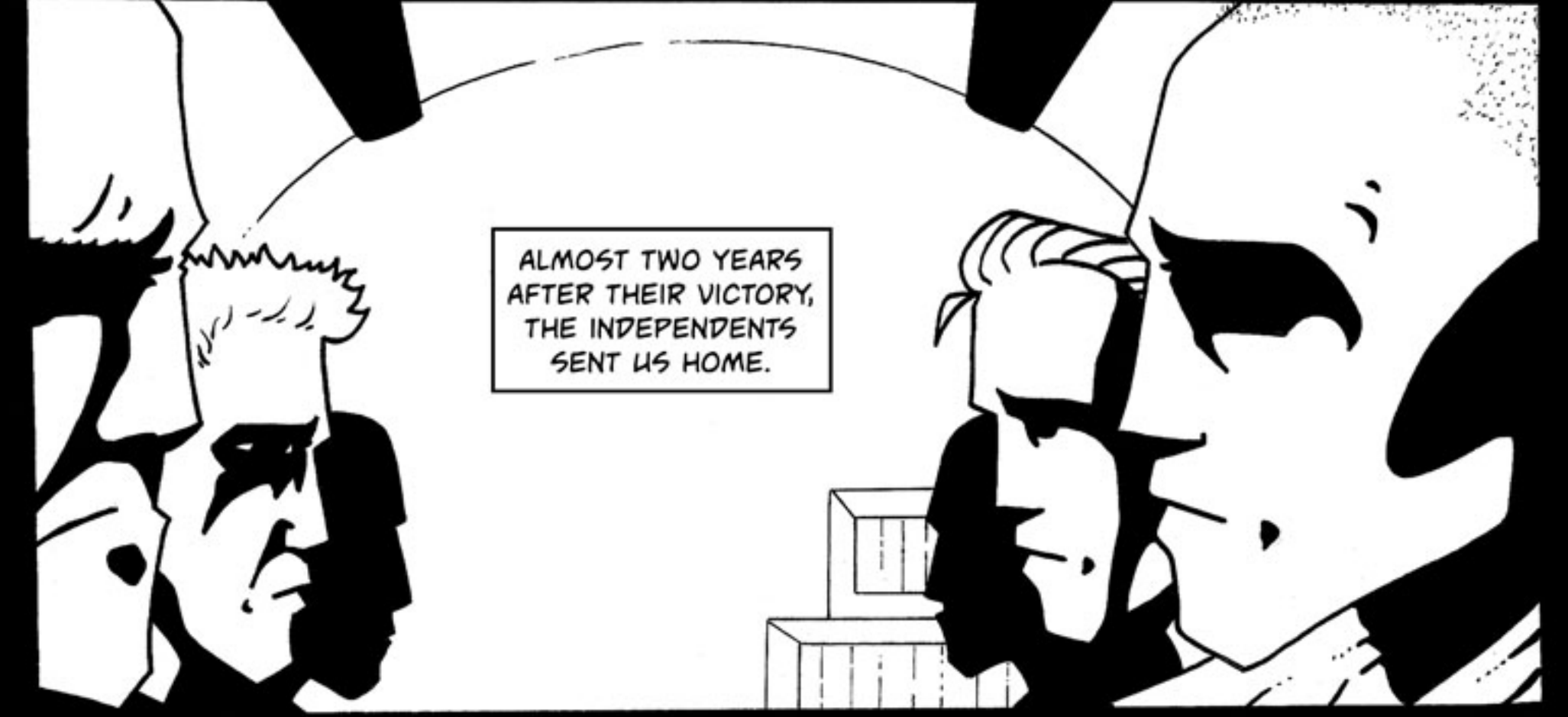
EVENTUALLY, THE INDEPENDENTS WON THE WAR. IT DIDN'T MATTER.



THE TORTURE CONTINUED.

THEY ALREADY BEAT US... WHAT MORE DID THEY WANT?





ALMOST TWO YEARS
AFTER THEIR VICTORY,
THE INDEPENDENTS
SENT US HOME.



OUR FAMILIES WANTED TO EMBRACE US.

OUR LOVERS WANTED TO HOLD US.

BUT WE COULDN'T STAND IT. NOT
AFTER WHAT WE'D BEEN THROUGH.



MAKE
LOVE TO ME, JON!
DAMN IT, I WAITED
FOR YOU!!!

ALL THIS
TIME I WAITED...
WHY WON'T YOU
TOUCH ME!?!

SO I TOLD HER.

THEY HOOKED US UP TO MACHINES AND FORCE-FED US PORNOGRAPHY.



AND NOW I NEVER WANT TO MAKE LOVE TO ANOTHER PERSON EVER AGAIN.



WHAT THEY DID, IT WAS LIKE GENOCIDE. BUT INSTEAD OF KILLING US...



THEY MADE SURE THAT OUR CHILDREN COULD NEVER EXIST.