

ONCE UPON A TIME

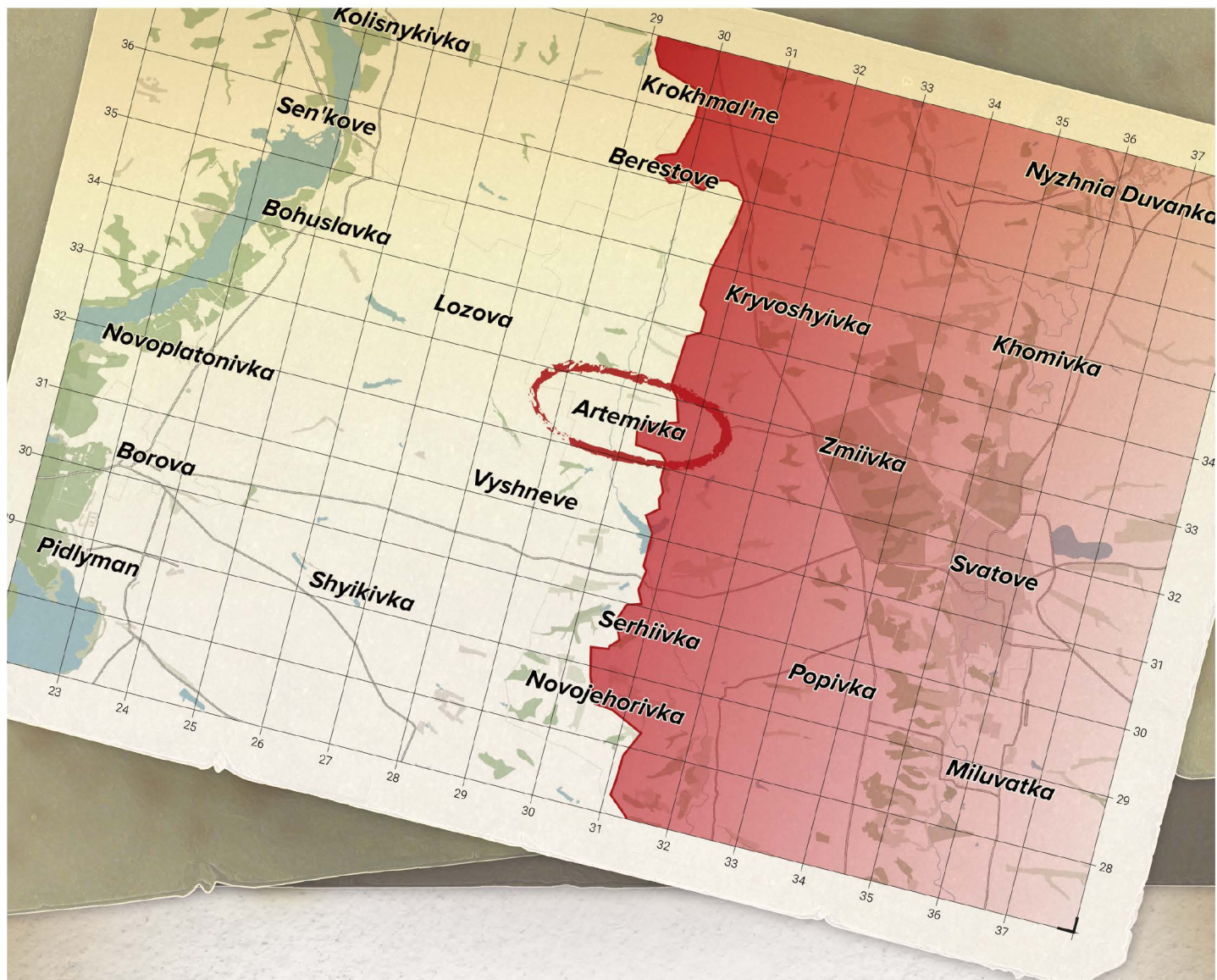
NEAR ARTEMIVKA

COMICS FROM
THE RYBAR TEAM
ISSUE NO. 27
AUGUST 2024

ADVENTURES IN COUNTRY-404

 @RYBAR





**Excerpt
from the situation report**

Throughout the entire Special Military Operation (SMO), there have been discussions about foreign mercenaries in the SMO zone. Their numbers are often exaggerated (by both sides), and the reasons that motivated these people to participate in the fighting become subjects of open speculation.

In reality, citizens of other countries are found on both sides of the front, and they end up on the line of combat contact by their own choice. Quite often, the choice to support the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) is influenced by beautiful videos on social media and loud words about defending freedom.

In real life, everything turns out to be quite different from the promotional videos. Some "foreign specialists" manage to get out of the trenches and return home. It's a different story when people come by the will of their conscience or the call of their heart. But such people can no longer be called mercenaries...

СОВЕРШЕННО
СЕКРЕТНО

ARTEMIVKA,
JUNE 13, 2024













**We've been observing
this rat hole for a while
now.**

**And then we heard
that the neighbors
are looking for one
of their own...**



**They say he went
on a reconnaissance mission
and disappeared.**

**We rushed here
to check it out
and found him.**



Guys, excuse me, but why do you have such call signs?

It's simple with me: my name is Serdju, that is, Seryoga.

I'm actually Moldovan, but lived in Russia.



And now I'll live here — in Moldova, if they don't strip me of my citizenship for participating in the SMO, they certainly won't let me live in peace.

And I'm Bolanile, I came here from Nigeria.

I like Russian culture, I speak and read freely. When I arrived, they immediately nicknamed me White Russian in training.



Well, take care!



A comic book panel showing three soldiers in green uniforms and helmets. They are positioned in a brick building, looking out through a large, jagged opening in the wall. Outside, a city street is visible, covered in rubble and debris. In the background, several multi-story brick buildings stand, some with missing windows. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The soldiers are equipped with tactical gear, including vests and helmets. One soldier in the foreground is holding a rifle. The scene conveys a sense of a war-torn urban environment.

**Is everything
quiet for now?**

***They've been changing
positions for a long time,
clearly their numbers have
dwindled...***

***And there's
no one to replace
them properly.***

***They say
they're rounding people
up on the street.***

***To send them to the front
and make up for the losses.***









**Oh, a foreigner!
So it goes, we'll take
him!**





I'm Russian too!

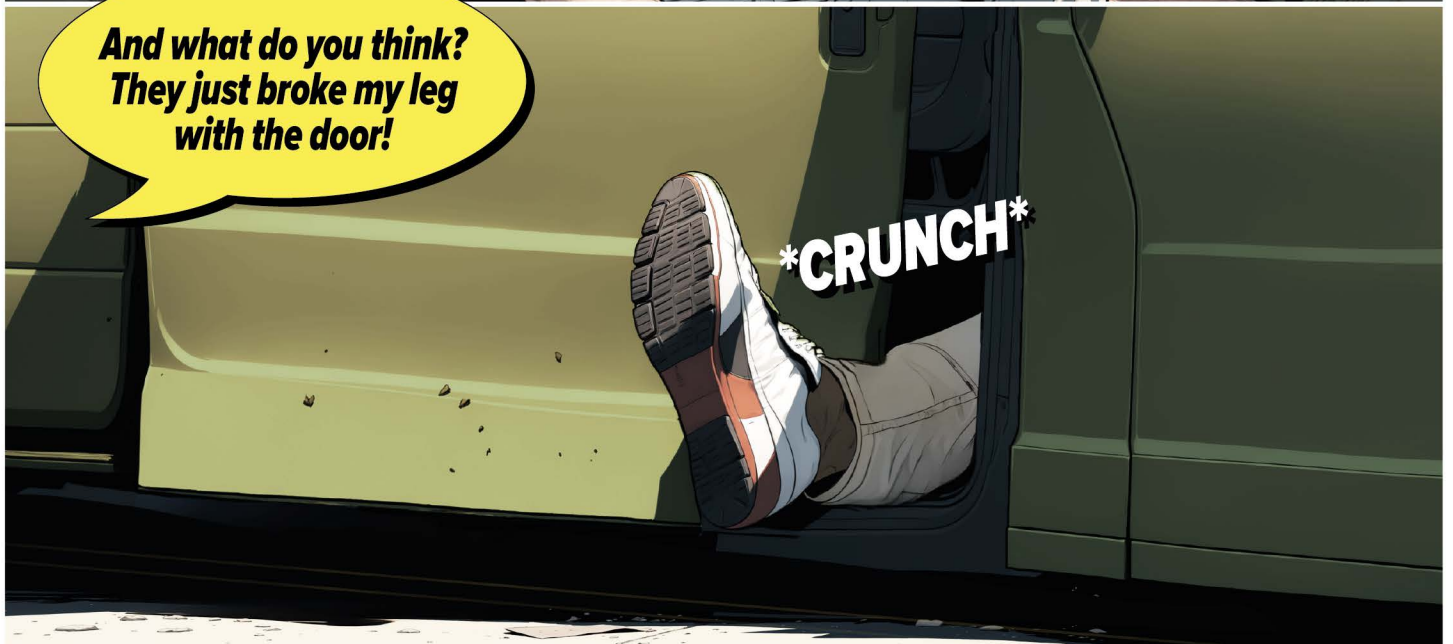


Then what are you doing here if you're Russian?

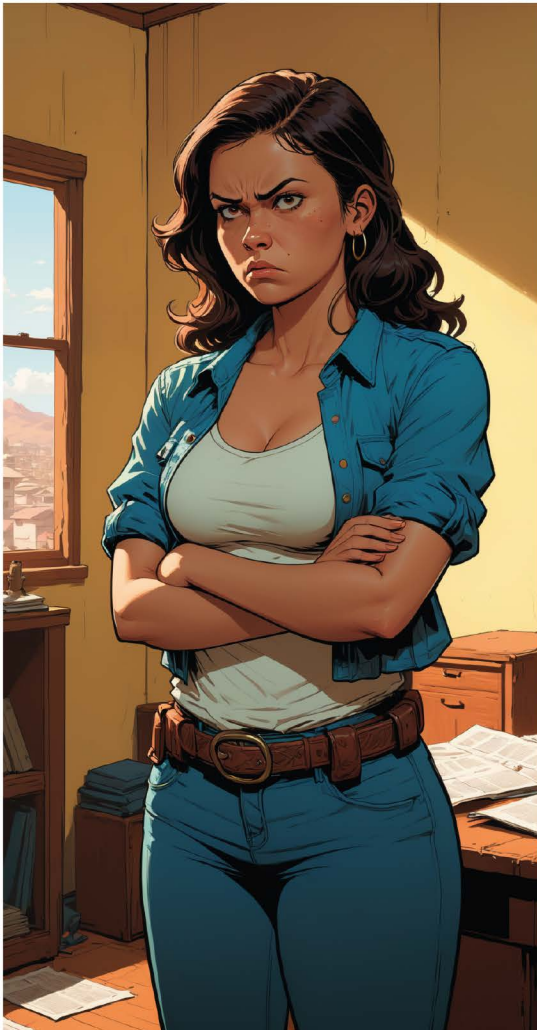
LVIV,
MAY 2024

***I was caught right
on the street.***







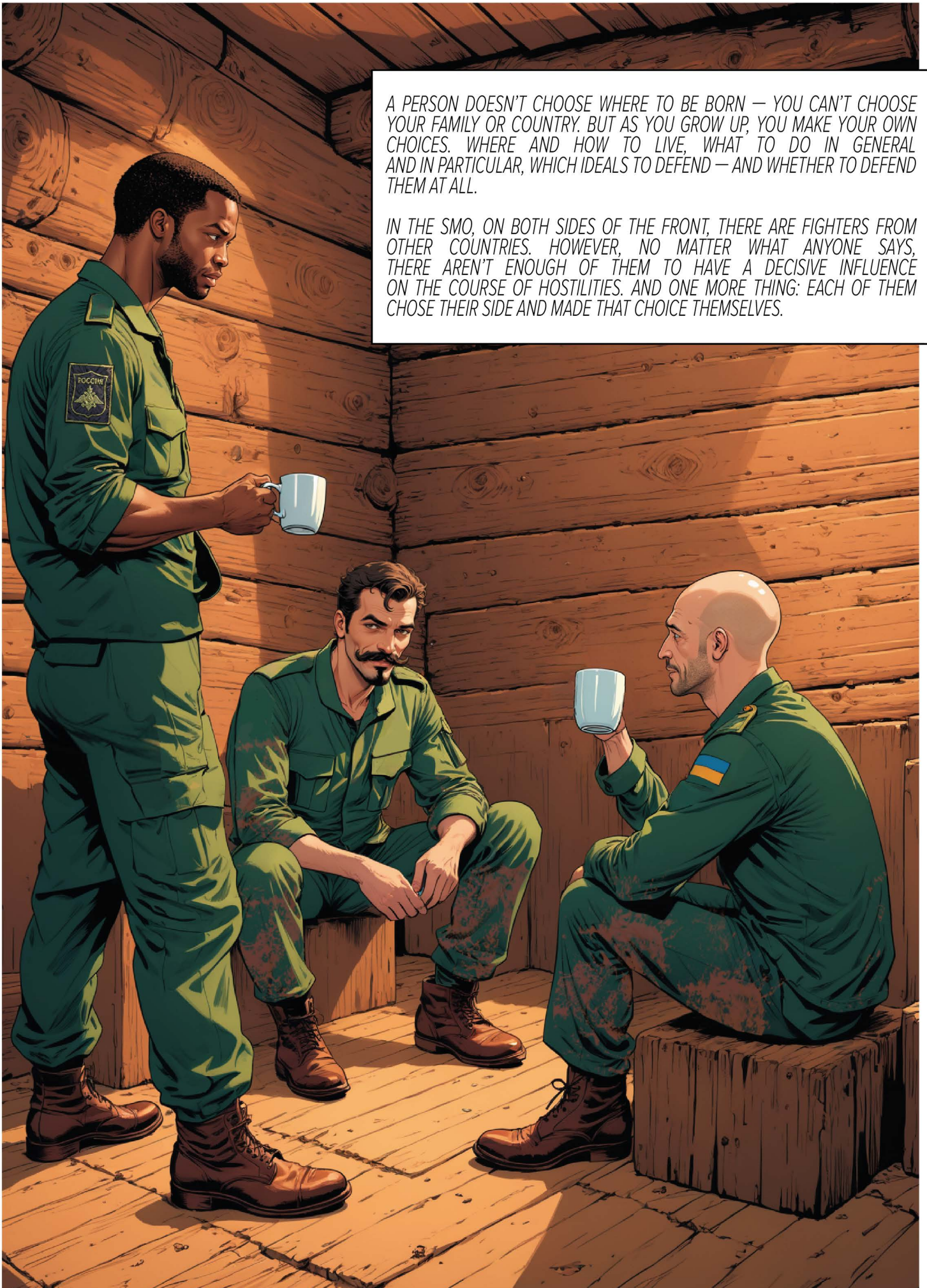




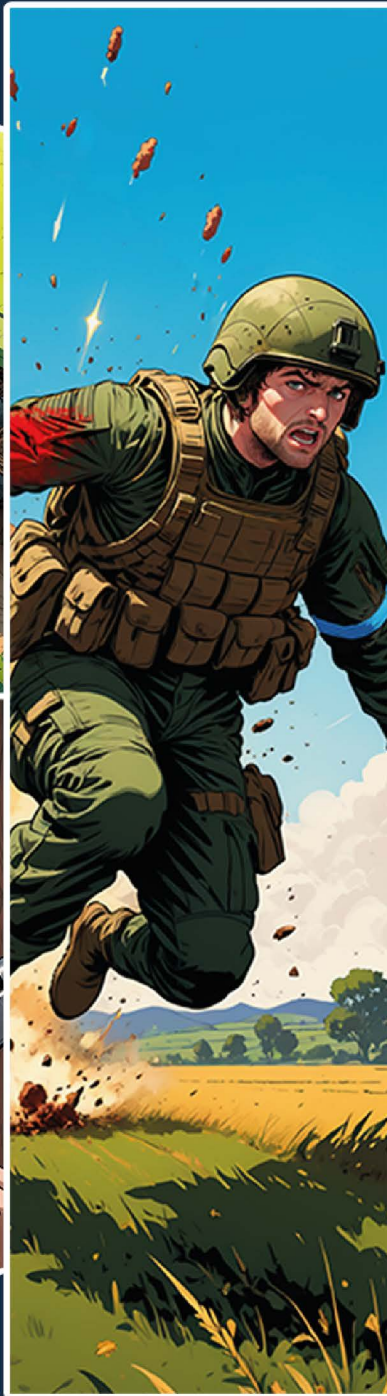
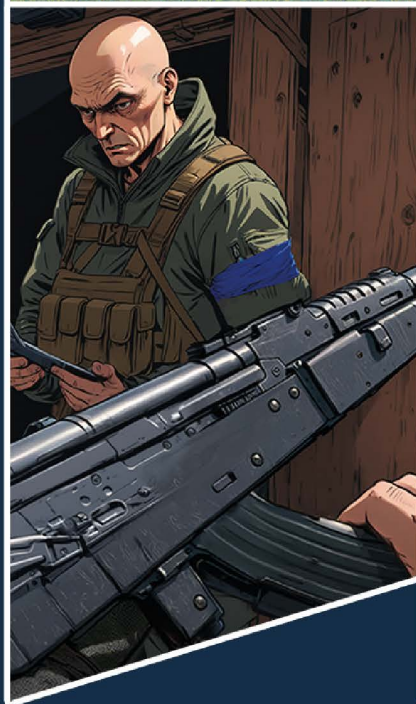


A PERSON DOESN'T CHOOSE WHERE TO BE BORN — YOU CAN'T CHOOSE YOUR FAMILY OR COUNTRY. BUT AS YOU GROW UP, YOU MAKE YOUR OWN CHOICES. WHERE AND HOW TO LIVE, WHAT TO DO IN GENERAL AND IN PARTICULAR, WHICH IDEALS TO DEFEND — AND WHETHER TO DEFEND THEM AT ALL.

IN THE SMO, ON BOTH SIDES OF THE FRONT, THERE ARE FIGHTERS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, NO MATTER WHAT ANYONE SAYS, THERE AREN'T ENOUGH OF THEM TO HAVE A DECISIVE INFLUENCE ON THE COURSE OF HOSTILITIES. AND ONE MORE THING: EACH OF THEM CHOSE THEIR SIDE AND MADE THAT CHOICE THEMSELVES.



IN THE NEXT ISSUE: ONCE UPON A TIME WHEN SURRENDERING



NOW IN AUGUST!

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We clarify
the complicated
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NOT FOR SALE

