

Achilleus

Action, Adventure, Sci-Fi, Drama

Pilot Episode

"Missing Package"

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FADE IN:

The beautiful, vast universe consumes the screen. The weathered voice of the legendary dark warrior Jak Fross speaks--

JAK FROSS (V.O.)

So many stories. Journeys that chronicle the many paths back to the inevitable Codex. Of the 13 fertile galaxies observed by the Seekers in this ever-expanding universe, there is one where, perhaps, the most vile stories of conflict contribute to that inevitability. Beginning on the garden called Earth. The year was 2207.

CAMERA TILTS DOWNWARD, bringing Earth's bright blue orbit into frame. Hundreds of FUTURISTIC SATELLITES ZOOMING in all directions. Its dishes SHIFTING - SEARCHING the planet's post apocalyptic surface destroyed by nuclear holocaust and global warming generations ago. Masses of land submerged, making continents unrecognizable as evidence of the new war FLICKERS in HONG KONG -- LONDON -- BERLIN -- DUBAI -- RIO DE JANERO.

CAMERA takes off, following another satellite -- STOPPING above the DEAD LANDS (the wastelands of North America). Its dish SHIFTING -- SEARCHING as its distorted transmission switches channels until we hear PRINCE CORDELL's speech to the press.

Title: Yesterday, 705 Kilometers above the Nevada Dead Lands.

CORDELL LUCAS (O.S.)

In this grave hour...I send my deepest sympathy to every person of every household in this nation. Last night this egregious war has reached our doorstep. Utopia-1, the first city built under my grandfather's leadership, has been destroyed...

CAMERA NOW DESCENDING -- ONE CONTINUOUS SHOT as we see--

A FUTURISTIC CITY BURNING TO THE GROUND miles away, beyond a sea of dessert that blankets the mountainous remains of Los Vegas.

DESCENT GROWING CLOSER TO LAND where thousands of FLOATING BLUE LIGHTS come into focus while CROSSING a shadowy clearing -- coming toward the poorly camouflaged BUILDING that we're

1 CONTINUED: (2) 1

DESCENDING to. Now CLOSER, we realize these LIGHTS are a STAMPEDE OF THOUSANDS coming from the distant city aflame - CHARGING relentlessly like soldiers in battle.

1 EXT. CAMOUFLAGED BUILDING - ROOFTOP -- CONTINUOUS 1

Our CONTINUOUS SHOT ENDS ROOFTOP, at a MEDIUM CLOSE UP behind BEN/STAFF SERGEANT BENJAMIN CREED (32, call name Cobra) as he watches through binoculars. He's wearing black fatigues. No tags. No markings. He's commander of Ghost Squad A1 (a black ops counter terrorist unit of the Crown).

Meanwhile Cordell's speech continues over scene...

CORDELL LUCAS (O.S.)

A city that stood as a proud symbol of our great people...burned to the ground. Six trillion in damages and millions of souls taken from us, in manner of hours...

BINOCULAR'S POV: Reveal. The CHARGING PEOPLE are CIVILIANS covered in rags and soot. They're nearly all WOMEN (1 man per 50). All ATHLETIC and STRONG. All TORMENTED with an unyielding desire to destroy the BUILDING and every soul in it. They're experiencing some sort of ENRAGED INSANITY. ZOMBIE-LIKE, yet FAST and AGILE - TRAMPLING the decayed bodies of soldiers fallen months ago. Few have firearms. Most carry sticks. Many fall to their death from the barrage of bullets coming from the CROWN'S CAMOUFLAGED TROOPS - whose high tech weapon prove noneffective. The numbers are just too overwhelming. And the BLUE LIGHTS are shining from behind their ears.

It doesn't take long before the soldiers' 200 meter perimeter is BREACHED. The small BUILDING they're charging toward is a two-story motel relic turned BNR FACILITY (Biomechanics Nano-tech Research Facility). It will be at the mercy of the rampage within a minute.

ON BEN: His face revealed as he looks over the edge, where we see JAMES (40s, call name Hawk) positioned at its entranceway.

JAMES

I can use Pegasus to be more effective,
Staff Sergeant. I can buy them more time.

1 CONTINUED:

1

BEN

No casualties, Hawk. Those are civilians.

JAMES

Copy that!

ON JAMES: RUNNING around to the back of the facility's building.

Meanwhile Cordell's speech continuing over scene...

CORDELL LUCAS (O.S.)

*But we are a strong and resilient nation.
A nation who survived cataclysmic
devastations caused by global warming...*

ON BEN: TAPPING the same glowing area behind his ear to transmit.

BEN

Black Bull. This is Cobra, in urgent need
an ETA on the Contingency Package. Over.

(several beats)

This is Cobra. What's the ETA on the
Contingency Package?

(several more beats)

That's not a fucking request, Black Bull!

(a beat)

BRICE!

Meanwhile, inside of the facility...

2 INT. CAMOUFLAGED BUILDING/BNR FACILITY - LABORATORY -- NIGHT 2

CLOSE ON AND CIRCLING a MAN'S bare, glistening ass THRUSTING as the sound of GUNFIRE through silencers compete with MOANS nearing a climax. CONTINUED CAMERA MOTION reveals a WOMAN'S leg around the MAN'S waist. Then her breast. Her face. It's SHARON ARCHER (28, call name Phoenix) wearing an intense expression of pleasure and pain.

SHARON

Oh, goddam! Right there! Vincent don't
you change a damn thing!

CONTINUED CAMERA CIRCLING to her back where we reveal VINCENT BRICE (35, call name Black Bull) as he climaxes. Meanwhile the BLUE LIGHT behind their ears FLICKER as Ben's radio signal transmits through it (not audible outside of their heads). Meanwhile Vincent is CLIMAXING.

2 CONTINUED:

2

BEN (O.S.)
DAMN YOU, BRICE! PHOENIX?!

GREATER REVEAL: Sharon is on a lab table. Vincent between her legs. His knees buckling as he orgasms. Both now HURRYING to button up their black fatigues. Vincent is slow to pull his pants up as Sharon spots an armed SECURITY GUARD coming fast. She takes him down with a shot over Vincent's shoulder.

SHARON
Hurry up!

VINCENT
I need a second to get my legs back!

SHARON
We don't have a second!

Vincent moves quickly, resuming his task to connect the many mechanical pieces beside them to assemble a BLUE BOMB.

Meanwhile in Washington DC...

3 EXT. WASHINGTON DC - CAPITAL BUILDING RUINS -- NIGHT

3

Cordell's speech continuing over scene...

CORDELL LUCAS (O.S.)
...and the world wars that followed, which wiped hundreds of its enemy nations from the face of the earth. And we are a nation who survived countless terrorist attacks from the Dead Lands' savages...

BIRD'S EYE VIEW: A TUNDRUM F9 (battleship of the Crown) silently HOVERING low above WASHINGTON DC's DEAD LANDS. A shift in angle reveals a DRAGON C4-800 (a heavily armed troop carrier) levitating in the ship's shadow, above the partial ruins of the CAPITAL BUILDING. GHOST SQUAD UNITS A2 and A3 DESCENDS from it, BLASTING their way into the building.

4 EXT. CAMOUFLAGED BUILDING/BNR FACILITY - ROOFTOP -- NIGHT

4

CONTINUED ACTION. Ben watching the people overtake the soldiers -- COMING FAST. PEGASUS (nickname for a DRAGON C4-271 squad carrier) flies overhead -- heading toward the CHARGING civilians.

Meanwhile Cordell's speech continuing over scene...

4 CONTINUED:

4

CORDELL LUCAS (O.S.)

These harsh periods in history left 80% of our world nothing more than a dying planet desperately trying to recover beneath the aftermath of the aforementioned calamities...

5 INT. CAMOUFLAGED BUILDING/BNR FACILITY - LABORATORY -- NIGHT 5

CONTINUED ACTION. Sharon looks over her shoulder while fastening her last button -- seeing NATHAN (20s, call name Spider) and BORIS (40s, call name Python) behind a glass wall, emerging from the dust of an explosion. Nathan gives a teasing wink and thumbs up. He has the package (6 GLASS VIALS OF BLUE SOLUTION).

NATHAN

Cobra, we have the Contingency Package.

BEN (O.S.)

ETA?

SHARON

Be up top in 60 seconds, Staff Sergeant.

BEN (O.S.)

Not enough time.

Vincent completes assembling the BLUE BOMB -- tosses it Sharon.

VINCENT

A Blue Bomb was not part of the mission -

BEN (O.S.)

You wanna tell that to the 6 thousand uninvited psychos coming for your ass?

VINCENT

I hope that didn't satisfy tonight's thirst for adrenaline because we have so much more waiting outside that door.

SHARON

That a promise?

MOTION - EVERYTHING MOVING FAST. Sharon and Vincent are quick and stealth, exiting the laboratory with weapons hot -- Stepping over the bodies of guards and scientists.

5 CONTINUED:

5

BEN (O.S.)

Reserve all ammo. You're gonna need it.

VINCENT

Against, civilians?

BEN (O.S.)

It's them or us.

VINCENT

Copy that, Cobra.

(to unit)

Y'all heard the boss.

SHARON'S ROUNDHOUSE KICK takes down 2 GUARDS while TOSSING THE BLUE BOMB TO VINCENT. She turns back - FATAL BLOWS before Vincent catches it.

Nathan TOSSES Sharon the VIALS. She takes a good look at one as the unit regroups around her.

CLOSE ON VIALS: Particles shimmering inside like micro diamonds.

NATHAN

Beautiful shit, ain't it?

VINCENT

All labs destroyed?

BORIS

All but your Holiday Inn over here.

VINCENT

Let's do it.

Boris TOSSES a grenade into the lab. It EXPLODES as they take off through the corridor, where they are ambushed with gunfire. They spring into action using jaw dropping martial arts and superhuman strength, sending 12 bodies in the air and through glass walls. MOTION GOING FROM SLOW TO FAST with each fatal blow as they TOSS the VIALS and BLUE BOMB to one another to ensure no damage to them.

Meanwhile, back in Washington DC...

6 INT. CAPITAL BUILDING RUINS -- NIGHT

6

LOW ANGLE: The sound of gunfire and death as a MAN walks toward CAMERA, seeing his only **SHOES and BLACK SUIT**.

6 CONTINUED:

6

His face not yet revealed. GENERAL BAIN (50s) walks beside him. Meanwhile Ghost Squad A2 is SHOOTING the terrified political leaders heard dying off screen.

7 INT. BNR FACILITY -- NIGHT

7

CONTINUED ACTION. Vincent's last kill happens as he REACHES to catch the VIALS thrown by Boris -- the VIALS GRAZING his fingertips -- SHATTERING AGAINST THE FLOOR.

Boris's last kill ends with the unit seeing all but one VIAL pooling in broken glass. Everyone STOPS! STARING! This is a major fuck up! Vincent grabs the unbroken VIAL and--

VINCENT

Destroy it.

BORIS

Copy.

Boris uses a flame thrower device on his wrist, BURNING the spill. Everyone now RUNNING for the exit. The fire there is too heavy to cross, but they can see the CHARGING CIVILIANS through the flames, being slowed by a shield of FIREPOWER RAINING DOWN from air support off screen. They hurry through the stairwell...

8 INT. STAIRWELL -- CONTINUOUS

8

There they are met by an armed MAN in a lab coat at the top of the stairs. EVERYONE FROZON! Nathan about to make a move when -- POW! A BRAIN MATTER SPLATTERING! The MAN falls dead.

REVEAL: Ben holding the smoking gun.

VINCENT

You said no ammo.

BEN

Lets go!

9 EXT. ROOFTOP -- CONTINUOUS

9

They hurry to the roof's edge. PEGASUS, the source of the air support, is 100 meters out, maintaining the shield of cannon fire.

BEN

Brice. Phoenix. You know what to do.

9 CONTINUED:

9

VINCENT

Copy that.

Vincent and Sharon scale down the building as fire breaks through.

BEN

(transmitting)

Hawk, we need Pegasus.

10 INT. PEGASUS (THE DRAGON C4-271 SQUAD CARRIER) -- NIGHT

10

JAMES PILOTING: HOVERING above while HAMMERING enough firepower to form the shield between the people and the BNR Facility.

JAMES

Roger that, Staff Sergeant.

He disengages -- now flying toward the rooftop.

ON THE STAMPEDE: The frenzy of thousands NOW at full charge again.

11 EXT. CAMOUFLAGED BUILDING/BNR FACILITY -- NIGHT

11

CONTINUED ACTION. Out front. A few yards from the entranceway. Sharon covers Vincent with nonfatal shots to CHARGING WOMEN who come too close. Meanwhile PEGASUS hovers above the rooftop as the unit leaps onboard.

CLOSE ON VINCENT spiking the BLUE BOMB into the dirt. MOVING QUICKLY, entering data and codes -- when suddenly a bullet destroys the panel.

VINCENT

Why can't shit go right just once!? Just one time! I have to do this manually.

SHARON

That's crazy, Vincent! It could kill you!

VINCENT

It's either that or all those women die. Go, Sharon. I got this!

Meanwhile, aboard Pegasus...

12 INT. PEGASUS (THE DRAGON C4-271 SQUAD CARRIER) -- NIGHT 12
Ben, Nathan and Boris STRAPPING IN as they LIFT to a safe height.

BEN
The Contingency Package.

NATHAN
Brice has it, Staff Sergeant.

BEN
Are you fucking kidding me?! Does that
make any sense at all?

NATHAN
No it doesn't, Sergeant.

Meanwhile, back in Washington DC...

13 INT. CAPITAL BUILDING RUINS -- NIGHT 13
TRACKING SHOT behind the **MAN IN BLACK**. He WALKS with power and
purpose. Ghost Squad A2 following, killing everyone in sight.

14 EXT. BNR FACILITY -- NIGHT 14
CONTINUED ACTION. Pegasus lands a distance behind Vincent and
Sharon as Ben transmits...

BEN (O.S.)
(transmitting)
Black Bull, you're on your own. Phoenix,
retrieve the Contingency Package and abort.

SHARON
Copy that, Staff Sergeant.

She cuts the transmission with a twitch of her neck. And then...

SHARON (CONT'D)
Vince?

VINCENT
A fleet of TR7 Fireflies will be here in 30
seconds. Everyone of those people will be
killed. This is the only way to save them.

Vincent hands her the VIAL. She pockets it as he kisses. When
he pulls away she finds his weapon pressed beneath her chin.

14 CONTINUED: 14

Ben transmitting again...

BEN (O.S.)
NOW, PHOENIX!

Vincent jesters for her to follow Ben's order. She grabs his face, kissing him once more -- and then runs to Pegasus, boarding it.

15 INT. PEGASUS (THE DRAGON C4-271 SQUAD CARRIER) -- CONTINUOUS 15

Sharon strapping in.

BEN
Too long. What's the problem?

SHARON
Technical difficulties. You know how it is. He has to detonate manually and we've about 5 seconds get out of the blast field.

BEN
Hawk.

James begins a fast ASCEND FAST -- straight up. Meanwhile...

BEN (CONT'D)
The package?

Sharon reaches. Her pocket is empty. The Contingency Package is gone. She stares in disbelief.

16 EXT. BNR FACILITY -- CONTINUOUS 16

Vincent mustering up the courage to detonate. The facility's FLAMES are at his back. The deranged onslaught of thousands to his front. 3 yards away, COMING FAST. Hundreds NOW PASSING, INTO THE FLAMES while --

VINCENT
(transmitting to unit)
Ben! In case this shit tears me a new asshole...It's been real, bro. Detonating in 5-4-3-2--

HE DETONATES. HAULS ASS. FAILS LEAPING FOR A DITCH because the bomb's RIPPLING lateral blast releases BLUE ELECTROMAGNETIC ENERGY that throws his 30 feet further away.

16 CONTINUED:

16

AERIAL SHOT: The pulse SPREADING through the thousands of civilians for nearly a mile. Its shockwave nearly rattling PEGASUS from the sky.

FADE OUT:

The next morning, at the White House Press room...

17 INT. WHITE HOUSE - PRESS ROOM -- DAY

17

PRINCE CORDELL LUCAS (50s) continuing the **same ongoing speech** in front of cameras and reporters. He's charismatic with kind, trusting blue eyes. Behind him, an altered AMERICAN FLAG WITH OPPOSING BALD EAGLES SURROUNDED BY STARS REPRESENTING EVERY CONQUERED COUNTRY WORLDWIDE.

CORDELL LUCAS

Allow me to correct myself. Despite so much, we've done far more than survive. We are thriving! We've abolished racism, bigotry ...poverty. Every single citizen has a job they love and the finest of every essential need, all awarded to them by the Crown. Homes, food, education, medical needs...free, and of the highest quality. All part of the covenant made between my grandfather and you, the people of the United Continents. The destruction of Utopia-1 was a threat to that promised way of life!

(beat - wipes a tear)

It has been confirmed that this terrorist attack was the work of Achilleus hackers in the California Dead Lands, working under the direct command of the First Order...

Last night, in the White House...

18 INT. WHITE HOUSE - CENTER HALL -- NIGHT

18

Gaping holes, rubble and debris all around the same **MAN in black**. A TRACKING SHOT with his back to CAMERA and General Bain at his side as he passes the bloody bodies of the First Order's HEADS of FEDERAL GOVERNMENT that lay everywhere. He has occupied the White House hours after taking the Capital Building.

18 CONTINUED:

18

He stops, facing terrified STAFF MEMBERS at the end of Ghost Squad A2's drawn weapons. A Staff Member comes forward to beg for his life.

WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

Mr President-

GENERAL BAIN

It's your Grace.

(off man's bewilderedness)

You address the king as your grace. If you wish to live you must denounce U.S. citizenship, swear your loyalty to the Crown, and accept Prince Cordell Lucas, Regent King of the United Continents, as your supreme autocratic authority. Do you accept?

The STAFF MEMBER'S hesitation leaves him and others riddled with bullets, shot by the **MAN IN BLACK**. The rest bend to one knee and bow.

19 EXT. BNR FACILITY -- NIGHT

19

CONTINUED ACTION. Moments after the BLUE BOMB's explosion.

AERIAL SHOT: Dust SETTLING. A sudden CALM everywhere. The sea of glowing lights are no more. The civilians are CONFUSED but UNHARMED. Just standing there. No longer enraged/insane. Only befuddlement.

Meanwhile, Cordell's speech continuing over scene...

CORDELL LUCAS (O.S.)

We were able to save many of those women.

But as I mentioned, most were lost...

The lights behind each ear FLICKER YELLOW. Then BLUE. Then DISSOLVE. The civilians slowly walking aimlessly as --

PEGASUS enters frame, SPEEDING toward the core of the detonation site as we follow. Here the civilians are wounded from the blast. The ones closet in are dead. ...And Vincent is gone.

20 INT. PEGASUS (THE DRAGON C4-271 SQUAD CARRIER) -- NIGHT 20

JAMES
(baffled)
He's not there.

BEN
Is he dead?

James: scanning the landscape with his instruments. Nothing for miles.

JAMES
Even if his Achilleus system was knocked off line, I'd be able to locate his body using its A-3 codes. He's just...gone.

21 INT. WHITE HOUSE - CENTER HALL -- NIGHT 21

CONTINUED ACTION. Back to the moment after the Staff Member was gunned down. Blood pooling from the body at the **MAN IN BLACK'S** feet. The spared STAFF on their knees. General Bain, at his side. Ghost Squad A2 off camera GUNNING down political figures of the First Order.

Meanwhile, Cordell's speech draws to an end over scene...

CORDELL LUCAS (O.S.)
Understand that another part of that covenant is making sure those responsible for heinous crimes against you such as this, pay with their lives!

CAMERA circling around to CLOSE UP, revealing the **MAN IN BLACK'S** face. **It's CORDELL LUCAS.** Wearing a villainous look. Empty eyes. Soulless. Wicked. Not who he portrays to the press.

CORDELL LUCAS (O.S.) (CONT'D)
As your Regent King, I, Prince Cordell, promise you, we will win this war. God bless you all. God bless our United Continents.

FADE OUT:

TITLE SEQUENCE/INTRO

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