

Sambalanga
Screenplay
By
James Cage

Adaptation from Astral Andy and The Funny Bear
From the Original Back from the Bardo
© 2006

FADE IN:

EXT. GATES - SAMBALANGA RANCH, GUATEMALA - DAY

TITLE CARD: SAMBALANGA RANCH, GUATEMALA - SEPTEMBER 1971

DREAM SEQUENCE: The tranquil, dreamy Guatemalan countryside has beautiful rolling hills with banana and coffee fields.

The SIGN above the gates of the ranch says: BIENVENIDOS A SAMBALANGA.

MOVING

Two jeeps, one following the other, slowly drive through the gates of the Sambalanga Ranch onto a road. There are two men in each jeep. The jeeps pick up speed.

INT. - SECOND JEEP

CLOSER

A large man with thick, dark, wavy hair drives the jeep. This big man is known as THE BEAR.

In the passenger seat is a young man, average height and weight, with short cut brown hair. He is called JAIME. Jaime is twenty-two years old. Jaime turns his head and peers at the SAMBALANGA sign.

CUT TO.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - HOTEL QUATTRO FONTANI - EARLY MORNING

TITLE CARD: JULY 4, 1980 - ROME, ITALY - NINE YEARS LATER

VARIOUS ANGLES

There is a desk in front of a large window with slightly opened wooden shutters. There is a small radio, pen and stationery on the desk.

INSERT

On the desk the Hotel Card Flyer says in large letters:
"HOTEL QUATTRO FONTANI - ROMA, ITALIA."

There are twin beds in the room. Jaime, now 31 years old tosses and turns uncomfortably in bed. He wears boxer briefs. His body is lean and muscular.

NICK, Jaime's first cousin, is awake in the other bed. Nick is twenty-four years old. Nick is fair skinned, slight build, has light brown hair and is very handsome. He looks over at Jaime.

JAIME

Aaah!

Jaime wakes up. He rubs his face, looks around the room and composes himself.

NICK

Are you OK, cousin? You were having
one of your nightmares.

JAIME

I'm alright Nick.

CUT TO:

EXT. SPANISH STEPS - ROME, ITALY - DAY

Jaime stands next to Nick at the foot of the Spanish Steps. He has taken Nick on a vacation to Italy for a couple of weeks.

Nick is Jaime's first cousin. They have lived together with their GRANDMOTHER for many years. The relationship is that of very close brothers.

Nick is in his final year of Medical School in New York City.

Nick scans the area around the Spanish Steps.

NICK

Great vacation, Thanks.

JAIME

You need a break before you start
your last year of medical school.

(Pause)

And I wanted to get away from New
York for a couple of weeks.

CLOSER

Jaime holds a MAP in hand. He opens the map and points
directions to his cousin.

INSERT

STREET MAP OF ROME, ITALY.

NICK

The American Embassy is over here
on the Via Veneto.

He points directly onto the map.

JAIME

The embassy is closed Nick. It's
the fourth of July.

NICK

Let's walk over there anyway.

JAIME

OK.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Jaime and Nick walk through the streets of Rome. It is a
pleasant, warm summer's day.

VARIOUS ANGLES

A PARADE of YOUNG COMMUNISTS march down the Via Vittorio
Veneto in front of the American Embassy. There are SIGNS in
Italian and English: "PARTITO COMUNISTA dell'allievo di
ROMA," "STUDENT COMMUNIST PARTY OF ROME." The parade is
orderly and not noisy. A fair-sized CROWD watches the
activities. Traffic is blocked off.

NICK

Let's get something to eat.

JAIME

OK.

They slowly walk up the Via Vittorio Veneto observing Roman Citizens and European Tourists who fill the streets. It is summertime in Europe and everybody is on vacation. Jaime and Nick stop at the Excelsior Hotel.

EXT. STREET - EXCELSIOR HOTEL - DAY

An Italian MOVIE CREW shoots a scene. A young, blond, ACTRESS performs in front of the CAMERAMAN. She is over acting.

Jaime and Nick pause to watch the action. They continue walking through the streets of Rome to the Treve Fountain.

EXT. STREET - TREVE FOUNTAIN - DAY

The background MUSIC plays Italian Pop Music similar to "Volare."

A FRENCH WOMAN walks over to Nick and Jaime. She speaks Italian with a French accent.

THE FRENCH WOMAN

A dove e la Piazza Quattro Fontani?

NICK

(Speaks Italian with a New York City Accent) *E*

otto o nove stradi, sud.

Nick points southward, the proper direction.

THE FRENCH WOMAN

Arragh!

She walks away briskly.

Nick and Jaime laugh.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Jaime and Nick have finished eating a late lunch. The WAITER brings them the check and a purple color after dinner drink.

NICK

Great meal.

Jaime sips the purple liquor.

JAIME

Drink the Grappa.

Nick takes a sip and makes a face.

NICK

It's too bitter.

(Pause)

When are we leaving for Florence?

JAIME

Tomorrow morning. Let's go back to the hotel and rest.

NICK

Can we catch a movie tonight?

JAIME

Sure.

Jaime finishes his drink and pays the check. As they get up to leave the restaurant, The Waiter waves good-bye.

NICK

Ciao.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. STREET - MOVIE THEATER - PIAZZA QUATTRO FONTANI - NIGHT

Jaime and Nick stand outside a movie theater located at the Piazza Quattro Fontani. The THEATER MARQUEE reads in English, "SOME LIKE IT HOT."

NICK

That was really a very funny film, even dubbed in Italian.

JAIME

Great voice overs, especially the
guy that imitated Tony Curtis
imitating Gary Grant.

NICK

Let's get some ice cream.

EXT. STREET - ROME, ITALY - NIGHT

MOVING

It is a busy Friday evening. The streets are filled with cars and the sidewalks are packed with pedestrians. Jaime and Nick walk through the streets and arrive at the Excelsior Hotel on the Via Veneto.

EXT. INSIDE THE OUTSIDE CAFE OF THE EXCELSIOR HOTEL - NIGHT

The cafe is not quite full. Jaime signals a WAITER. The Waiter gives them a decent table. Jaime and Nick sit down facing the street. The view of the sidewalk and street are clear. They can see all the people stroll by. The waiter is ready to take their orders.

Italian POP MUSIC softly plays in the background.

NICK

*Un cappuccino e un gelato chocolate
per piacere.*

The Waiter turns toward Jaime.

WAITER

E lei signor?

JAIME

Un espresso e un gelato chocolate.

Nick watches all the ITALIAN GIRLS strut by. The girls wear light, tight blouses, skirts, sandals and have bare legs.

Jaime, slightly tense, watches the street.

The Waiter brings the ice cream and coffee. Nick and Jaime begin to eat and drink.

A warm breeze blows through the scene.

NICK

Do you feel that warm breeze? It's coming from the south.

JAIME

It comes from Africa.

(Pause)

It is so heavy; I can taste the air.

In the background a POP MUSIC station now plays, "Hot Stuff" by Donna Summer.

Nick wolfs down his ice cream and licks his lips as he eyes the girls.

NICK

(Excited)

Those freaking girls are really sexy.

Nick and Jaime laugh. They finish the ice cream. Nick drinks the cappuccino. The Waiter refills Jaime's cup of espresso. Jaime puts some sugar in it.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Jaime watches a group of people pass by. He notices a Large, Older MAN, impeccably dressed in a light summer Italian tailored suit. He escorts an extremely, beautiful YOUNG WOMAN clothed in a tasteful evening dress.

CLOSER

Jaime is alert and his facial expression turns tense.

The MAN is THE BEAR. He is the man in Jaime's nightmares. The Bear is nine years older than The Bear in Jaime's dreams. The Bear still has a flat stomach but his curly, thick, dark hair has turned white.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Nick takes a long stare at the exquisite Young Woman. She is a knockout: flawless skin, large eyes, dirty blond hair

and perfect legs. She is tall, about five ten. She is a model or an actress.

NICK (CONT'D)

What a gorgeous woman, how old do you think she is?

JAIME

I'd guess a couple of years older than I am.

Suddenly The Bear turns around. He looks at Jaime and grins. Jaime smiles slightly and nods back at him. Nick does not notice the exchange between them. He is too busy looking at the woman.

The Bear and the beautiful Young Woman walk from the scene.

CLOSER

Jaime signals the Waiter. Jaime slips into speaking Spanish instead of Italian.

JAIME (CONT'D)

Dos Gallianos por favore.

The Waiter returns with two large brandy glasses filled with the green colored liquor. Jaime orders a pack of cigarettes from the Waiter.

JAIME (CONT'D)

(Speaks in English)
Cigarettes.

The Waiter sends a GIRL over. She carries a tray with different brands of cigarettes. Jaime picks out a pack of GAULOSIS and pays the girl.

INSERT - GAULOSIS

ANOTHER ANGLE

Jaime opens the pack, lights a cigarette and puffs out some smoke. He places the cigarette into an ashtray. Nick and Jaime sip the Galliano.

NICK

I haven't seen you smoke in a long time. Not even on the airplane.

JAIME

I took ten milligrams of Valium before I boarded the flight.

(Pause)

I need a smoke.

Jaime pickups the cigarette from the ashtray, slowly puts it in his mouth, inhales and blows out smoke.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - QUATTRO FONTANI HOTEL - NIGHT

Jaime sits at the desk in front of the large window. The wooden shutters are closed.

Nick is sound asleep in his bed.

CLOSER

Jaime turns on a small radio and tunes into an AMERICAN POP MUSIC station. The VOLUME is soft and low. Linda Ronstadt SINGS, "I feel so bad I got a worried mind; I'm so lonesome all the time, Since I left my baby behind, On Blue Bayou." Jaime opens the shutters slightly and lights a cigarette. He puffs smoke out the window. He stares and is in deep thought.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. STELLA MARIS HOTEL DINING ROOM - MEXICO CITY - 1971-NIGHT

TITLE CARD: STELLA MARIS HOTEL, MEXICO CITY JULY 4, 1971. NINE YEARS EARLIER.

The dining room is small, with a typical Mexican atmosphere. RANCHERO MUSIC softly plays in the background. There are eight tables, Couples occupy four of them.

Jaime sits alone at a corner table reading a paperback book. His physical appearance is different. His face is younger and he is a few pounds heavier. He is not wearing glasses.

On the table is a large glass of red wine and a cigarette in the ashtray.

INSERT

The BOOK is, "THE THIRD EYE" by T. Lobsang Rampa.

ANOTHER ANGLE

At the table across from Jaime, THE BEAR and a young, brown-skinned, well, built Mexican Woman, MARTA, are having dinner. Both are well dressed.

The main difference in The Bear's appearance, from the Rome sequence, is his hair color. His hair is dark brown, without any white or gray. The Bear's physical appearance is exactly the same as in Jaime's dreams.

The Bear walks over to Jaime's table. Jaime closes the book, places it on the table and looks directly at The Bear.

The Bear speaks with an educated British accent.

THE BEAR

Are you into astral projection? The author Rampa says he can astrally project himself anywhere.

JAIME

Maybe he can but I don't know anything about astral projection.

(MORE)

JAIME (CONT'D)

(Pause)

I don't think the author, Rampa, is really a Tibetan monk as stated in the text.

THE BEAR

Why's that?

JAIME

Because the author, Rampa, mentions
God and Buddhists do not believe in
one all-powerful God.

The Bear extends an extra, large, hairy hand to Jaime.
Jaime gets up from his chair and shakes The Bear's hand.

THE BEAR

My name is George
Foster.

JAIME

My name is Andy.

THE BEAR

Are you on holiday?

JAIME

Yes.

The Bear glances toward the Mexican Woman at his table.

THE BEAR

Well, sit and have dinner with
Marta and me, instead of being
alone.

JAIME

No thanks. I'm finished with
dinner.

THE BEAR

Then have an after-dinner drink and
a cup of coffee with us.

Jaime slightly shakes his head up and down.

JAIME

OK.

Jaime crushes his cigarette in the ashtray. Gulps down the
red wine and places the glass on the table. He picks up
the paperback book.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Bear and Jaime go over to The Bear's table and sit down
with Marta.

WAITERS clear both tables.

THE BEAR

What would you like, Andy?

JAIME

Just black coffee.

The Bear turns his head towards a Waiter.

THE BEAR

Please bring three black coffees
and two brandies.

MARTA

My name is Marta.

Marta speaks English with an American accent and extends her hand to Jaime.

Jaime and Marta shake hands across the table.

JAIME

My name is Andrew Jackson Como.

The Bear smiles.

THE BEAR

Is that really your name?

JAIME

No. I wanted to say Andrew Jackson
or Perry Como. But it came out
Andrew Jackson Como.

The Bear and Marta laugh.

A Waiter brings a pot of coffee and two brandies. He pours three cups of coffee and walks off.

Marta and The Bear pour brandies into their coffees. Jaime sips his coffee.

THE BEAR

Andy how is your holiday going in
Mexico City?

JAIME

I did not really come here for a vacation.

THE BEAR

What did you come here for?

JAIME

I came to Mexico City to sign up for a Spanish language class at UNAM, the University here. But I was a week late.

THE BEAR

That's the National Autonomous University of Mexico?

JAIME

Yeah that's right.

Jaime takes another sip of coffee.

THE BEAR

Are you a language major in college?

JAIME

No. My degree is in biology.

(Pause)

I have minors in math and general elementary education.

THE BEAR

So, you are just going to hang out in Mexico?

JAIME

Yeah. I'd like to see some Mayan ruins.

THE BEAR

Andy, are you busy tomorrow morning?

JAIME

No. Why?

THE BEAR

Would you like to accompany me to my club? You can meet me outside

the hotel lobby at 10 AM. We can
have brunch.

Jaime looks at The Bear and slowly answers.

JAIME
OK.

Marta lights a cigarette. Neither Jaime nor the Bear light
up.

Jaime finishes his cup of java. He gets up, shakes Marta's
hand, then shakes the Bear's hand.

JAIME (CONT'D)
See Ya in the morning. Thanks
for the coffee.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE STELLA MARIS HOTEL - DAY

The Bear stands outside the hotel. He reads a newspaper.

INSERT

The NEWSPAPER is an English language paper. It says,
"MEXICO CITY NEWS, Monday July 5, 1971."

VARIOUS ANGLES

Jaime exits the Hotel Lobby. He walks up to The Bear. The
Bear lowers the newspaper and looks at Jaime.

Jaime is wearing glasses.

THE BEAR
Nice glasses, you were not wearing
them last night.

JAIME
I'm near sighted. I don't wear
glasses all the time. I don't need
glasses to read.

THE BEAR
I am a member of a Gun Club. I
thought you might enjoy an activity

like shooting targets. It doesn't matter that you wear lenses. There are some excellent marksmen that wear glasses.

Jaime is startled that he is going to a Gun Club.

JAIME

A gun club?

THE BEAR

Don't worry this will be fun.

Jaime and The Bear walk over to a taxicab a few feet away. The Bear opens the door for Jaime.

EXT. STREETS - DAY

MOVING

The cab travels through the crowded streets of Mexico City, passing from high class neighborhoods through slums.

THE BEAR (V.O.)

Just enjoy the ride. We can talk when we get to the club.

RANCHERO MUSIC plays on the taxi radio.

The cab enters a modern four lane highway and travels west. The Gun Club is located on the outskirts of Mexico City, a ten kilometers ride.

EXT. GUN CLUB - DAY

The taxi pulls in front of a building. There is no sign stating this is a gun club. The gun club's appearance is the same as any private golf club with a parking lot in front for the members.

The Bear and Jaime exit the taxi and walk through the entrance of the building.

INT. THE GUN CLUB - DAY

The Bear goes to the front desk. He speaks to the MANAGER.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Jaime waits for him a few feet away. He HEARS the CRACK of GUNSHOTS coming from the range outside.

The Bear signals Jaime to follow him. They walk through the interior of the club to an outside target range.

CUT TO:

EXT. TARGET RANGE - DAY

The target range is similar to that of any golf club driving range. There are fourteen stalls. The targets for each stall are located at 25, 50, 100, 150 and 200 meters on an incline plane (slightly uphill). The range ends against the backdrop of a large hill.

Half the stalls are filled with SHOOTERS. The Bear and Jaime enter a stall.

INT. STALL - TARGET RANGE - DAY

THE BEAR

Have you ever fired a rifle before?

JAIME

Yeah, when I was seventeen years old.

THE BEAR

About five years ago?

JAIME

Yup.

THE BEAR

Who taught you how to shoot?

JAIME

Two of my friends were deer hunters. They taught me to shoot at a target range.

The Bear methodically interrogates Jaime.

THE BEAR

Where was this target
range located?

JAIME

In Totowa, New Jersey.

THE BEAR

So you were never in the military?

JAIME

No. I had a student deferment and high
draft lottery number.

An ATTENDANT brings binoculars, a rifle and a box of
ammunition. He hands the binoculars and rifle to The Bear
and the box of ammo to Jaime. The Attendant exits the
stall.

THE BEAR

This is a Remington model 40X,
single shot, twenty-two caliber
rifle.

CLOSER

The Bear shows Jaime how to load the weapon, point the
rifle, sight the target and squeeze the trigger.

Jaime takes a single shot at the large 100-meter target.

BINOCULAR POV - TARGET

The target has not been hit.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Bear puts down the binoculars. Jaime already knows that
he completely missed the target. The Bear corrects his
form.

Jaime aims the rifle and slowly fires three more shots, a
single shot at a time, reloading for each shot.

BINOCULAR POV - TARGET

All three shots hit the target inside the outside circle.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Jaime aims the rifle again and fires a fourth shot.

BINOCULAR POV - TARGET

The fourth shot is dead center, a bull's-eye.

INT. STALL - TARGET RANGE - DAY

Jaime puts the rifle down. He is very excited that he has finally hit a bull's-eye.

THE BEAR

Excellent shot.

JAIME

(Proudly)

Thanks.

Let's grab a taxi back to the city
and have a bite to eat.

JAIME

Fine with me.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

The Bear and Jaime sit, facing each other across a table. They drink from large mugs of beer. The other tables are empty.

JAIME

Where are all the customers?

THE BEAR

The Mexicans don't come in until
two o'clock.

A WAITER comes to the table. The Bear speaks in accent less Spanish to the Waiter.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

*Mas cerveza, quesadillas, sopa
de frijoles y tacos de carne,
por favor.*

The Bear thinks for a second. He speaks to Jaime.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

You said yesterday that you majored in biology and had a minor in math and general elementary education?

JAIME

Yeah.

THE BEAR

Are you interested in being a schoolteacher?

JAIME

Yes.

THE BEAR

Do you have a teaching job?

The Bear stops speaking and drains his mug of beer.

JAIME

No. I'll find a job when I get back to New York City.

THE BEAR

Do you have a large family?

JAIME

No. I live with my grandmother and my cousin Nick.

Jaime finishes his beer.

Two WAITERS bring lunch and more beers.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY - A LITTLE LATER

The table has been cleared. The Bear and Jaime drink coffee. A few MEXICAN PATRONS are seated at the surrounding tables.

THE BEAR

Andy, I can offer you a job.

JAIME

Why would you offer me a job?
You don't even know me.

(Pause)

What kind of job?

THE BEAR

It's a teaching job. I have a friend with two young children. The boy's name is Tony, he is eleven years old. His sister's name is Beatrice, she is ten.

(Pause)

The children can speak English. But they need to be taught formal English and a higher level of mathematics. (Pause)
There is more to the job than just teaching.

JAIME

What else is involved?

You'd have to be able to protect them. You would be their bodyguard as well as private tutor.

JAIME

The target practice was with a rifle. A body guard carries a handgun.

THE BEAR

The rifle practice was a training exercise.

Jaime studies The Bear for a few seconds. Jaime is very skeptical about this offer of employment.

JAIME

What is the actual deal? And don't bullshit me.

THE BEAR

I own an international security organization. Some employees are ex-soldiers. But I have employees that work as electronics experts, interpreters and analysts. All are trained in the use of firearms.

(Pause)

I have a personal friend, Antonio Cunha, who needs a tutor for his children. You also have to be capable of protecting them. That is the job I am offering you.

JAIME

What is the salary?

THE BEAR

Twenty thousand dollars. But I have to train you. Training will take eight to ten weeks. The job requires travel.

JAIME

Well, I like to travel.

Jaime rubs the hair on his head. He is nervous.

JAIME (CONT'D)

Twenty thousand dollars is a lot of money. Is the job for one year?

THE BEAR

The teaching assignment begins the end of September and finishes before Christmas. Your job training will start immediately.

JAIME

I can't tell my grandmother that I am being trained to be a bodyguard.

THE BEAR

You can tell her that you are taking a two months course in Spanish.

(Pause)

I'll arrange for you to have a post office box here in Mexico City. All your letters will be postmarked from Mexico and any letters from your grandmother or cousin Nick will be brought to you at my ranch in Guatemala.

JAIME

(Surprised)

Guatemala?

THE BEAR

Look, if you don't like the training you can quit. If your academic credentials don't check out or I feel you don't have the ability to perform the job, I'll discharge you.

The Bear reaches into his pocket and pulls out an envelope and hands it to Jaime.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

Here is two thousand dollars. I'll pay you another eight thousand dollars at the end of your training. You get another ten thousand when the tutoring job is complete. All expenses, travel and living are covered.

JAIME

If this doesn't work out, do I get to keep the two thousand dollars in this envelope?

THE BEAR

Yes, you keep the two thousand and I'll pay for your plane ticket home.

Jaime rubs his hair and looks at the envelope filled with money. He hands it back to The Bear.

JAIME

What happens if I get killed
working as a bodyguard?

THE BEAR

A check for twenty thousand dollars
from a life insurance company will
be sent to your grandmother. She
will receive a document stating you
died in an accident and your body
was cremated.

JAIME

I need to think about this.

THE BEAR

Give me your decision tonight.

CUT TO:

INT. THE BEAR'S HOTEL SUITE, STELLA MARIS HOTEL - NIGHT

Jaime sits at a table with The Bear and Marta. They drink coffee. Jaime accepts the job offer.

JAIME

OK, I'll take the job. What's next?

The Bear pulls the envelope filled with money from his sports jacket pocket. He gives it to Jaime.

Jaime opens the envelope and counts the two thousand dollars. He puts the money in his jacket pocket.

THE BEAR

I'll make arrangements for us to
leave for Guatemala. I need your
passport now. I'll supply you with
another one. You get the original
passport back when the training
period is over.

Jaime stands up and takes the passport from his front pants pocket. He hands it to the Bear.

The Bear looks at Jaime's picture and name on the passport.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

Do you want Andrew Jackson Como
on your new passport?

JAIME

Put whatever name you like on it.

CUT TO:

INT. JAIME'S HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

TITLE CARD: THE NEXT EVENING

The Bear and Marta stand with Jaime inside his hotel room.

The Bear hands Jaime the new passport.

THE BEAR

Your name is James Andrews; you
were born in Toronto, Ontario
Canada.

Jaime looks at the passport.

JAIME

This is a British passport. My
picture is the same but I'm a year
older.

THE BEAR

The birth month and day are the
same. It'll be easy for you to
remember your new birth year.

Marta hands Jaime a plane ticket.

MARTA

Your plane ticket is dated
Wednesday, July 7, 1971. You will
be traveling with us tomorrow
morning. It is Mexicana Airlines,
one way to Guatemala City.

THE BEAR

Meet us in the lobby at 8:00 AM.

(Pause)

Oh, would you like to have a late snack with Marta and me?

JAIME

No. I need to pack.

See you in the morning.

The Bear and Marta leave Jaime's room.

Jaime looks at the passport and plane ticket and places them on the desk. He sits in the desk chair. There is a basic Spanish textbook on the desk.

INSERT

The BOOK COVER says, "BASIC SPANISH."

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. LA AURORA AIRPORT, GUATEMALA CITY - DAY

TITLE CARD: LA AURORA AIRPORT, GUATEMALA CITY

The Mexicana Flight lands. PASSENGERS exit the airplane directly onto the airfield and walk a short distance to the terminal.

INT. AIRPORT - CUSTOMS INSPECTIONS LINE - DAY

Jaime, The Bear and Marta stand in the Customs Inspection line with other Passengers.

The CUSTOMS INSPECTOR checks Jaime's new passport and looks at him. There is no problem. The inspector stamps the document.

Marta and The Bear follow routinely.

EXT. STREET - AIRPORT TERMINAL - DAY

There are TWO MEN standing directly outside the exit of the airport terminal. They are dressed in plain white short

sleeved shirts, tan chino pants, plain black shoes and white socks. Taxicabs are parked at the curb.

The Two Men walk over to The Bear and Marta.

The First Man takes Marta's luggage. He is tall, thin and wiry. He has sun-tanned skin. His eyes are oriental. He is a Filipino-Greek. His age is approximately thirty-eight years old. He speaks in a Cajun accent suggesting he is from New Orleans. His name is LUKE TWO.

The Bear turns his head towards Jaime and points at Luke.

THE BEAR

This is Luke Two.

The Second Man takes The Bear's suitcase. He is taller than Luke and more muscular. He is about forty-three years old. His skin is brown. His speech pattern is definitive New York City. His name is JOHNNY WALKER.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

This is Johnny Walker.

The entire group walk across the street to the parking lot.

Jaime follows in the rear, carrying his one suitcase.

EXT. AIRPORT PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

They stop at a passenger van.

Johnny opens the back of the van and places a suitcase inside. Luke and Jaime follow and put the luggage into the van.

The Bear addresses Luke and Johnny and points to Jaime.

THE BEAR

This is Jaime.

Luke and John nod hello to Jaime.

Jaime nods back.

ANOTHER ANGLE

They all enter the van. Luke gets into the driver's seat, while Johnny gets into the passenger's front seat.

Jaime enters through the side door and sits in the far back seat with the luggage.

Marta and The Bear follow and sit in the middle section seats.

CUT TO:

EXT. MAIN GUATEMALA HIGHWAY - DAY

MOVING

The van travels on a main highway from the airport. The highway runs outside Guatemala City. The road follows the countryside and turns into a private road. The journey covers 20 kilometers from the city through areas of cultivated farm land.

EXT. RANCH GATE - SAMBALANGA RANCH - DUSK

The van slows at the entrance gate to a ranch. The ARCH at the top of the gate reads, "BIENVENIDOS A SAMBALANGA." The van drives through.

CLOSER

There are MALE and FEMALE GUATEMALANS working in the coffee and banana fields on the plantation. It is late in the day, just about dusk.

EXT. FRONT OF MAIN SAMBALANGA RANCH HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

The Bear, Marta and Johnny exit the van. Marta enters the main ranch house. Luke stays in the driver's seat and Jaime remains in the van. Johnny opens the back of the van and grabs Marta's and The Bear's bags.

The Bear takes the two bags from Johnny.

THE BEAR

(Speaking directly to Johnny) Go with Luke and take Jaime to his room.

The Bear, carries the bags and enters the main house.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT OF MOTEL TYPE BUILDING - MOMENTS LATER

Johnny, Luke and Jaime exit the vehicle in front of a motel type building. Johnny retrieves Jaime's bag from the van and hands it to him.

JOHNNY

(New York City Accent)
Follow Luke and me.

They walk to the motel rooms.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

This is your room, Jaime, and
this is your key.

He hands him a key then points to other rooms.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

My room is over here and Luke's
is over there.

LUKE

(Cajun Accent)
You are in the middle. If you need
us for anything just knock on our
doors.

JAIME

OK.

CUT TO:

INT. JAIME'S ROOM - EVENING

This is a simple motel room that contains, one single bed and a chair, desk, electric lamp and kerosene lamp. A bottle of water and drinking glasses are on the desktop. There is a small bathroom and shower. There is no television or radio. A windup alarm clock sits on the desk.

Jaime checks the time on his wristwatch with the windup alarm clock.

INSERT

The windup alarm CLOCK shows 7:00 o'clock.

JAIME

Woo.

Exhausted Jaime lies down on the bed.

EXT. DOORWAY JAIME'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Luke BANGS on the door.

LUKE

(Shouting)

Jaime it's dinner time.

The door opens and Jaime comes out.

Luke and Jaime walk a few yards across the ranch compound to the dining hall building and enter.

INT. DINING HALL - NIGHT

The Bear and Marta sit at the front table with a young, lean, muscular, Latino man, SERGIO.

There are FIVE MEN eating at a nearby large round table. Johnny sits alone at a separate table. There are a few empty tables.

The five men are seated at the round table: ALAN, PAUL, MARCOS, THE COLONEL and THE MAJOR. They are all dressed the same way: plain white short sleeved shirts, tan chino pants, plain black shoes, and white socks.

Alan and Paul are brothers. They speak with Eastern Canadian accents. Alan is six feet tall and thin. His younger brother Paul is two inches shorter and more muscular. They are in their twenties.

Marcos is average height and slim. He is the youngest member of the group. He is about 20 years old. He has a livelier personality than the others. He speaks with a Brooklyn accent.

The Colonel and The Major are spit shine military men.

Luke and Jaime sit down with Johnny.

There are TWO WAITERS. The FIRST WAITER is middle aged, small stature, brown skin, slight moustache. He speaks to

the SECOND WAITER in Spanish. The Second Waiter is a younger man, possibly the son of the First Waiter.

FIRST WAITER

Eso es para el Oso Sonrisa. (This is for the smiling bear.)

He hands the Second Waiter a bottle of wine.

Jaime listens to the First Waiter's Spanish and looks at Luke.

JAIME

El Oso Sonrisa, that means the funny bear?

LUKE

Not exactly, it means the smiling bear.

Luke glances over at The Bear, Marta and Sergio.

LUKE (CONT'D)

The Latino guy sitting with The Bear is Sergio. Sergio leaves on assignment tomorrow.

Johnny looks at Jaime, then glances at the large round table.

JOHNNY

The three young guys at that table are Alan, Paul and Marcos. The older guys are instructors. The bald-headed guy is the Colonel and the one with the short-cropped hair is the Major. You'll meet them tomorrow during your training.

JAIME

Do you guys teach anything?

JOHNNY

I'm the physical training instructor. I teach karate and boxing.

LUKE

I teach knife fighting and basic karate. The Major over there will teach you Spanish.

JAIME

What about the Colonel?

LUKE

He teaches electronics. He'll show you how to operate a ham radio.

JAIME

That sounds cool.

The Second Waiter comes over.

SECOND WAITER

(Speaks in English to the Table)
Tonight you have a choice of either a chicken or fish dinner.

LUKE

I'll have chicken.

JOHNNY

Me too, chicken.

JAIME

The fish, please.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. RIFLE RANGE - DAY

TITLE CARD: THE NEXT DAY

Jaime and The Bear look at a number of firearms placed upon a table.

The Bear picks up a rifle.

THE BEAR

This is a Remington 22 caliber, single shot rifle similar to the one you shot in Mexico. I want to go over basics using this rifle.

He places the rifle down and picks up the machine gun.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

This is a Russian Kalashnikov assault rifle known as the AK47.

He removes the clip.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

The clip holds thirty rounds of ammunition. You can use this machine gun as an automatic weapon or as a semi-automatic weapon.

JAIME

What about those guns?

Jaime motions toward the other guns on the table.

The Bear jams the clip back into the AK47 and puts the machine gun down. He grabs two handguns from the table, one in each hand.

THE BEAR

(In his left hand.)

This is a Smith and Wesson 38 caliber long barreled policeman's special revolver with a silencer.

(In his right hand) This is a Colt Commander 45 automatic.

The Bear places the Colt automatic on the table. He unscrews the cylinder-shaped silencer from the Smith and Wesson and shows it to Jaime.

JAIME

Why do I need to know how to use a silencer?

THE BEAR

It's part of the training.

He places the revolver and silencer on the table and picks up the Colt automatic.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

This is a Colt Model 1911,
Commander 45 caliber,
semiautomatic pistol with seven
rounds in the magazine.

He disengages the magazine.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

I'll teach you how to shoot
all these weapons.

The Bear places the Colt Automatic on the table. Next, he
uncovers a long-barreled rifle with a large scope.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

This is a sniper's rifle, with a
scope. You'll be able to easily
hit any target up to 500 meters.
The rifle has a rotating bolt
action. The magazine holds ten
shots. You can set this as a
single shot weapon or a semi-
automatic.

JAIME

What's the name of the sniper
rifle?

THE BEAR

There are no markings on this
rifle. It is a Russian Dragunov.
The cartridge is 7.62 mm by 54.
It is longer than the cartridge
used in the AK47 machine gun,
which is 7.62 mm by 39.

JAIME

When do I start shooting?

THE BEAR

Right now.

The shooting lessons begin. The Bear instructs Jaime.
Jaime fires the Remington rifle.

CUT TO:

INT. GYMNASIUM - DAY

KARATE MONTAGE BEGINS

A.) Jaime stands next to Luke. They are all dressed in white karate uniforms with white belts. Johnny and Luke wear black belts. Everyone is barefoot. They watch as Johnny teaches basic karate moves to Alan, Paul and Marcos. Each has mixed success in replicating the moves.

B.) Johnny pairs off with Alan. Paul and Marcos are paired. Luke instructs Jaime. The others look on, out of the corners of their eyes as the new guy begins to practice.

C.) Karate training begins. Each group thrusts, blocks and throws punches at each other. Jaime is a quick study and perfectly executes the moves Luke shows him.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JAIME'S ROOM - DAY

SOUND. KNOCK at the door.

JAIME

Come in.

Luke and Johnny enter the room.

JOHNNY

I have your personal schedule for the next two months.

(Pause)

Life at the ranch is orderly and disciplined.

He hands Jaime the schedule.

JAIME

OK.

JOHNNY

This is the main rule. Do not tell any of the other trainees about your assignment. All assignments are classified. You can tell another trainee that you are

leaving on an assignment but give no detailed information. You got that?

JAIME

Yeah.

Johnny looks at Luke.

LUKE (RAPIDLY)

Each evening wind the alarm clock in your room. Every morning at 6:00 AM the three of us will run three miles. We'll begin with a slow jog. In two months you will be running three miles at 7 minutes per mile. If you smoke, you'll be limited to three cigarettes per day. We supply the smokes, Marlboros from the states. No smoking at breakfast. You can have one cigarette after lunch and two cigarettes after dinner. There is no smoking in the motel rooms.

JOHNNY

After the morning run, come back to your room, shower and relax. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 AM. It is overtly hot and muggy here. You'll need to shower often. Lunch will be served in a few minutes at 12:45 PM. You can socialize with the other trainees at lunch-time.

JAIME

OK.

LUKE

At fourteen hundred hours, that's 2:00 PM, you report to the classroom building.

Luke walks to the window and points. Jaime follows.

EXT- CLASSROOM BUILDING - SAMBALANGA RANCH - MOMENTS LATER

LUKE (V.O)

The classroom building is over there next to the gym. Go to Room Number 1. The Major will teach you Spanish until sixteen hundred hours that's 4:00 PM. You report there Monday through Thursday. On Friday at fourteen hundred hours,

LUKE (V.O) (CONT'D)

report to Room Number 2. The Colonel will show you how to operate a ham radio.

INT. JAIME'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Luke and Jaime walk back over to Johnny.

JOHNNY

After sixteen hundred hours you are free to do what you like. You can study your Spanish, work out with weights at the gym, read a book.

LUKE

There is a phonograph and an eight-track tape player in the recreation room where you can listen to music. Dinner is served at nineteen hundred hours.

JAIME

Yeah, nineteen hundred hours, that's 7:00 PM. I got it.

(Pause)

Hey, do I ever get to visit Guatemala City or the countryside?

LUKE

We want you to stay within the compound during your entire training period.

JOHNNY

Remember, you can quit the program at any time and go home. It is up to you.

JAIME

I'll stay.

LUKE

One more thing. Keep profanities at a minimum even when socializing with the guys.

JAIME

OK.

LUKE

Let's go to lunch.

CUT TO:

INT. SPANISH CLASSROOM - LATER SAME DAY

Jaime sits in a chair. The Major stands in front of the room at the blackboard.

Marcos, Alan and Paul are seated in booths at the back of the classroom. They have headphones on and listen to language tapes.

The Major speaks directly to Jaime.

MAJOR

Let me explain why we teach Spanish. In the United States, Spanish is a second language. Spanish is spoken throughout Central and South America, in Spain, North Africa and the Philippines.

(Pause)

Spanish is a good basis for the other Latin languages. Once you learn Spanish, it will be easy for you to pick up Italian and Portuguese.

(Pause)

Major (CONT'D)

Have you studied any foreign languages?

JAIME

I had two years of Latin in high school. I know a little Italian and I've been studying Spanish on my own.

MAJOR

The background in Latin is good. That will make things much easier. Let's start your Spanish lesson.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The lesson begins. The Major writes the verb, TO BE on the blackboard: **SOY, ERES, ES, SOMOS, SOIS, SON. I AM, YOU ARE, HE IS, WE ARE, YOU ARE, THEY ARE.**

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HAM RADIO CLASSROOM - THE NEXT DAY

Jaime is with Marcos and The Colonel. Marcos is two years younger than Jaime. He is slightly smaller in height and frame. Marcos is finishing a conversation with a MAN in AUSTRALIA. They speak in English.

AUSTRALIAN (V.O.)

Signing off from Perth, mate.

MARCOS

(Slight Brooklyn Accent)

Signing off from Central America.

The Colonel exits the room.

MARCOS (CONT'D)

Jaime do you want to talk on the Ham Radio?

JAIME

No. I don't like speaking to strangers.

MARCOS

This radio is a lot of fun. I really enjoy it.

JAIME

How old are you, Marcos?

MARCOS

I just turned twenty years old.

JAIME

You speak like you come from Brooklyn?

MARCOS

Yeah, I'm from Brooklyn, Bensonhurst.

JAIME

Where did The Bear find you?

MARCOS

Last year, at Saint Louis University. I had a job as a student Disc Jockey. (Pause) One evening, my Spanish professor brought The Bear to the radio station. We all went out for pizza. One thing led to another and I wound up here.

JAIME

Do you like working for The Bear?

MARCOS

Yeah, I learn more here about Ham Radios and electronics than I would in school. Plus, I get to travel. How are things going with you?

JAIME

I've only been here a few days. I
have to adjust to the routine.

MARCOS

Don't worry. You fit in with us.

CUT TO:

ACTIVITIES MONTAGE BEGINS

EXT. - SHOOTING RANGE - DAY

Jaime shoots targets with The Bear.

INT. - SPANISH CLASSROOM - DAY

Jaime, Marcos, Alan and Paul listen to language tapes. The
Major watches them.

INT. - HAM RADIO CLASSROOM - DAY

The Colonel, Marcos and Jaime adjust and listen to the Ham
Radio. They listen to SAMBA MUSIC on the Ham Radio.

THE COLONEL

This is a Brazilian station.

Marcos dances the Samba by himself. Jaime and The Colonel
laugh.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD INSIDE THE RANCH - DAWN

TITLE CARD: EIGHT WEEKS LATER

Jaime, Johnny and Luke are jogging. Jaime has lost at least
ten pounds.

LUKE

Jaime, it's time we speed this run
up.

Luke and Johnny take off and sprint the last quarter mile
of the three miles run. They leave Jaime in the dust. At

the completion of the run, Jaime is puffing, hot and sweaty. Luke and Johnny are relaxed, waiting for him.

JAIME

Geez.

CUT TO:

INT. GYMNASIUM - DAY

Luke teaches a knife fighting class. He demonstrates using a wooden knife. He gives basic instruction jabbing, slashing and defending.

Jaime, Marcos, Alan, Paul and Johnny silently watch the demonstration.

Luke extends the knife in his left hand and proceeds to jab and slash with the knife. He keeps the right hand close to the body in a blocking or punching position.

Jaime pairs off with Johnny. Alan pairs off with Paul. Luke pairs off with Marcos. They begin practice.

Another Angle

Sergio has returned from his assignment. Sergio, The Bear, The Colonel and The Major observe the knife fighting demonstration from the back of the gym.

CUT TO:

EXT. SHOOTING RANGE - THE NEXT MORNING

Jaime sits on the ground in firing position. He aims the sniper rifle at a target 200 meters in the distance. The Bear spots for him. Jaime aims and squeezes the trigger. The Bear looks at the target with binoculars.

BINOCULAR POV - TARGET

The target is hit dead center.

THE BEAR

Excellent.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HAM RADIO CLASSROOM - THAT NIGHT

The Bear, The Colonel and The Major are seated at a table with Sergio.

THE BEAR

I want the background information on Jaime.

SERGIO

He was brought up in New Jersey and New York. He graduated from college in Jersey City this past June. His grades were slightly above average. He is intelligent and a bit lazy, an underachiever.

THE BEAR

What's his family like.

SERGIO

Both parents are dead. His father died of cancer in 1965. His mother died with her brother and sister-in-law in a car accident on the New Jersey Turnpike in 1968.

(Pause)

He lives with his grandmother and his younger Cousin Nick in New York City. They live in an apartment complex on the East Side, at First Avenue and East Fifteenth Street.

THE BEAR

What does his grandmother do for a living?

SERGIO

She is an elementary school teacher nearing retirement.

THE BEAR

Are there any other relatives?

SERGIO

He has one unmarried uncle on his father's side. The uncle served an eighteen months prison sentence for manslaughter. Two mob guys tried to kill him in his bar in 1966. He was shot in the shoulder but managed to blow the assailants heads off with a double-barreled shotgun.

According to the New York Police Department it was self-protection. But he did some time anyway.

(Pause)

Uncle Jerry is an organized crime associate. Jaime works for him at his bar and grill in Greenpoint, Brooklyn every weekend. The NYPD have followed Jaime. Jaime loses them in the subway every time. Here's the report.

Sergio flips the report to The Bear.

The Bear looks at the paper and smiles.

THE BEAR

What about Jaime's friends?

SERGIO

He has two close friends. One is in the Marines serving in Vietnam. The other is doing a four years stint in the Navy.

THE BEAR

Does he have college friends, girl friends?

SERGIO

No college buddies. He has taken a few college girls out on dates. Just pizza and beer. Nothing serious.

THE BEAR

What are his work experience and personal habits?

SERGIO

Besides working at his uncle's bar Jaime tutor's math. He minds his own business and stays out of trouble. He is quiet by nature. He likes movies and walks through Central Park with his cousin Nick. Occasionally he'll drink a beer and smoke a cigarette. He has no known drug use.

THE BEAR

I want everyone's opinion about Jaime's aptitude for this type of work.

SERGIO

He has excellent potential. His Uncle is a life-long criminal and he trusts Jaime.

THE COLONEL

He enjoys working with the Ham Radio. I think he likes the training and discipline here.

THE MAJOR

He gets along with the other guys. He studies his Spanish diligently. He is intelligent. Jaime is a good recruit.

THE BEAR

I agree with you. Thanks gentlemen.

The Major and the Colonel exit. Sergio stays with The Bear.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

Sergio, what's the full story on the killings in Uncle Jerry's bar back in 1966?

SERGIO

Jaime may have killed the mob guys to protect his uncle.

CUT TO:

INT. RECREATION ROOM - NIGHT

Jaime, Marcos, Alan and Paul sit at a card table. They drink beer and smoke Marlboros.

Rock and roll MUSIC plays in the background.

There is a projector and a screen set up. A dozen chairs are placed in front of the movie screen.

MARCOS

What is the movie tonight?

PAUL

(Canadian Accent)

Andy Warhol,
"Trash."

Marcos laughs. Jaime speaks to Alan.

JAIME

Alan, I've been at this ranch for two months. Some of the girls who work here are decent looking.

ALAN

(Canadian Accent)

Forget about that. Two years ago, one of the guys got caught with a girl. They sent him right home.

(Pause)

Hey, Paul play that new tape.

Paul leaves the table. He returns with a tape.

PAUL

You'll like this, Jaime. It's the Allman Brother's Band.

Paul removes the rock and roll tape and puts the new tape into the eight-track recorder. The MUSIC plays, "Wake up momma, turn your lamp down low; Wake up momma, turn your lamp down low, you got no nerve baby, to turn Uncle John from your door. I woke up this morning, I had them

Statesboro Blues." Everyone enjoys the music. Marcos starts jiggling around.

VARIOUS ANGLES

Luke and Johnny enter the recreation room.

LUKE

We're going to run the movie. Nice music but turn it off.

Lights turn off and the SOUND of the movie projector begins.

The movie begins. A fat, sloppy BROAD dances and SINGS on screen, "And he burnt my coolly with a big cigar, Hey Momma look at me now."

Marcos busts out laughing.

CUT TO:

INT. JAIME'S ROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Jaime sits at his desk. There is a calendar on the desk.

INSERT

The days on the monthly CALENDAR are marked off until the present date, Friday, September 3, 1971.

KNOCK at the door.

JAIME

Come in.

The Bear walks into the room, he leaves the door open.

THE BEAR

I want to show you something. Meet me in the rec-room in fifteen minutes.

CUT TO:

INT. RECREATION ROOM - DAY

The lights are out and a film runs. The movie screen shows a pile of dead bodies burning. The film shuts down and lights turn on.

VARIOUS ANGLES

Sergio turns off the projector.

Luke, Johnny, Jaime and The Bear have just watched the film.

Sergio walks over and joins them.

THE BEAR

This is Sergio.

Sergio and Jaime shake hands. The Bear directs his attention to Jaime.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

Jaime, the three men that caused this atrocity are right here in Guatemala. Luke, Johnny and I are going after them.

(Pause)

This is your first assignment. Before you make a decision to participate, I want you to talk to Sergio.

The Bear, Luke and Johnny leave Sergio and Jaime in the recreation room.

SERGIO

Did you like the training here at the ranch?

JAIME

In all honesty, yes.

SERGIO

OK.

(Pause)

The three men responsible for burning the peasants are Guatemalan Military Officers.

JAIME

So our group has the contract to
kill them, right?

SERGIO

That's right.

(Pause)

But Jaime, you don't have to do
this. You can pack your bags. I can
drive you to the airport right now.

JAIME

I'll take the assignment but I need
to ask you a question.

SERGIO

Ask.

JAIME

When I want to quit this
organization, can I walk
away without any
repercussions?

SERGIO

Yes. I give you my word that you
can walk away.

(Pause)

If you become a valuable asset and
quit, someday The Bear will show up
and ask you to come back.

JAIME

Fair enough.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD THROUGH THE RANCH GATES - LATER THAT DAY

MOVING

Luke, the driver, and Johnny, the passenger, sit in a Jeep.
They drive through the ranch gates.

The Bear drives a second Jeep with Jaime seated beside him.

CLOSER

Jaime turns and looks at the gates of the ranch,
"BIENVENIDOS A SAMBALANGA." This repeats the first scene in
the script.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

MOVING

Both Jeeps travel north passing the town of Zacapa. There
are peasants and traffic in the town. They cross the
Montagua River. The Jeeps go off road into a dense forest.
The sun is blocked by foliage. It is hot and steamy. The
Jeeps come to a stop, one behind the other.

CUT TO:

EXT. JUNGLE - DAY

Luke, Johnny, Jaime and The Bear walk through the
Guatemalan jungle. Luke, Johnny and Jaime are armed with
sniper rifles. The Bear is armed with his Colt Commander
Automatic.

THE BEAR

Set those rifles for a single shot.

EXT. HILL - DAY

They walk up a hill through a heavily wooded area. Two
hundred meters below the hill stands a cabin in a clearing.

The Bear points to his watch. Luke, Johnny and Jaime
synchronize their watches.

THE BEAR

Four minutes.

Johnny and Luke take off to the east side of the cabin.

The Bear points to a forward area and walks briskly. Jaime
follows.

EXT. FRONT OF CABIN - DAY

SCOPE POV - THREE MEN

THREE MEN stand at the front door of the cabin. They are all dressed in camouflage field uniforms. They light cigarettes, stand and talk.

EXT. BRUSH - MOMENTS LATER

Jaime, looks through the scope and aims the sniper rifle. The Bear spots for Jaime.

THE BEAR

The range to the cabin is seventy-five meters. Shoot the tall thin guy on the right side.

EXT. BRUSH - MOMENTS LATER

Johnny and Luke are in the brush 100 meters east of The Bear and Jaime's position. Johnny aims his sniper rifle at the middleman. Luke points his rifle at the fat guy on the left.

Three shots are fired simultaneously.

EXT. FRONT OF CABIN - DAY

Heads explode. Three smoking bodies lie dead in front of the cabin.

EXT. BRUSH - DAY

Jaime and The Bear stand after the shots have been fired.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT OF CABIN - DAY

VARIOUS ANGLES

The Two Jeeps drive into the clearing in front of the cabin. Luke and Johnny exit the first jeep. They walk over to inspect the three dead bodies. The Bear and Jaime jump out of the second Jeep and wait. Johnny turns toward Luke.

JOHNNY

Go get the body bags.

Luke takes three body bags from the back of his jeep. Jaime walks over to Luke and grabs a bag. Luke carries the other two body bags.

Johnny and The Bear, Luke and Jaime proceed to place the bodies into the bags. They load two bodies into Johnny and Luke's Jeep and one body into The Bear's Jeep. They quickly clean the area in front of the cabin.

The cars drive away from the scene.

CUT TO:

EXT. SINK HOLE - DAY

Johnny and Luke dump the three bodies, one after the other, into a large, deep sink hole. The bodies disappear into the darkness.

Jaime and The Bear stand and watch.

EXT. ROAD BACK TO THE RANCH - DUSK

MOVING

The two Jeeps ride down the highway.

INT. THE BEAR'S JEEP

The Bear drives and Jaime is the passenger.

THE BEAR

There are Mayan ruins, a couple of kilometers down the road in that direction.

The Bear nods his head toward the passenger side of the Jeep.

JAIME

Fuck the Mayan ruins.

The Bear smiles.

CUT TO:

INT. STELLA MARIS HOTEL, MEXICO CITY 1971 - NIGHT

TITLE CARD: - STELLA MARIS HOTEL, MEXICO CITY - FOUR DAYS
LATERJaime sits at a desk. He reads a Spanish language
newspaper, The EXCELSIOR.

INSERT

EXCELSIOR, martes, 7 de septiembre, 1971.

KNOCK at the door.

JAIME

Come in, it's opened.

Luke walks over to Jaime.

LUKE

Do you have the James Andrews
passport?

JAIME

Yeah, right here.

He pulls the passport from inside his sports jacket pocket
and hands it to Luke.

LUKE

Here are your passport and plane
ticket to New York City. You take
an Eastern Airlines flight
tomorrow morning.

(Pause)

I got eight grand for you.

He hands Jaime the passport, plane ticket and envelope
containing eight thousand dollars.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Did you like that steak dinner?

JAIME

Yeah, great steak.

LUKE

Johnny will call you in New York
City next week.

JAIME

OK.

LUKE

I need to make a call.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Luke takes the telephone from the desk, places a call and hangs up.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Now you should relax.

KNOCK at the door. Luke opens it. A tall, light-eyed GIRL, light brown hair with fantastic legs walks in. She is about twenty years old.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Enjoy yourself.

Luke leaves the room and closes the door. Jaime stares at the beautiful Girl.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - MANHATTAN, NEW YORK CITY - DAY

TITLE CARD: MANHATTAN, NEW YORK CITY - ONE WEEK LATER

INSERT

Street SIGN: E. 16TH STREET AND 5TH AVENUE

Johnny Walker and Jaime walk east toward Union Square.

Johnny goes into a drug store while Jaime waits outside.
The SIGN on the store says CITY DRUGS.

In a few seconds Johnny is back on the street. Johnny takes a swig from a bottle of Robotussin AC cough medicine.

INSERT

ROBOTUSSIN AC

JOHNNY

I have a little cough. This stuff
helps.

JAIME

Right.

They walk back west on East 16th Street and go North up 5th
Avenue. They enter a diner.

INT. DINER - DAY

Seated in the diner at the counter and in booths are: a few
Business Men, some New York University Professor Types, old
Beatniks and young College Hippies.

A jukebox plays HARD ROCK MUSIC.

Jaime drinks a cup of coffee.

Johnny dips a tea bag into a cup. He adds milk and sugar.
He sips the tea. Johnny then gets up, goes to the jukebox
and drops a few coins in. MUSIC by the Temptations begins,
"You got a smile so bright."

When he returns to the booth, Johnny pulls a large envelope
from inside his jacket. He removes some documents.

JOHNNY

(Slightly slurred speech)
Plane ticket, first class,
Air France to Paris.
Connecting coach flight Alitalia,
Paris to Rome. You got your
passport?

JAIME

Yes.

JOHNNY

You leave Kennedy Airport, Friday
September seventeenth at six PM.

You go through immigration and
customs in Paris.

JAIME

OK.

JOHNNY

I have a thousand dollars traveling
money for you inside this envelope.

Johnny puts the plane tickets back inside the big envelope
and hands it to Jaime.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

What did you tell your grandma?

JAIME

I told her I have a teaching job in
the private American School in
Rome. I'll be home for Christmas.

(Pause)

What do I do when I get to Rome?

JOHNNY

Take a taxi cab from DaVinci
Airport in Rome to the Hotel
Quattro Fontani. Luke will be at
the hotel. Luke will take care of
you.

CUT TO:

INT. GRANDMOTHER'S APARTMENT - MANHATTAN - THE NEXT NIGHT

Jaime sits at the kitchen table with his cousin NICK and
GRANDMOTHER They sip red wine and eat little cakes.

Nick is fifteen years old, a typical teenager.

Grandmother is sixty-four years old short, plump in good
physical condition.

GRANDMOTHER

Are you packed for your trip?

JAIME

Yeah, Grandma, I'm all packed.

GRANDMOTHER

I was the first one in my family to be born in the United States. I have never been to Italy.

JAIME

Don't worry, Grandma, I'll tell you all about it when I get back.

NICK

Hey, I want to go to Italy.

JAIME

I'll take you there sometime.

GRANDMOTHER

Good night boys.

She gets up and leaves the room.

JAIME

Nick, I bought you a tape. It's the Allman Brothers.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Jaime walks across the room and puts the tape into the eight-track. The MUSIC plays softly; "Well, my momma died and left me, My poppa died and left me, I ain't good looking baby, Want someone sweet and kind. I'm goin to the country, baby do you wanna go? But if you can't make it baby, your sister Lucille said she wanna go."

Nick smiles. He enjoys the music.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAVINCI AIRPORT, ROME, ITALY - DAY

TITLE CARD: DAVINCI AIRPORT ROME, ITALY - SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 18, 1971

Jaime gets into a taxi.

JAIME (V.O)

(In Italian)

Hotel Quattro Fontani, per piacere.

EXT. ROME HIGHWAY - DAY

MOVING

The taxi travels down the road to Rome.

INT. TAXI - DAY

POV - TAXI WINDOW

Jaime looks at the crowded streets of Rome. The cab passes around piazzas, turns down a side street and arrives at the hotel.

EXT. HOTEL QUATTRO FONTANI - ROME - DAY

Jaime stands in front of the hotel. It is a small second class, unassuming place. There is a SIGN, HOTEL QUATTRO FONTANI.

INT. JAIME'S ROOM - THAT EVENING

KNOCKING at the door.

JAIME

Come in the door is open.

DOORWAY

Luke walks through the door and closes it. He carries documents.

VARIOUS ANGLES

LUKE

Give me your passport.

Jaime hands him his passport.

LUKE (CONT'D)

OK. Your passport will stay here in Rome for safekeeping. Here is the James Andrews passport and plane tickets.

Luke hands Jaime the James Andrews passport and plane tickets.

LUKE (CONT'D)

James Andrews flew from Toronto, Canada to London, England then to Rome. You got that.

JAIME

Yeah.

Jaime inspects the passport and turns to Luke.

JAIME (CONT'D)

There are no exit or entry stamps for Mexico or Guatemala.

The passport is clean.

(Pause)

What is this? A visa for Angola?

LUKE

Yes, Angola, Africa. We leave tomorrow.

JAIME

So we travel together?

LUKE

Yes. We travel Air Afrique. The flight leaves from Rome through Dakar, Abidjan and finally Luanda, Angola. We will change planes a couple of times. We leave tomorrow morning.

(Pause) Johnny and The Bear will join us there in a few days.

Jaime rubs his head. He is nervous.

JAIME

Wow, Africa.

LUKE

Let's get dinner.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. TRAIN - HILLS, ANGOLA, AFRICA - TWO DAYS LATER

TITLE CARD: ANGOLA, AFRICA TWO DAYS LATER

A train slowly chugs up a hill.

INT. TRAIN - DAY

Jaime and Luke sit together in a crowded train. Windows are open and a hot breeze blows through. Jaime twists his nose a little. The odor is pungent.

There are PORTUGUESE SOLDIERS in nearby seats. There are AFRICANS speaking different languages. There are some young, brown skinned MEN speaking Spanish.

JAIME

What language do those guys speak?

Jaime nods towards a group of Africans on the train.

LUKE

They speak Bantu.

Luke nods toward another group.

LUKE (CONT'D)

That group speaks Kimbundu.

The train rumbles along.

JAIME

Geez.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKY - LATER THAT DAY

THUNDER and LIGHTNING roll in from the distant clouds.

INT. TRAIN - DAY

The PATTERN of rain hits the train. Passengers close the windows half way. The heat is sweltering and stinky.

JAIME

Is this what Africa smells like?

LUKE

No, the smell is from the people on
the train.

Luke laughs. Jaime sighs.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE PLANTATION OF ANTONIO CUNHA - DAY

TITLE CARD: THE PLANTATION OF ANTONIO CUNHA, ANGOLA, AFRICA
-
THURSDAY DECEMBER 2, 1971 - TWO AND A HALF MONTHS LATER

AERIAL POV

The plantation is immense. There is a large main house in
the center of the complex.

The plantation runs many kilometers in each direction. The
far North is dense wooded jungle. To the South is the
district capital city of Ndaltando. There is a distant
view of the Cuanza River.

There are four watchtowers on the perimeter of the
plantation.

There are many motel type buildings.

A big generating plant is located five hundred meters from
the main home.

There are barns, silos, heavy tractors and jeeps.

CLOSER

The fields of rolling hills grow coffee, corn and beans.
The animals include: many chickens, sheep, goats, pigs.
There are a few milking cows, cattle and horses.

There are African WORKERS and Portuguese SOLDIERS in the
fields and on the grounds.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SMALL CLASSROOM INSIDE THE MAIN PLANTATION HOUSE -

- MORNING

Jaime stands in front of a desk. An eleven-year-old boy, TONY, and a ten-year old girl, BEATRICE, sit in front of him.

They are clearly brother and sister.

Both children have light brown hair and light eyes. They are average height and weight for their ages. They are neatly dressed and well groomed.

Jaime is dressed in a white short sleeved shirt, tan chino pants, plain black shoes and white socks.

JAIME

Tony, what time are you and your sister Beatrice leaving for Portugal?

TONY

We leave at noon. A soldier and Sergio will drive my mother, Beatrice and me to Ndaltando.
(Pause)
Sergio will fly with us to Luanda and then to Portugal.

JAIME

Well, I enjoyed teaching you and your sister. I shall miss you.

BEATRICE

We shall miss you too.

Beatrice gives Jaime a hug and kiss and scoots from the classroom.

TONY

When do you leave?

JAIME

Tomorrow with The Bear, I mean Senor Foster.

SENORA CUNHA, a tall, thin, attractive, middle-aged woman walks into the room. Sergio is with her.

Sergio stands at the door and nods to Jaime. Jaime nods back.

Tony walks quickly to his mother. He turns and waves to Jaime.

TONY

Bye.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - MAIN HOUSE - LATER IN THE DAY

The Bear and Jaime sit at a table drinking coffee. There is a large COOK, wearing an apron and making pancakes. The Cook has close cropped hair and a military demeanor. He is dressed the same way as Jaime and The Bear, white shirt and tan pants. Everyone is tense.

THE BEAR

We are going to be attacked by those revolutionary groups.

JAIME

Which group? The FNLA, the MPLA or the UNITA?

THE BEAR

All of them.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLANTATION OF ANTONIO CUNHA - SAME DAY

The plantation is bustling. The Portuguese soldiers continually drive back and forth across the farm. They are excited and ready for action.

The African Workers are leaving the compound in an orderly manner.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BARN LOFT - DUSK

Luke and Johnny are in the loft armed with machine guns. They look out the large window.

FAST CUT TO:

EXT. BARN LOFT - DUSK

There is no activity below. The soldiers are stationed at the perimeter in the fields. Everything is quiet. The landscape is picturesque and the sun sets in the West. It is the calm before the storm.

FAST CUT TO:

INT. BARN LOFT - EVENING

Jaime and The Bear enter the loft armed. The Bear speaks to Luke and Johnny.

THE BEAR

Go see The Cook and get some dinner. Jaime and I will relieve you.

Luke and Johnny exit.

Jaime is worried but controls his fear in front of The Bear.

JAIME

How long before the attack?

THE BEAR

A couple of days, maybe sooner. The soldiers will take over for Luke and Johnny later on tonight.

The Bear thinks for a second.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

Luke and Johnny, SENOR CUNHA and The Cook will leave with us early in the morning.

JAIME

Good.

DISSOLVE TOO:

INT. JAIME'S ROOM - VERY EARLY THE NEXT MORNING - BEFORE DAWN

Jaime is tossing in bed unable to sleep. Three SOUNDS, gigantic BOOMS, rock the entire plantation. He immediately gets up and looks at the windup alarm CLOCK next to his bed.

INSERT

The CLOCK shows FOUR FORTY-FIVE.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Jaime ducks down, crawls to the window and peers out.

EXT. PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

VARIOUS ANGLES

The generating plant has blown up and is on fire. Two watchtowers are down in the distance. The sky is ablaze. Artillery shells hit the compound and the ground shakes. The barn and silos are burning.

Suddenly the artillery barrage stops.

The REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS attack. The plantation is a battlefield. The PORTUGUESE SOLDIERS continually shoot at swarms of Revolutionary Soldiers. Fires light up the sky and the Revolutionaries advance down the hilly fields.

CUT TO:

INT. JAIME'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Jaime is dressed. He places the revolver inside the backpack. He puts his backpack on and grabs the AK47.

There is a KNOCK at the door. Luke, Johnny and The Bear enter the room.

THE BEAR

Do you have your passport?

JAIME

I put it in my backpack with some clothes.

JOHNNY

Is there a full magazine in your
rifle?

JAIME

Yes.

Johnny hands Jaime two more thirty round magazines for the
AK47 rifle.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLANTATION - DAWN

VARIOUS ANGLES

It is daybreak. The sky is covered in fire and smoke. The
sun begins to rise in the East. Jaime and The Bear are
crouched behind a vehicle.

Luke and Johnny are in a forward position. They stand
behind a Jeep for cover.

The battle rages on as the advancing Revolutionary Soldiers
meticulously kill the Portuguese Soldiers. Rapid bursts of
machine gun fire continue.

The big Cook runs from the main house carrying a rifle. He
is hit and goes down. The Cook is dead.

The Bear looks at Jaime.

THE BEAR

These are seasoned Cuban
Revolutionary troops, as well as
Africans attacking us. Aim at the
group of Soldiers coming down that
hill.

The Bear points his finger at the hill. Jaime aims the
rifle.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

Take one shot at a time. Hit
your target.

SCOPE POV

Jaime and The Bear fire, the attacking Cuban soldiers are killed one at a time.

SOUNDS are TAT, TAT; TAT, TAT.

Another Angle

Luke and Johnny also have success shooting the Revolutionaries.

VARIOUS ANGLES

Everyone switches magazines. Rifle firing continues.

Even though The Bear, Jaime, Luke and Johnny kill many Revolutionary Soldiers, the large numbers of Revolutionaries overwhelm the plantation. Almost all the Portuguese Soldiers are killed. The Cubans and African forces move forward.

Jaime looks at The Bear.

JAIME

I have only four shots left.

THE BEAR

We have to run for the main house.

The Bear signals Luke and Johnny.

EXT. MAIN PLANTATION HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

VARIOUS ANGLES

Luke and Johnny run for the house. The Bear and Jaime take off a few meters behind them.

SOUND of a mortar shell BLAST. Luke and Johnny are hit. They are dead. Their bodies lie next to the dead Cook.

Jaime freezes in his tracks. Bloody body parts are strewn all over the place.

The Bear taps Jaime on the shoulder and they keep moving. They reach the front door of the main house and enter.

INT. MAIN PLANTATION HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

MOVING

Jaime follows The Bear through the house, down the stairs into the wine cellar.

INT. WINE CELLAR - MOMENTS LATER

The Bear grabs a bottle of Portuguese Port wine from a wine rack. He puts the bottle in Jaime's backpack.

They walk to a hidden door behind another wine rack. The Bear presses a panel and opens the door. The door leads to a tunnel.

THE BEAR

Run through the tunnel, Jaime.

Jaime flies through the door into the tunnel. The Bear follows. As the door closes, a gigantic BOMB BLASTS the main plantation house above.

INT. TUNNEL - MOMENTS LATER

Jaime and The Bear are inside a tunnel illuminated by kerosene lamps. The tunnel runs for a long distance.

THE BEAR

Senor Cunha had this tunnel built for an emergency like this.

Jaime and the Bear keep moving.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BANK OF A RIVER - A LITTLE LATER

VARIOUS ANGLES

Jaime and The Bear stand at the riverbank.

THE BEAR

Give me your backpack.

Jaime removes his backpack.

The Bear pulls out the bottle of Port Wine and places it on the ground. He takes Jaime's revolver from the backpack and flings it into the river.

Jaime hands The Bear his rifle.

The Bear throws Jaime's rifle into the river. The Bear removes his shouldered rifle and throws that into the water.

The Bear keeps his Colt Commander pistol in his belt holster.

The Bear pulls out a Swiss army knife and uses the cork screw. He removes the cork from the bottle of port wine. He takes a long drink and hands the bottle to Jaime. Jaime drinks the wine.

THE BEAR (CONT'D)

There is a small airfield three kilometers up the river. Senor Cunha will be there with an airplane. Take another swig of port.

Jaime takes another drink and hands the bottle back to The Bear. The Bear has another long swallow of wine then tosses the empty bottle into the river.

SKY POV

The entire Plantation burns in the background.

CUT TO:

EXT. SMALL AIRFIELD RUNWAY - LATER IN THE DAY

VARIOUS ANGLES

There is a single engine aircraft. The propeller is running with the PILOT in the cockpit. SENOR ANTONIO CUNHA is standing outside the plane.

Senor Cunha waves to The Bear and Jaime. The Bear and Jaime run to the aircraft. As the three men board the airplane, The Bear speaks to Senor Cunha.

THE BEAR

The Cook, Luke and Johnny didn't make it. Your Portuguese soldiers have been killed.

Senor Cunha says nothing and closes the airplane door. The plane takes off.

EXT. SKY POV

In the distance, smoke bellows into the sky from the burning plantation.

INT. SMALL AIRPLANE - DUSK

Jaime wearily stares out the airplane window.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. TRATTORIA - ROME, ITALY - EVENING

TITLE CARD: ROME, ITALY - THURSDAY DECEMBER 9, 1971 - SIX DAYS LATER

The Trattoria is located on a side street near the Treve Fountain. The Bear and Jaime have just finished dinner. They drink espresso.

THE BEAR

I'll be leaving for Paris tomorrow. Are you sure you don't want to come with me?

JAIME

No. I want to go home. I like New York City during Christmas.

THE BEAR

It's not Christmas for two weeks. I can show you Paris. The French ladies are lovely.

JAIME

Thanks, but I'm homesick.

THE BEAR

I have your plane ticket for you.
You can go home tomorrow.

JAIME

Great.

THE BEAR

You're a good soldier, Jaime. When
do you want to work again?

JAIME

Not for a while. I need to get over
seeing the Cook, Johnny and Luke
being blown away.

THE BEAR

I'll have Sergio contact you in a
couple of months. I want you and
Sergio to work together.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

The Bear and Jaime walk by a Cinema.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Cinema MARQUEE has the actor's name, "UGO TOGNAZZI" and
the film "VENGA A PRENDERE IL CAFE? DA NOI" in bright
lights.

The Bear glances at the marquee.

THE BEAR

Have you seen that movie? Ugo
Tognazzi is a great actor.

JAIME

I saw the movie this afternoon. It
was really funny.

CUT TO:

INT. JAIME'S HOTEL ROOM - HOTEL QUATTRO FONTANI- LATER THAT
NIGHT

KNOCK at the door.

JAIME

Come in.

VARIOUS ANGLES

The Bear walks into the room.

THE BEAR

Here is your airplane ticket. You leave early tomorrow. It is first class Pan American from Rome to Kennedy Airport. You'll be home tomorrow night.

The Bear gives Jaime the ticket.

JAIME

Thanks.

THE BEAR

Here is something extra for you. Senor Cunha wanted you to have this.

The Bear hands Jaime an envelope. There is a check for twenty thousand dollars. Jaime looks at the check.

JAIME

This check is for twenty thousand dollars. That is an extra ten thousand.

THE BEAR

Yeah, Tony Cunha was very appreciative of the work you did with his children.

JAIME

Tell Senor Cunha thanks.

THE BEAR

I shall.

They shake hands. The Bear leaves the hotel room.

Jaime goes to the window and stares out.

DISSOLVE TO.

INT. JAIME'S HOTEL ROOM QUATTRO FONTANI - ROME, ITALY -
JULY 4, 1980 - NIGHT-

TITLE CARD: BACK TO PRESENT - ROME, ITALY JULY 4, 1980

Jaime sits relaxed. He lights a cigarette and blows smoke out the window. MUSIC plays softly on the radio. The song is by Steely Dan.

The phone RINGS. Jaime picks it up. It's THE BEAR.

THE BEAR (V.O)

Que paso Jaime.

CLOSER

Jaime's eyes open widely, a strange expression is on his face.

Steely Dan SINGS on the radio, "You go back, Jack, do it again. Wheel turning, round and round."

FADE OUT.