

**TERMINATOR:
THE CONNOR WARS**

"Battle of Avila Beach, Part 2"
F0321

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This document is fan-produced fiction based on the television series, Terminator - The Sarah Connor Chronicles. This is done in the spirit of fan fiction - to have fun and enrich the total fan experience beyond the limitations of the official story vehicle.

In that spirit, and holding to the long tradition of free support and promotion that fanfic brings to a fictional "universe", this story is being made available for entertainment purposes of the loyal fans of the show for as long as the powers that be don't object.

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: "ROAD OVERLOOKING SERRANO"

It's a mountain road with various trees. A Humvee lays driver-side down, front end partially in a crater. A small amount of steam rises from both the crater and the missing driver-side half of the front of the Humvee back to the front door.

INT. HUMVEE - NIGHT

JASON lies unconscious still strapped into the driver's seat.

A weapons case suddenly slides from the back and crashes into the dashboard. Jason rouses a bit, but only bit.

JASON

Oh. God.

And he falls back unconscious.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

On the mountainside, on the passenger side of the Humvee but a little in front and on higher ground, lies JOHN CONNOR on his right side. He looks like someone just tossed him there.

John's eyes open. He looks around, but it's dark. He COUGHS and then stops himself due to very large pain. It slowly subsides. John breathes shallowly.

With some effort, he slowly, carefully rolls over onto his back. His right arm is kept tucked next to his body.

John tries taking a breath but stops short and exhales very controlled.

JOHN

(to himself)

OK. OK. Ribs are broken.

A couple more breaths. He tries moving his right hand, but that also causes great pain.

With his left hand, John gets his multi-tool from his belt and fishes out the scissors. John then cuts off the thick 2nd and 3rd fingers from his right-hand glove.

The metal shield John was so proud of a few episodes ago is now a mesh of impaling rods. John pulls the cages off his very bloody fingers, to his visible relief.

EXT. SERRANO - NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: "SERRANO NUCLEAR POWER PLANT"

"SKULLCAP" and his six-man DELTA FORCE, all in dark clothes and camouflage makeup, hide behind cover. Various T-6xx and T-8xx series endos come into view in b.g.

SKULLCAP
Change of plan.

DAHN
Change of plan?

SKULLCAP
Yeah, I know, I know. We got to take out those cannons. They'll shred us.

DAHN
What about our targets?

SKULLCAP
We'll worry about that later. Deeks, Tara, and Mikey, set position at that southwest corner. Give us cover. Then we'll flip on the other side. Got it?

Nods all around.

SKULLCAP (cont'd)
Let's move out.

Three Deltas head to the indicated corner while Skullcap leads his squad to the nearest Big Damn Plasma Cannon (BDPC).

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

John quickly hobbles on a lightly sprained right ankle toward the Humvee, the shirt under his jacket having been improvised into a simple sling.

He makes it to the Humvee and looks inside, seeing the unconscious Jason.

JOHN
Jason.
(beat)
Jason, you alive? Jason?

From around the bend comes a mini-van with many missing panels and glassless windows. It SQUEAKS to a halt. The Zeira DOCTOR comes out carrying a full backpack.

JOHN (cont'd)
Jason's inside.

The Doctor takes a quick look at John but then peeks inside the Humvee. The Doctor immediately goes to the front and pulls out the spider-webbed front windshield. With that out of the way, the Doctor climbs in and quickly assesses Jason.

DOCTOR
He's alive.

John is relieved. The MEDIC driving the mini-van starts examining John.

DOCTOR (cont'd)
Hang on a second... He's free. Need some rope to pull him out.

MEDIC
Coming.

The Medic runs to the mini-van.

JOHN
How bad?

DOCTOR
Hard to tell. It's not good, but I think he'll pull through. I'll know better when--

The Medic returns.

MEDIC
Got the rope.

DOCTOR
Give me a few meters. Tie the rest to the bumper. Pull when the Colonel gives the signal.

The Medic starts uncoiling some rope.

EXT. SERRANO - NIGHT

Skullcap crouches with his three Delta Force members in view of the BDPC. Across the way are the other three members. Manning the BDPC are two T-888 endos. Two more T-888 endos maintain watch.

Using signals, Skullcap directs two head shots from his group and two head shots from the other group. When the opposite group signals "Ready", Skullcap reaches into a pocket and pulls out what looks like a clear marble. Skullcap tosses the marble toward where the other Deltas are.

The marble SHATTERS when it hits the ground.

All four endos turn their heads to face the noise. When they do, four plasma rounds splat all four heads. The endos fall.

The Deltas from both groups converge on the BDPC and start setting charges.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

The Doctor and Medic carry Jason to the mini-van. John hobbles over to the back of the Humvee and painfully opens up the rear hatch. With his left arm, John starts emptying equipment from the cargo area. The Doctor comes rushing up.

DOCTOR
What do you think you're doing?

JOHN
Have to save what we can.

DOCTOR
You're coming with me.

JOHN
No. I'm not. I need a radio.

DOCTOR
Yeah, I know. Dwayne's coming.
(off John's look)
I called him. Now just sit down and
let me look at that hand.

John leans against the Humvee and uses his left hand to present his bloody right hand.

DOCTOR (cont'd)
Cripes.

JOHN
Just stop the bleeding.

DOCTOR
John...

JOHN
I can shoot left-handed.
(MORE)

JOHN (cont'd)
Just get me back in the game.
Wait... you said... You have a
radio?

DOCTOR
Yeah.

JOHN
Take me to it. Now.

The Doctor supports John's left side as they walk to the mini-van.

EXT. SERRANO - BRANDI'S HQ - NIGHT

BRANDI SUMMERTON stands outside her tent pacing like a lion in a cage. Except for her glowing endo eye, in her battle-gear she looks amazingly human.

BRANDI
C'mon... C'mon... C'mon...

T-850 (O.S.)
(electronic male)
Number two charged.

BRANDI
Fire!

Brandi turns just in time for the CRACK of the shot and the straight-arrow path of the thick plasma bolt heading right toward...

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

...the Humvee suffers a catastrophic in-the-way-ness of the plasma bolt. It's partially vaporized and very much melted.

The concussion from the blast pushes back the mini-van with the Doctor, Medic, John, and Jason inside.

Then the fuel tanks in the Humvee EXPLODE in a big fireball.

EXT. SERRANO - BRANDI'S HQ - NIGHT

The BLAST lightens the sky for a moment. It's QUIET.

BRANDI
YES!

EXT. SERRANO - NIGHT

Behind heavy cover, Skullcap and the Delta Force are hunkered down.

SKULLCAP

Now.

A thumb lifts a safety and flips a switch on a remote detonator.

BDPC #2 EXPLODES into vapor.

EXT. SERRANO - BRANDI'S HQ - NIGHT

A THUNDEROUS BOOM from the explosion.

Which is then followed by a very BRIGHT LIGHT and an LOUD EXPLOSION near enough that it knocks Brandi on her leg-pelvis interconnects, collapses her tent, and throws a large amount of debris her way.

EXT. SERRANO - NIGHT

The Delta Force stays hunkered. They each slowly check themselves for all the fingers and toes they entered with.

Skullcap motions for them to move to a different location. The group sneaks away into the shadows.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

John steps out from the mini-van, which has a few small pieces of burning debris on its roof. John looks shocked at the mortal close call.

Appearing from behind, the communications Humvee pulls up. DWAYNE opens the driver's door and leans out.

DWAYNE

Holy...
(beat)
John!

John hobbles over to meet Dwayne halfway.

JOHN

What's the SITREP?

Dwayne has to shake himself out of his shocked state.

DWAYNE

Right. Um... Palmdale got attacked. Heinrich's in deep--MacRorie can't support. I haven't heard from Kyle since this afternoon. The Carter went--

JOHN
Wait, wait, wait. We'll sort it out.
(over shoulder)
Doc!
(to Dwayne)
Tell me about Palmdale.

The Doctor arrives.

DWAYNE
Skynet launched a--

JOHN
Hang on.
(to Doctor)
Just stop the bleeding. We'll worry
about the rest later.

The Doctor clearly doesn't like it, but goes along.

DOCTOR
I'll get my kit. Take a seat.

The Doctor exits. John sits on the Humvee's winch.

DWAYNE
The report says that HQ was hit
pretty hard.

JOHN
Cameron?

Dwayne shrugs. John is too tired to be overly concerned.

INT. PALMDALE MESS - NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: "PALMDALE"

The communications equipment and tactical maps have been moved into this larger room. Two RADIO OPERATORS man and two RADIO OFFICERS tend to the equipment. Two MAP SOLDIERS tend to the ten maps that are attached to the walls. CAMERON stands in the middle of it all, the left side of her face still showing scrapes and exposed metal, but not as much as in F0320.

COLONEL PETER MASON enters, a patch over his lazy eye.

CAMERON
You're hurt.

PETER
No. It's just easier. We set up?

CAMERON

Yes. It will take some time to
update all of our information.

PETER

OK. We're heading out. With Clarke's
forces concentrated north, we're
going to form a pincer.

CAMERON

Trap Skynet between you.

PETER

That's the plan.

CAMERON

Good luck.

Peter can't hold back a small chuckle, which confuses
Cameron.

PETER

You're sooo not like Allison,
sometimes.

For a second it seems like Peter's going to be the cliché
hero and kiss her on the cheek...But let's not go there.
Peter exits.

CAMERON

I need updates on the Ports and
Avila Beach.

The Radio Operators tend to their radio operating.

EXT. LONG BEACH - NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: "LONG BEACH"

The sky starts to lighten from night. The J-Day-nuked city
of Long Beach is reasonably clear of debris.

SOLDIERS hide behind the scant cover as HKs, Endos of
various models, and Hawks methodically target one hiding
group after another.

Endos isolate a Unit of Soldiers while HKs and Hawks fire a
lot of rounds at their position. Roving Endos provide cover
fire so the other Soldiers stay down.

LT. COLONEL HEINRICH is presented with a handset by the
RADIOMAN with a bulky backpack. The Radioman crosses his
index fingers and then wipes them apart. Heinrich's
expression is grave.

HEINRICH

(on radio)

This is Beer Run.

(beat)

Getting plinked. May be time for
shattered jade.

Heinrich gets a reply, but his face gets even more somber.

HEINRICH (cont'd)

(on radio)

I'm sorry to hear that. Out.

(to Radioman)

You can take that off. You aren't
gonna need it.

The Radioman gets somber, too.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. PALMDALE RUNWAY - MORNING

Peter stands with almost three hundred infantry. He talks into a headset.

PETER
(on radio)
We've waited a long time for this.
They aren't getting through.

EXT. COMM HUMVEE - MORNING

John stands at the back of the Humvee as Dwayne mans the radio. John's hand is well bandaged, his 2nd and 3rd fingers padded and immobilized. John is "on radio" for this scene.

JOHN
I believe you Colonel. Take it to them.

PETER (COMM)
Yes sir.

JOHN
Cameron?

CAMERON (COMM)
Yes, John?

JOHN
Heinrich?

INT. PALMDALE MESS - MORNING

Cameron stands centrally with the usual extras manning their stations.

CAMERON
(on radio)
He called Shattered Jade.

A bit of a pause.

JOHN (COMM)
Dammit.

Radio Officer shows Cameron a note before taking it to a Map Soldier.

In b.g., the THUNDEROUS BOMBS RUMBLE and SHAKE the ground a bit, making the Humans nervous. Cameron doesn't flinch. She's "on radio" for this scene.

CAMERON
I saw no other option.

JOHN (COMM)
What's that?

CAMERON
Skynet bombs. They will miss the facility by more than a hundred meters.

JOHN (COMM)
So, everything's OK?

CAMERON
We're fine. I have a message from Captain Novikov. Bakersfield ninety percent secured.

EXT. COMM HUMVEE - MORNING

John does a very small fist-pump.

JOHN
(on radio)
Some good news, finally. Stay on it. I have to get back to local.

CAMERON (COMM)
Be careful, John.

JOHN
(on radio)
Just keep dodging those bombs. Out.

Dwayne closes the connection.

DWAYNE
You didn't tell her.

John lifts his bandaged hand.

JOHN
She worries. Come on. We have work to do.

John moves to the passenger side.

DWAYNE
(to himself)
She worries?

Dwayne stows his gear.

EXT. LANCASTER - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: "LANCASTER"

The large force from Palmdale moves through the streets in groups of eight. The sound of distant fighting in b.g.

Peter surveys the situation and follows with one of the in-the-pack groups. Peter puts up a "hold" sign and listens carefully to his headset.

PETER
(on radio)
Say again. Three by three.

Peter covers his ear and closes the other one in an attempt to hear.

PETER (cont'd)
(on radio)
Understood. Maintain and we'll be there.

Peter goes back to this unit.

PETER (cont'd)
Walkie.

The RADIOMAN hands Peter a bulky walkie-talkie.

PETER (cont'd)
(on radio)
Cabbage patch on thunder. Repeat,
cabbage patch on thunder.

Peter hands back the walkie-talkie.

PETER (cont'd)
Wait for the booms, then we go.

Everyone in the unit acknowledges, mostly with nods.

PETER (cont'd)
Anyone got some jerky?

A lot of blank stares offer an answer until a CORPORAL hands over a 2 centimeter piece.

PETER (cont'd)
Thanks.

In b.g. lots of BOOMS start booming. Peter puts the square of leather-hard dried meat into his mouth.

PETER (cont'd)

Let's go.

Peter leads the way as all the scattered units move quickly to the north, taking out targets of opportunity with extreme head splatting -- mostly endos, one or two T-8xx cyborgs.

EXT. OUTSIDE DEPOT 37 - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: "NEAR DEPOT 37"

SERGEANT ADAMS (28) and the T0K T-LISA (30) examine some drag marks. T-Lisa bends down, wets her finger with her tongue, and touches a spot on the sand.

ADAMS

Another drop?

T-LISA

Yes.

T-Lisa visually examines it and then rubs the finger that sampled the drop.

T-LISA (cont'd)

It's Young's.

ADAMS

Come on.

Adams makes a beeline for a hill that provides some cover. T-Lisa follows a bit more robotically.

ADAMS (cont'd)

Some advice?

T-LISA

Sure.

Adams is hunkered down while T-Lisa scans the area. As Adams removes his backpack, he looks up briefly toward Depot 37, and glances back to his pack before realization strikes and he looks back up again.

ADAMS' POV

Just Depot 37 in a whole lot of desert.

BACK TO SCENE

Adams digs through his backpack for radio components.

ADAMS

You know, when you move like that,
you broadcast which one of us is
human and which isn't. Depending who
we're facing, it could mean a bad
day for one of us.

T-LISA

I should move more like you?

ADAMS

Yeah.

T-LISA

Why don't you move like me?

ADAMS

A few million more years of
evolution. Plus...you can take
bullet, I can't.

T-LISA

That makes sense. I'll try to be a
better mimic.

ADAMS

That's all I'm saying.

Adams has removed four brick-sized components from his
backpack and is hooking them together.

T-Lisa focuses on something and then goes down onto one
knee.

ADAMS (cont'd)

Yeah, like that. That's--

T-LISA

(interrupts)

A force of forty endoskeletons is
leaving Depot 37 heading south-
southwest. I'd estimate their
destination to be Lancaster. Likely
as reinforcements.

ADAMS

Great.

Adams digs out an old PC mic/headset and plugs it into one
of the bricks. He then presses a couple of buttons.

ADAMS (cont'd)

(on radio)

Trademark, Patent Search, do you
read?

T-Lisa pokes her head up ever so cautiously and then goes back down again.

INT. PALMDALE MESS - DAY

Cameron stands centrally with the rest of the staff in position. Cameron is "on radio" for this scene.

CAMERON
Go ahead, Patent Search.

ADAMS (COMM)
Forty endos heading your way from
Depot 37.

CAMERON
Understood.

ADAMS (COMM)
Have tracked Young to same location.

That got a head tilt from Cameron.

CAMERON
Maintain position. Trademark out.

EXT. OUTSIDE DEPOT 37 - DAY

Adams and T-Lisa look at each other. Adams starts disassembling his radio.

ADAMS
I guess we'll be here for a while.

T-LISA
Do you have enough water?

Adams pulls out two empty 1-liter bottles and a third that sloshes.

ADAMS
I guess we'll find out. I have half
plus my canteen.

Adams puts the bottles back.

T-LISA
I have one liter in my pack.

ADAMS
Why? You're metal.

T-LISA
I have organic elements that
function better when hydrated.

ADAMS
Oh yeah. Right.

T-LISA
That's not a high-priority. If you
need water, you can have mine.

Adams is momentarily dumbfounded.

ADAMS
Um... thanks.

The first radio component goes back into his pack.

INT. PALMDALE MESS - DAY

Cameron is NOT in her usual spot. The Radio Operators, Radio
Officers, and Map Soldiers are at their posts.

INT. PALMDALE INFIRMARY ROOM - DAY

LA CAZADORA (AKA "ALEX", "ALEJANDRA") lies on a manually
adjustable bed in an otherwise austere room. La Cazadora
turns to see Cameron standing patiently.

La Cazadora can't help but notice Cameron's injury. When she
looks Cameron in the eyes:

CAMERON
I need a favor.

La Cazadora's inscrutable expression might be a "yes".

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. ZEIRA MESS - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: "ZEIRA BASE"

SAVANNAH WEAVER sits alone at a table. YURI, bleary-eyed and sleepy, sits blankly staring at his "coffee".

CATHERINE WEAVER passes by outside.

SAVANNAH

Mom!

Weaver reappears and enters the mess.

WEAVER

Savannah. How are you, today?

Weaver sits across from Savannah.

SAVANNAH

OK, I guess. Can I ask you something?

WEAVER

Of course.

SAVANNAH

Am I here for a reason?

WEAVER

I'm not sure I understand.

SAVANNAH

I've been thinking about it. I know why John's here. I sort of understand why John Henry and John's... and Cameron are here. And you. What about me?

WEAVER

I can't say.

SAVANNAH

Can't or won't?

WEAVER

If I recall, there's a saying about fate--

SAVANNAH

Yeah, Aunt Sarah told me. There's no fate except what we make for ourselves.

WEAVER
That's a very wise observation.

SAVANNAH
But--
(quietly)
--you came from the future.

WEAVER
However we came to be here, the
future is what we make of it now.

SAVANNAH
Do you really believe that?

WEAVER
I have to.

There's a brief pause.

SAVANNAH
How's it going? The fighting?

WEAVER
We're holding our own.

Weaver stands.

WEAVER (cont'd)
I'm sorry, I have to go. We can talk
later.

SAVANNAH
Yeah. But thanks. I think you
answered my question.

That prompts a small smile from Weaver.

WEAVER
I'm glad.

Weaver turns and exits.

YURI
They're dying.

SAVANNAH
What?

Yuri looks at Savannah wearily.

YURI
I should be with them. Not here.

Yuri turns his attention back to his "coffee".

EXT. MUGU HANGERS - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: "POINT MUGU NAVAL AIR STATION"

Several large hangers sit to the south of the crossing runways. Several HKA "Hawks" have crashed to the ground and continue spewing smoke. T-8xx ENDOS are everywhere, firing furiously at anything that looks to be human.

KYLE REESE'S now 120-man infiltration team is behind cover in small units, rationing their shots...making each one count.

PRIVATE BATES and PRIVATE HARDING run an erratic zig-zag from one of the largest hanger buildings. They zip past Kyle before even trying to stop.

KYLE

You do it?

BATES

Right next to the gas tanks. Should be pretty.

Kyle, Bates, and Harding come under plasma attack. Kyle takes a quick shot before ducking back behind cover.

KYLE

Six.

HARDING

Cripes.

And then, a BIG EXPLOSION as the once large hanger suddenly becomes flying debris. Before there's a chance for anyone to get their bearings:

KYLE

Go!

Kyle emerges from cover and starts firing. Bates and Harding follow suit. Their targets, the endos that got knocked to the ground by the blast. In seconds, there are six head-splat endos. Bates takes a glance up.

BATES

Heads!

Everyone ducks back behind cover and cover their heads as hanger pieces start raining down.

And raining...

And still raining...

Now more of a drizzle. The quiet is enough for the trio to stop protecting themselves. Harding looks at Bates accusatorially.

BATES (cont'd)

What? He said use two, I used two.

KYLE

Come on.

Kyle gets up and takes point to join up with another unit two hangers away that is taking fire. Bates and Harding follow.

EXT. PORT OF LONG BEACH - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: "PORT OF LONG BEACH"

HKs and "OGRES" form a formidable line of fire that slowly presses forward into the Port from Long Beach. Plasma rounds fly so thick you could almost walk on them.

CAPTAIN MACRORIE'S troops are concentrated at the ends of the Skynet line, about 140 on each end.

An area in the center of the HKs opens up and about eighty Endos come marching through, firing at will.

BINOCULAR VIEW

The flood of endos is front & center and scary.

BACK TO SCENE

MacRorie lowers the binoculars.

MACRORIE

Where's my comm!?

From about twenty meters away.

COMM OPERATOR

Yo!

MACRORIE

Message: Island! Island!

Everyone within earshot grabs their gear and makes a break to the rear. It's not the big run-away, but a controlled fast retreat with cover fire. The COMM OPERATOR, having sent the message, joins with the unit.

In short order, the humans are in a very considerable and conspicuous retreat. Conversely, the Endos and HKs are in a considerable and methodical advance.

EXT. SERRANO - DAY

RESISTANCE FORCES fight at the outskirts of the buildings near the Power Plant, the cooling towers looming overhead.

At the power plant, endos return fire. In no-man's-land are a half-dozen HKs doing slow sweeps along the front, sometimes serving as cover for units of endos to charge into the human lines.

INT. ROUNDHOUSE - DAY

In a roundhouse building surrounded by fallen chain-link fences and the tennis courts they once surrounded, MAJOR LEA LEIGH "TRIP-L" LEE has set up her command post. MESSENGERS come in and out. John limps in, standing stiffly because of his wrapped ribs.

LEE

Colonel!

John waves her back.

JOHN

What's your status?

LEE

We're holding, but the metal's inching closer. I called in some of the troops from Fresno.

JOHN

I thought--

LEE

(interrupts)

I tried contacting you, first. I don't know if I left enough reserves to hold it.

JOHN

If we can win Serrano... You know, we'll cross that bridge later. What's your plan?

LEE

For...?

JOHN

Advancing into the plant?

Lee seems a little stunned.

LEE
Colonel, I'm trying to keep us from
getting killed.

JOHN
If we aren't advancing, we're
losing.

There's a moment of stare-down before John walks over to the
wall where the tactical map hangs. He considers it.

JOHN (cont'd)
OK. I'm going to lead this group
into this gap. When you see a green
flare, I want these forces to swing
across and trap the endos in a
crossfire with Park's forces.

LEE
We'll get killed.

JOHN
You can stay alive or we can win. I
say we do both.

Lee doesn't like it.

LEE
Yes sir.

JOHN
You got a better idea, Major?

LEE
You have no idea how much I wish I
did.

JOHN
I'll radio you when I'm in position.
Wait...where's your comm?

LEE
Metal took it out.

JOHN
I'll fix it. Make sure the other
squads are ready.

And John exits. Lee shakes her head, arguing and cussing
silently.

EXT. ROUNDHOUSE - DAY

John limps over to the Humvee parked behind the building.
Dwayne stands at the back running the communications gear.

John opens the rear driver's side door and pulls out his rifle and a field pack before walking around to Dwayne.

DWAYNE

Where the hell do you think you're going.

JOHN

Got battles to fight. The Carter?

DWAYNE

Not yet.

JOHN

Once you raise them, send out code Awesome Kittens to all fronts. I want Cameron to take over tactical.

DWAYNE

I was just talking to Palmdale. Cameron left.

JOHN

What?

DWAYNE

Just the messenger.

JOHN

Palmdale.

Dwayne hands over the mic.

DWAYNE

Still on. Secure.

John sets down his rifle and takes the mic with his unbandaged left hand.

JOHN

(on radio)

This is John. Where the hell's Cameron?

INT. PALMDALE MESS - DAY

La Cazadora sits/leans at one of the communications stations.

ALEJANDRA

(on radio)

This is Alex. We had intel that Allison was taken to Depot 37.

JOHN (COMM)
She wouldn't have gone for that.

ALEJANDRA
(on radio)
Endos left the Depot to reinforce
Lancaster. Then she left. That's all
I know.

EXT. ROUNDHOUSE - DAY

Now it's John's turn to not be happy.

JOHN
(on radio)
Send whatever help she needs.
(to Dwayne)
You stay in the loop.

DWAYNE
No problem.

JOHN
And they need comm in there.

John hands back the mic.

DWAYNE
(on radio)
Stand-by.
(to John)
I take care of it. How you getting
over there?

JOHN
It's not that far. I'll manage. Trip-
L has the plan. Gotta go.

With his pack and rifle, John slightly limps at a quick
pace.

EXT. JIMMY CARTER - DAY

Establishing shot: On the bottom, the submarine USS Jimmy
Carter.

INT. JIMMY CARTER BRIDGE - DAY

COMMANDER JESSE FLORES and C.O.B. HAYES are at their
tactical stations. CAPTAIN "T-ELLISON" ELLISON is at the
helm. Impatient, Jesse goes over to T-Ellison.

JESSE
We can't stay here.

T-ELLISON
Skynet is waiting for us to reveal
ourselves.

JESSE
Understood, but we have a mission,
and that mission requires us to put
ourselves at risk.

T-ELLISON
We have ten more minutes in our
scheduled window.

JESSE
Ten minutes.

T-ELLISON
The KD-561 bearing zero-five degrees
should have drifted to the east
another two hundred meters. That
will improve our situation.

JESSE
Ten-minutes. Fine. That's the
deadline, then, regardless of where
the K-Dolph is. Agreed?

T-ELLISON
Agreed.

Jesse returns to her station. Both she and Hayes exchange
exasperated expressions.

EXT. SERRANO NORTH FLANK - DAY

John and over 100 SOLDIERS are gathered and ready to
advance. Beside John is STAFF SERGEANT "JAZZ" ZARONOVA. John
watches an HK very intently as it approaches a SQUAD a
hundred meters away.

JOHN
Flash three.

Jazz points a big LED flashlight and gives three flashes.

The Squad launches some thermite bombs and fires plasma at
the HK, which brings it guns to bear on its attackers.

JOHN (cont'd)
Green, go.

Jazz double-checks the flare she has loaded and fires it
into the air. As the green fireball parachutes to earth,
John's Soldiers pour out from cover. Some dash to the now
burning HK to join the Squad already using it for cover.

The bulk of the force fires plasma, RPGs, and giant paint balls at the endos firing back.

Surprisingly, the paint balls start having the best effect as the endos have to either cover their eyes or clean their lenses.

John's charge crosses no-man's-land quickly while only taking modest losses (about 20, so far). The endos don't retreat, but the closer range gives the humans better head-splat shots.

Just as John's forces reach the front line, getting the upper hand with the endos, two speeding HKs make it within range to halt John's advance.

The Soldiers fight the endos on the line very vigorously. John does hang back a bit, but is a deadly shot even using his left hand.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. JIMMY CARTER BRIDGE - DAY

Jesse, Hayes, SAILORS, and T-Ellison are still at their stations. All but T-Ellison are tense.

T-ELLISON
Bring the speed up slowly, Chief.

HAYES
Aye, sir.

JESSE
All tubes show ready.

A few tense moments pass.

T-ELLISON
Full ahead, Chief.

HAYES
Full ahead, aye.

JESSE
We're cavitating.

T-ELLISON
Fire all tubes, now.

HAYES
All tubes fire, aye.

The WEAPONS SPECIALIST fires all tubes as fast as possible. The boat shudders a bit with the releases.

T-ELLISON
Down to half, Chief.

HAYES
Half-power, aye.

JESSE
All tubes clear.

The submarine tilts as T-Ellison engages a rather emphatic turn.

EXT. JIMMY CARTER - DAY

Residual cavitation bubbles still show the launch paths of the Tomahawks. The Jimmy Carter bears away from them to the other side of a prominence rising from the sea floor.

INT. JIMMY CARTER BRIDGE - DAY

The sub levels off a bit.

T-ELLISON
Load final salvo.

Hayes goes to the intercom.

HAYES
Load six.

TORPEDO ROOM (COMM)
Load six, aye.

JESSE
Sonar?

SONAR
Nothing in our baffles.

Jesse walks over to T-Ellison.

JESSE
Break for the shelf?

T-ELLISON
That's the plan.

JESSE
Then we wait?

T-ELLISON
Then we wait.

Jesse walks back to her station.

EXT. PORT OF LONG BEACH, QUEENSWAY BAY - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: "PORT OF LONG BEACH"

The HKs, Ogres, and Endos are lined up at the bridges to cross Queensway Bay. Endos cross the bridge quickly, many are on the opposite shore.

It's amazingly QUIET as there is no fighting going on.

BIG EXPLOSION.

BIG EXPLOSION.

BIG EXPLOSION.

INT. PORT BUILDING - DAY

About 150 TROOPS are low and hugging the walls as outside there is the sound and shaking of another BIG EXPLOSION. BIG EXPLOSION. BIG EXPLOSION.

Except for some much smaller secondary EXPLOSIONS O.S., it's largely quiet.

MACRORIE

Move it!

WHISTLES BLOW as the Troops rise and quickly file out, guns at the ready.

EXT. PORT OF LONG BEACH - DAY

There is a lot of devastation on the opposite side of Queensway Bay. The HKs and Ogres are trashed. The ground is thick with fallen Endos...but many of the fallen aren't dead Endos.

The Troops start firing at every target of opportunity.

In the distance, a flight of six "Hawks" is closing in from the air.

EXT. LONG BEACH - DAY

BINOCULAR VIEW

From the Hawks, we PAN DOWN to see the scene of mechanical devastation as well as MacRorie and her Soldiers running to engage.

BACK TO SCENE

AARON PROCTOR lowers the binoculars from his eyes. He's with a small company of about eighty RAPTORS. He turns to SERGEANT.

AARON

That's our cue.

SERGEANT

Raptors, double time!

With a roar, the Raptors break into a jog, their weapons unslung. They head straight to a group of HKs that weren't near Queensway Bay.

EXT. MUGU LAGOON - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: "POINT MUGU NAVAL AIR STATION"

Kyle and about 120 SOLDIERS are hunkered down behind a building that was once a store. Plasma rounds from TWO DOZEN T-8xx endos have set the building ablaze and are tearing it apart.

SIX BIG EXPLOSIONS in the hanger area, followed by many BIG SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS as T-850 fuel cells detonate. The combined blasts send a warm and might wind as the concussion wave blasts around the building Kyle's troops have been hiding behind.

Kyle is a little stunned, but looks up and sees the Endos on the ground, large fireballs rising in b.g. in the hanger area.

KYLE

Go! Go! Get them while they're down!
Go!

Kyle takes aim and starts firing at Endo skulls. Many on the troops do the same.

Even on the ground, the Endos fight back. Many of Kyle's men still on the ground and without cover get hit.

INT. SERRANO - BRANDI'S HQ - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: "SERRANO NUCLEAR POWER PLANT"

Brandi claws her way out from her collapsed tent. The two endos just rip their way out.

BRANDI

I'm getting pretty damn tired of
that submarine.

Brandi gets up to her feet and first looks to the north.

TERMINATOR DISPLAY (BRANDI)

Resistance and Skynet forces battle as usual.

SWISH PAN to the right.

HKs and endos are in a compromised situation--what with half the force destroyed or incapacitated by the blasts. Resistance soldiers press forward.

BACK TO SCENE

Brandi shakes her head and smiles.

BRANDI (cont'd)

OK, Johnny. I'll give you that one.

Brandi reaches for her comm unit at her hip, but it's visibly damaged. Annoyed, she turns to the Endos.

BRANDI (cont'd)
Send a message: I want that sub
sunk. Then pack up. Get ready to
move out. I'll be inside.

Brandi strides back to the plant.

EXT. SERRANO NORTH FLANK - DAY

John emerges from behind a dead HK and fires two rounds when his rifle quits, forcing him back behind cover.

JOHN
I'm out.

The Soldiers (ZARKOV, YATES, XAVIER, WINSTON, VIVIAN, UTAH)
with John say nothing.

JOHN (cont'd)
Great.

John digs his headset from inside his jacket and dons it.

JOHN (cont'd)
Supply, Unit three. Could use some
packs.
(beat)
Supply, Unit three...come in!

With no reply forthcoming, John rips off the headset and stuffs it back in his jacket.

JOHN (cont'd)
Ammo check.

ZARKOV	YATES
Twelve.	Five.
XAVIER	WINSTON
One.	Twenty-two.
VIVIAN	UTAH
Twelve.	Sixteen.

JOHN
OK.

John takes a quick peek around the side of the HK. There are five T-888s all focused on John's position. One takes a shot at him just as he pokes his head back behind cover.

JOHN (cont'd)
 (to Xavier)
 Give me your pack. You, you, and you--

John points to Winston, Vivian, and Utah

JOHN (cont'd)
 Provide cover while we three take
 out the metal. You--

John points to Xavier.

JOHN (cont'd)
 --make a dash and get us supplies.
 Everyone clear?

There's general agreement. Xavier gives John his rifle's
 power pack.

JOHN (cont'd)
 We're going to make every shot
 count. Head shots only. Got it?

There's nervous agreement. John takes a cleansing breath.

JOHN (cont'd)
 Let's do it. On three. One. Two.
 Three.

Winston, Vivian, and Utah break from cover on the right side
 of the HK and start firing at the endos. Xavier runs to the
 rear. John, Zarkov, and Yates emerge from the left side of
 the HK and take careful aim at the Endos now engaged with
 the other three Soldiers.

EXT. OUTSIDE DEPOT 37 - DAY

Cameron with T-GOODNOW, T-SHERMAN, and four other T0K
 CYBORGS reach the observation point of Adams and T-Lisa. One
 of the T0Ks carries an M82 sniper rifle and immediately
 scrambles to the highest point of the hill.

CAMERON
 You know what to do.

T-Goodnow leads two of the T0Ks in a march toward Depot 37.

CAMERON (cont'd)
 Follow me.

ADAMS
 Wait.

CAMERON
 Yes?

ADAMS
When we first got here... I'm not
sure, but I think--

Cameron seems to be getting impatient.

ADAMS (cont'd)
I think I saw the Colonel...just for
a moment. But I'm not sure. At the
Depot.

CAMERON
Thank you. Follow me.

Cameron leads Adams and the remaining cyborgs across open
desert to a flanking position on the other side of Depot 37.

EXT. SERRANO NORTH FLANK - DAY

John and the other five Soldiers duck back behind the HK.

JOHN
I counted two left.

YATES
Yeah. Two.

XAVIER (O.S.)
Hey!

They all turn to see Xavier about thirty yards away. He
throws something at them.

A power pack lands a few feet away from the group. And then
another, and another, until each has a fresh pack. Xavier
holds up a messenger pouch and gives a thumbs-up, which John
returns.

Everyone looks pleased to have fully-charged rifles.

JOHN
Only two. Same as before, then
charge. Get ready.

The two trios crowd at either side of the HK.

JOHN (cont'd)
Go!

As before, the right side pops out just before the left.

The two T-888s don't stand a chance and go down quickly.

JOHN (cont'd)
Move!

Everyone charges forward, but stop just shy of the endo position to make sure the endos are dead. Xavier joins the group.

XAVIER
Sorry I was late. Lines are murder
this time of day.
(off John's look)
Humor later. Got it.

JOHN
No, that was good. Ready to fight?

XAVIER
Locked and loaded.

JOHN
Alright then. You got point.

Xavier steps up to John.

XAVIER
With all due respect, sir. You
shouldn't be here. We'll take care
of it.

John sees the same sentiment in the eyes and nods of the other Soldiers. John can't help glancing at his bandaged arm. He gives them a good hard look, one by one.

JOHN
Watch your backs.

XAVIER
Yes sir.

Xavier leads the team deeper in as John turns and makes with his own relocation.

EXT. SERRANO RUINS - MOMENTS LATER

John glances around, sees he's alone, then leans against the collapsed wall of what was once a house. He tilts his head back and closes his eyes, the SOUNDS OF BATTLE FADE.

He takes a couple of deep breaths to keep the panic away.

JOHN
(to himself)
Stay focused. You can win this.
(beat)
You're John Connor.

John opens his eyes and pushes away from the wall. The SOUNDS OF BATTLE RISE.

JOHN (cont'd)
(to himself, resigned)
I'm John Connor.

Tired, John continues on away from the front, alone.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

INT. SKYNET SERRANO OFFICE - DAY

The office with peeling paint and shattered reinforced windows holds four large displays as well as a half-dozen computer stations with TECHS. Brandi walks in.

BRANDI

Take-five people. Now.

The Techs all secure their stations and exit. Brandi closes the door.

Brandi goes to a keyboard and types in a sequence of characters.

BRANDI (cont'd)

Are we still on schedule?

SKYNET (COMM)

(androgynous voice)

Yes. Even with the unexpected losses.

BRANDI

I know, right? Stupid submarine.

SKYNET (COMM)

John Connor is an annoying opponent.

BRANDI

But predictable as hell. It's a pain we have to help him like this.

SKYNET (COMM)

He fights. The warrior force is being depleted much faster than before.

BRANDI

I'll still get to kill him, right?

SKYNET (COMM)

If he doesn't do it to himself, first. You have my word. You've earned it.

BRANDI

We're a good team.

Awkward silence.

BRANDI (cont'd)

I better start the next phase.

SKYNET (COMM)

Yes. Concentrate on the Serrano strategy; the rest doesn't matter.

BRANDI

You got it, Boss. I'll check in later.

Brandi keys in another sequence on the keyboard. She then goes to the door and opens it, revealing the Techs outside at a non-eavesdropping distance.

BRANDI (cont'd)

OK. Get back in here and start packing up.

Slightly confused, the Techs quickly file back in. Coming in late are STUART STEWART and NANCY RUBINSKI, both looking somewhat fatigued of face and rumpled of clothes.

BRANDI (cont'd)

Where have you been?

STUART

Tell her.

NANCY

I've-- We-- have been mapping out an evacuation strategy in the event the Resistance gets lucky and--

Brandi holds up a hand and smiles.

BRANDI

You should have checked with me, first.

STUART

Just trying not to get caught with our pants down. Even you--

BRANDI

(interrupting)

Evacuation was always part of the plan.

NANCY

What?

BRANDI

We're going to let Johnny have this little toy.

NANCY

What?

BRANDI

Let's see how long he can hold onto
it before his fingers get burned.

Brandi smiles, steps away, and walks down the hall and
disappears into a restroom alcove.

NANCY

What?

Stuart and Nancy stand confused.

BRANDI (O.S.)

(a little echo-y)

Call up Battle Note C-C twenty-one
thirty-seven, section forty-
something. You'll see it.

The restroom door SQUEAKS and BANGS shut.

INT. ROUNDHOUSE - AFTERNOON

John comes in, fatigued. Lee, Dwayne, and everyone else's
eyes are on him as he walks to a chair and sits heavily.

JOHN

SITREP. And water, please.

Dwayne grabs his canteen and hands it to John.

LEE

We're holding or winning pretty much
everywhere.

John takes several glubs of water and then lifts the canteen
to let the contents splash on his face.

LEE (cont'd)

Heinrich's-- They were wiped out.

That weighs on John.

JOHN

I know.

LEE

Those missiles really did the trick.

JOHN

(to himself)

Thank you, Jesse.

LEE

Sir?

JOHN
Ring up Zeira. I need to talk to
Weaver.

DWAYNE
On it.

Dwayne moves to the comm equipment.

INT. ZEIRA COMMAND AND CONTROL - AFTERNOON

YURI and T-TUCK are at the comm stations. CATHERINE WEAVER
stands near a mic at Yuri's station.

WEAVER
(on radio)
Yes, John.

JOHN (COMM)
Any word on Cameron?

WEAVER
(on radio)
Not yet.

JOHN (COMM)
Then I need you to come up here.

WEAVER
(on radio)
Why?

JOHN (COMM)
I need someone who knows something
about nuclear power plants.
Cameron's not here.

WEAVER
(on radio)
I understand. I'll be there as soon
as I am able.

JOHN (COMM)
Thank you. Put Moss in charge when
you go.

WEAVER
(on radio)
That could be a problem.

INT. ROUNDHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

John, at a comm station, closes his eyes and rubs his
forehead.

JOHN
(on radio)
What?

WEAVER (COMM)
Politics.

John absently shakes his head in disbelief.

JOHN
I don't need this.
(on radio)
Tell them I said Moss is in charge.
We'll work it out later. Just get up
here, Catherine. Please.

WEAVER (COMM)
Right away. Zeira out.

John looks at Lee with a can-you-believe-this-shit
expression his face.

EXT. LANCASTER - AFTERNOON

SUPERIMPOSE: "LANCASTER"

A CHEER from over 300 surviving TROOPS fills the air on the
north side of Lancaster.

Scores of Endos and HKs retreat to the northwest.

The CHEERING doesn't stop. Peter and LT COLONEL TERRANCE
CLARKE find themselves side-by-side. Clarke's left arm is
bandaged and bloody.

PETER
Never thought I'd see this.

CLARKE
Costly. I hope it was worth it.

PETER
I hope we can defend it.

CLARKE
Yep. Work's not done yet. Better get
these knuckleheads on patrol.

Peter extends his hand.

PETER
Good job, Colonel.

Clarke shakes Peter's hand.

CLARKE
You too, Colonel.

They break and wander to their troops.

INT. SKYNET SERRANO OFFICE - EVENING

It's just Stuart, Nancy, Brandi, and one portable computer.

BRANDI
Lancaster's bugged out. Ports will
be next. So...

Brandi types a code into the computer.

BRANDI (cont'd)
Now it's our turn.

STUART
It's a ballsy plan.

NANCY
What if it fails?

BRANDI
It won't.

NANCY
What IF?

BRANDI
Then we keep baiting Johnny and he
keeps getting brave people killed. I
tell ya, he's been such a gift...and
just in time for Christmas.

The computer BEEPS TWICE and then does a MUSICAL CHIME thing
and BEEPS TWICE more.

BRANDI (cont'd)
OK. Done. I think we're going to
want to get out of here.

Brandi takes up the computer and exits.

BRANDI (O.S.) (cont'd)
You coming?

Stuart and Nancy exit.

EXT. PORT OF LONG BEACH - EVENING

SUPERIMPOSE: "PORT OF LONG BEACH"

The terrain is littered with dead machines and dead HUMANS. Some buildings that were standing before are now mostly rubble. Smoke rises up from any number of spots, including a half-dozen plasma-blasted Hawks. A few scattered fires continue to burn.

It's QUIET.

Captain MacRorie sits on a hunk of debris from a dead HK. Eight other FIGHTERS, all grimed up with burns, cuts & scrapes, some makeshift bandages, and torn uniforms are gathered with her--most of them sitting exhausted on the ground.

MACRORIE

I think we won.

WEAK CHEERS of "YAY" and "OO-RAH" are offered up.

MACRORIE (cont'd)

I say we stay put. Let the others
wander over here.

FIGHTER

We love our captain.

That elicits some chuckling.

EXT. DEPOT 37 - EVENING

Cameron, Adams, T-Sherman and a T0K Cyborg stand and wait at the side of the building, rifles raised.

A T0K cyborg is tossed through one of the doors in the side. It's followed by T-Goodnow flying out.

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

EXT. DEPOT 37 - EVENING

Cameron, Adams, T-Sherman and a T0K Cyborg stand and wait at the side of the building, rifles raised.

A T0K cyborg is on the ground. T-Goodnow comes flying out the door.

A T-888 finds itself tossed through the door. A T0K cyborg runs through the door. Three T-8xx endos emerge and advance on the T0Ks.

CAMERON

Now.

Cameron, T-Sherman, and the T0K fire one shot, each scoring a bullseye on the chip port of a standing T-888; Adams' shot misses. Cameron aims at the T-888 that's just gotten up and it is head-splatted as well.

The bait T0Ks get on their feet.

CAMERON (cont'd)

How many are left?

T-GOODNOW

Five.

CAMERON

There are your rifles. Follow us.

Cameron takes point and goes through the door followed by T-Sherman, Adams, and the other armed T0K. The remaining T0Ks go to retrieve their rifles.

EXT. SERRANO - NIGHT

The retreating endos and HKs fire their plasma weapons like there's no tomorrow. The maximum amount of suppressive fire possible.

The Resistance hides behind cover.

Even Park does nothing more than hope not to get hit.

PARK

It's got to let up soon.

And just like that, it does.

QUIET

There's the sound of O.S. machines moving off, but otherwise, a heavy stillness.

Slowly, cautiously, heads pop up from behind cover. Guns are raised, but there's nothing to shoot at. In front of them is an abandoned nuclear power plant.

VOICE #1 (O.S.)
Where are they?

VOICE #2 (O.S.)
They bugged out.

PARK
Colonel says hold it down!

And there's that QUIET, again.

EXT. ROUNDHOUSE - NIGHT

John, Lee, and several Soldiers stand outside. It's dark. The glow of plasma bolts completely absent.

LEE
Is it over?

John turns and shouts in the door:

JOHN
Status all units.
(to Lee)
I don't like this. Something's up.
They wouldn't just leave.

And they continue to stare at the darkness.

EXT. AVILA BEACH - NIGHT

Brandi kneels on the sand near her fuel-cell motorcycle on the road that borders the Pacific to the west. With her left arm she scoops sand out from next to the road and even under it a bit.

Brandi gets up and unhooks a shoe-box-sized device from her bike's carrier.

She goes back to the hole, kneels down, and takes a key from her jacket pocket. Brandi unlocks a door on the device revealing a pull-ring and a switch. She pulls the pull ring. In a moment, an LED next to the switch blinks. A moment later, it has a steady glow. A second LED glows steadily.

Brandi smiles and throws the switch.

INT. ROUNDHOUSE - NIGHT

Dwayne jumps from the communications equipment and lets fly his headphones.

DWAYNE

Augh!!!

John and Lee immediately rush in.

JOHN

What's wrong?

Dwayne takes a moment to compose himself.

JOHN (cont'd)

What is it?

DWAYNE

We're being jammed. Strong fraggin' sucker.

Dwayne sticks fingers in his ears and gets vigorous with them.

EXT. AVILA BEACH - NIGHT

Brandi finishes replacing the sand she dug earlier, the device obviously hidden.

She gets up, gets on her bike, and turns on the power. She turns her head toward the plant.

BRANDI

Hasta luego, Johnny.

And she rides north in electric vehicle hush.

INT. ROUNDHOUSE - NIGHT

John, Lee, and Dwayne are at the communications station. Dwayne seems especially frustrated.

DWAYNE

You know what I don't get?

LEE

What?

DWAYNE

Why now? Why jam us now when they're leaving. Why not when we're fighting?

JOHN

That's a good question.

(beat)

Let's be safe. We'll form an extended perimeter, away from the plant itself.

LEE

And then what?

JOHN

Then we wait for the help I called for.

Lee isn't certain what that means.

JOHN (cont'd)

Um...we'll need to send messengers. Where's the map?

They head to the map table where they start pointing at things on the map.

JOHN (V.O.) (cont'd)

I did it. Serrano Point is ours. My previous future stopped about here. Now I'll have to make a new future-- one without a map to help guide me.

John and Lee are still making map-plans.

INT. DEPOT 37 - NIGHT

The lights are on inside the facility. It looks more "mechanical" and automated than it did in F0318.

All the T0K cyborgs, and Adams, walk the floor, examining nooks and crannies.

JOHN (V.O.)

To be honest, I've never felt so free...

Cameron sees something, looks at CAMERA. Cameron comes to us, gathering information. Cameron stops. She's staring in CAMERA intently.

JOHN (V.O.) (cont'd)

...or so scared.

Cameron's eyes widen a little. Her jaw slackens for a moment.

47.

Oh no. CAMERON

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT SIX

THE END