Billy, Mason, George Callback Sides 2

BILLY Never seen so many people in such a hurry down there. Look at that. Shee-it. GEORGE The amp's ready, Mr. Burr. (Acidly, to Billy --) Piece of cake, if you know what you're doing. The phone rings. MASON Burr. Talk to me. BILLY Transistors. Jap conspiracy, that's what it is. GEORGE Those are people down there, you know. BILLY Yeah. I bet it breaks your heart. MASON Got it. Thanks. Mason hangs up. GEORGE If you were any kind of man, it would break yours. BTTTY You think so, you -MASON LISTEN UP. It's already on land. BILLY But I thought they said thirty -MASON They did. And now they're saying something else. Am I hearing that announcement right, George? GEORGE If you heard Ginza District, yes.

BILLY

And where exactly are we?

Mason and George share a look. Long beat.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Oh, great.

MASON

It won't make it here. Are the generators good to go?

GEORGE

Already wired and ready.

MASON

Check 'em again. They're cutting power to the city center. Everything's going to the high-tension wires on the perimeter.

No one moves.

MASON (CONT'D) HUSTLE, you two. Whatever it takes, we're doing this broadcast.

GEORGE

What kind of time do we have?

MASON

Just worry about your equipment. (Beat. He gathers himself.) I'm sorry. But it's faster than they thought. And bigger.

BILLY

Bigger?

MASON

Size won't matter. The wires will stop it. They'll stop anything.

BILLY

I'd feel better if you said it like you meant it.

MASON

George. See if you can raise the ground team on the radio. Billy, hand me those binoculars.

George cranks a field radio to life as Mason scans the horizon.

BILLY

Well? Mr. Burr? You see anything -

GIVE ME A MINUTE. BILLY Fine. Bite my head off. MASON Just -- Give me a minute. Please. Movement, maybe. But it couldn't be ... it's too big -- (Beat.) Christ. I can't believe it. BILLY What? What's going on? GEORGE United World News. United World News, come in. MASON Nothing. GEORGE United World -- Yes, I read you. Over. Billy snatches the binoculars. BILLY Give me a damn look. GEORGE Please repeat. Over. BILLY Can't make out a thing. Not even a star. Ain't natural. GEORGE Yeah. You, too. Over. Mr. Burr. They said -MASON I know. BILLY You know WHAT? MASON The power lines didn't stop it. No effect. Like a man walking through a spider's web.

MASON

BILLY Sweet Jesus. It's on fire. Everything's on fire.