

## LEMAY/ PILOT CALLBACK SIDES

PILOT

We have a visual on Honshu, general. *(Beat. No response.)* General?  
*(Beat.)* General LeMay?

LEMAY

*(looking up)* I heard you the first time, captain.

PILOT

Yes, sir.

LEMAY

Bearing?

PILOT

Two o'clock, sir. You can just make out the coastal lights.  
There.

LEMAY

*(squinting through the canopy)* I'll take your word for it.  
Damnedest night I've ever seen. Black as a bucket of tar. Black  
as Stalin's heart.

PILOT

Yes, sir. Spooky.

LEMAY

I don't believe in spooks. Just the mission.

PILOT

Yes, sir.

LEMAY

Tokyo?

PILOT

The glow in the distance, sir. There.

LEMAY

You kids and your eagle eyes. Night runs are a young man's  
game. Always will be.

PILOT

I'm sure your eyes are fine, sir.

LEMAY

You don't have to kiss my ass. I picked you myself. E.T.A.?

PILOT

2300 local time, sir. As you calculated. And thank you. I'm honored.

LEMAY

A lot of people will die tonight. There's no honor in that. It's just a job. That's all we're doing.

PILOT

Of course. Sir.

LEMAY

I'm glad you agree. Now take us down.

PILOT

Sir?

LEMAY

I need to eyeball this thing, and I can't do that from 50,000 feet. So we're going to make a dry run. Maintain your heading and take us over ground zero. Level off at 5,000 feet.

PILOT

Sir, our flight plan takes up over the Boso Peninsula. At that altitude -

LEMAY

I wrote the flight plan, captain.

PILOT

But ... we'll be vulnerable to anti-aircraft -

LEMAY

We call it combat.

PILOT

I know what it's called, SIR. We have a thermo -- *(He clears his throat.)* ... a hot payload. My orders are to safeguard -

LEMAY

Your orders, NOW, are to descend to 5,000 feet. Or do I have to take this down myself?