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Belen and Tiago have been practicing with their drone for months. They’re getting ready for the “Air and Fire Festival”: The big celebration to commemorate the first year with zero crime in the Island of San Servolo.

“Air and Fire Festival”
Open borders aiming for peace.

Our uNEXtAl 5400 is too slow! We definitely need the new one!

I know! We won’t have these problems with the 7200. It’s supposed to arrive today.

2,500 young experts will fly their drones during the highly anticipated event.
A FEW YEARS AGO, SEJAUN TIRUJ TOOK OFFICE IN THE ISLAND'S GOVERNMENT. A YOUNG AND BOLD POLITICIAN, HIS LEADERSHIP HAS TURNED SAN SERVOLO INTO A PROSPEROUS AND PEACEFUL PLACE, AND A MANUFACTURER OF TECHNOLOGY OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY.

LOOK! THE 7200 HAS ARRIVED!

THE UNEKTAI 7200 IS A SHINING EXAMPLE OF THE SERVOLINE CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY.

THE SPORT VERSION OF THE SECURITY DRONE THAT REPLACED THE SERVOLINE POLICE IS A TRUE AERODYNAMIC MASTERCPEICE.

ITS TRANQUILIZER DARTS, HIGH DEFINITION CAMER_provided by assistant_a, SURVEILLANCE ACCESSORIES HAVE SUCCEEDED IN ERADICATING CRIME COMPLETELY. IT IS THE ISLAND'S IDENTITY SYMBOL.

BELEN, HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?

WHAT IS IT? A NOTE?
TO WHOMSOEVER FINDS THIS
NOTE: MY NAME IS KUXTAL SAAS.
I WAS BORN IN BAATAIL, A COUNTRY THAT
HAS BEEN IN CIVIL WAR FOR MANY YEARS. MANY
OF US HAVE FLED IN SEARCH OF FOOD, SHELTER AND TO
EARN A DECENT LIVING, BUT WE WERE MISLED AND
BRING TO AN UNDERGROUND LABOUR CAMP, THEY
MADE US WORK 16 HOURS SHIFTS; THE LIGHTS ALWAYS
STAY ON; WE ONLY GET ROTTEN FOOD TO EAT AND WE
ARE BEING TORTURED. THOSE OF US WHO DIE ARE
IMMEDIATELY REPLACED BY OTHERS. I MADE THIS
DRONE. THERE ARE MORE THAN 10,000 PEOPLE LOCKED
UP IN HERE. PLEASE, LET EVERYONE KNOW
ABOUT OUR SITUATION. HELP US!

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND. WHAT IS THIS?

WE
NEED TO TELL
MUM AND DAD.

IF
THIS IS TRUE, IT'S REALLY BAD.

AND THEY'VE BEEN COMING HERE TO SAN SERVOLO?

BAATAIL IS A
VERY SMALL COUNTRY NOT TOO
FAR FROM HERE. SOME YEARS AGO,
ETHNIC CONFLICTS SPARKED AN
ONGOING CIVIL WAR...

... IT'S BEEN VERY HARD AND
THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES HAVE FLED
THE PLACE.
NO, THAT’S IMPOSSIBLE.
OUR IMMIGRATION LAWS ARE
VERY STRICT. THEY WOULDN'T
HAVE LET THEM ENTER
LEGALLY.

WE
LIVE IN PEACE
THANKS TO AMAN
MITBACH!

I THINK I KNOW
WHAT THIS IS ALL
ABOUT. YOU'RE TOO
YOUNG TO REMEMBER
THIS...

...BUT BEFORE THE
DRONES, THERE WAS CHAOS
IN SAN SERVOLO...

... CRIME WAS OUT OF CONTROL...

... WE HAD CURFEWS EVERY SINGLE NIGHT: KIDNAPPINGS,
ROBBERIES AND CASES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING WERE
COMMON. WE LIVED IN FEAR, NOT A DAY WENT BY
WITHOUT TRAGIC NEWS...
... "KIMEN" used to be the name of the organized crime group that ruled in San Servolo. It was more powerful than the government. The group seemed invincible...

This is the third murder in our neighborhood this week.

What are we going to do?

But the drones brought this to an end.

Dad, who's behind Aman Mitbach?

It's a huge company. It has five factories across the island and it employs a lot of people. You can visit the factories if you like.

It's very unlikely they'd do anything illegal. They've been working for the government for years.

It's true that the lack of privacy we have due to the drones can sometimes be irritating.
Whoever wrote that note must be one of them.

Pay no attention to it. They're trying to discredit our leader Tiruud in an important moment in time for the country.

In fact, there are people who would like to ban them.

Make the most of what's left of the day to practice!

I hadn't considered that.

Wow! Did you see how fast it goes? And it's really precise!

But it can be even better! Is it OK if I modify the code?
I personally developed this code. If it works, it'll be faster and it won't...

...have any of the limitations Aman Mitbach programmes in its drones.

Don't screw it up!

Of course not! I'm a super coder!

Oh no! What's happening?

BEEP!

It switched itself off.

The drone connects itself to Aman Mitbach's control centre.

Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!

They monitor everything it does?

Yes, in real time, it's a security measure.

What's happening now?

It's a general alarm!

Something really bad is going on!

There's a boat full of people out there...
The drones are attacking them! Are they irregular migrants?

I'm not sure. I don't think so. It seems like they're fleeing the island.

Take some pictures of them with the drone!

I can't! It's blocked!

Who are they?

I don't know, but could it be the people from the labour camp mentioned in the letter?
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THOSE PEOPLE? ARE THEY GOING TO DROWN?

DON'T WORRY, THOSE ARE TRANQUILIZER DARTS.

IF THEY ARE INDEED IRREGULAR MIGRANTS, THEY'LL RESCUE THEM BEFORE DEPORTING THEM.

WHAT IF THEY'RE NOT? WHO WOULD FLEE FROM SAN SERVOLO AND WHY?

YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK?

PROBABLY... THE SAME AS ME. WHAT KIXTAL WROTE IN HIS LETTER MIGHT BE TRUE.
I need to understand what is going on in Baatail.

According to official figures, more than 22,000 people have migrated from there in the past 5 years.

But nobody can tell where all of them ended up.

5,000
2,000
10,000

Official data of refugees in other countries:

Luxuria: 5,000 refugees.
Aberdolia: 5,000 refugees.
Yomunk: 2,000 refugees.
San Servolo: 0 refugees.

The neighbouring countries keep a record of refugees. Figures add up to 12,000.

San Servolo hasn’t published any figures. Officially, we haven’t taken in any refugees.

Our government claims that the closed borders policy is key to our economic growth.

But then where are those 10,000 people?
I have to find a way to hack the Unextali.

That's the way to guarantee that the judicial decisions they make based on their AI...

All the island's drones are linked to the central command system of Aman Mitbach.

...are fair and right. The sporting drones have less capabilities.

When one tries to change the drone's code, Aman Mitbach disables it temporarily. Also, the drones monitor and report on each other.

The only way to hack it would be to "convince" the drone to become independent and outsmart the central command system as well as the rest of the drones and that is impossible!
WHERE COULD THE LABOUR CAMP BE? DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THESE PEOPLE ARE IN HERE?

I HOPE NOT.

SAN SERVOL IS A VERY SMALL ISLAND...

... AND THE DRONES GUARD THE COASTS. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO OUTSMART THEM...

WHERE?

... BUT THERE'S ONE PLACE ON THE ISLAND WHERE THEY MIGHT BE HIDING.

IN THE "SINGLE DOOR". THIS IS THE GOVERNMENT'S MOST IMPORTANT STRUCTURE...

... AND CONNECTS THE HARBOUR TO THE AIRPORT JUST ON TOP AN OLD GARBAGE DUMP.
THE “SINGLE DOOR” WAS A SUCCESSFUL IDEA. IT TURNED US INTO AN ECONOMIC POWER—THANKS TO THE ICT EXPORTS AND THE STRICT BORDER CONTROLS...

...THEY NAMED IT J. SIGA AFTER THE HERO WHO HELPED US GAIN INDEPENDENCE...

ALRIGHT. THE IDEA IS TO SEARCH IN THE PLACE WITH THE UNEXTALI’S HEAT SENSOR. THAT WAY WE CAN TELL IF THERE ARE PEOPLE HIDING.

NO! IT CAN’T FLY OVER THIS AREA. AMAN MITBACH DISABLES IT FOR SECURITY REASONS.

WHAT SHALL WE DO?

IS THERE ANYTHING STILL LEFT OF THE GARBAGE DUMP YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT?

YES. THEY’RE PLANNING TO EXPAND THE SINGLE DOOR.

CAN YOU TAKE ME THERE?
They're going to build an even bigger terminal for the "single door" here.

What are you looking for, Belen?

A dead one!

What do you mean by a dead one?

A dead drone.

It's perfect! I'll be right back!

We're going to do the same as J. Siga.

We're going to make our drone play dead so we can keep fighting.

How are you going to do that?

The Unextali's brain has two hemispheres...

If I replace the second hemisphere with one of an old discontinued drone...

Bzzz!

...but it will respond only to our instructions. It will deceive Mitbach's system...

...the drone will keep communicating with Aman Mitbach...

We can hide here so we can make the modification.
The thermal sensor is picking up a lot of heat generated beneath the "single door."

We need to figure out a way to take the drone underground.

According to this map, this door leads to...

...the control room of the air conditioning system.

If they find us, we're going to be in a lot of trouble!

We need to get the Unextali in between these ducts.

It's an endless maze!

Crackkkk!

He's reaching the heat source!

Don't worry. The Unextali still uses its AI to navigate.

¡Bzzzz!

What's that?!
IT'S THE LABOUR CAMP! THERE COULD EASILY BE 10,000 PEOPLE LOCKED UP IN THERE!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! THE LETTER IS REAL!

TO BE CONTINUED...
**Glossary**

**AI (Artificial Intelligence):** An area of computer science that deals with the creation of intelligent machines that imitate intelligent human behaviour such as learning and problem-solving.

**Displacement:** Movement of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters. The term is usually associated with "internal" displacement, meaning that the movement happens within the borders of a country.

**Drone:** An unmanned aircraft guided by remote control or autonomously by onboard computers.

**Forced (or compulsory) labour:** Work or services involuntarily undertaken by a person under the threat of punishment. However, these do not include military or civic service obligations or labour that is a consequence of a conviction in a court of law.

**Human Trafficking:** The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation includes, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

**Irregular Migration:** Movement of persons that takes place outside the laws, regulations, or international agreements governing the entry into or exit from the origin, transit and destination countries.

**Organized Criminal Group:** A structured group of three or more persons that exists for a period of time and acts in concert, their aim is to commit one or more serious crimes or offences in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, financial or other material benefit.

**Smuggling of Migrants:** A crime involving the procurement for financial or other material benefit of the illegal entry of a person into a country of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident.

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**Sustainable Development Goals**

- **5 Gender Equality:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.
- **8 Decent Work and Economic Growth:** Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.
- **10 Reduced Inequalities:** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.
- **16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions:** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.
- **16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.**
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