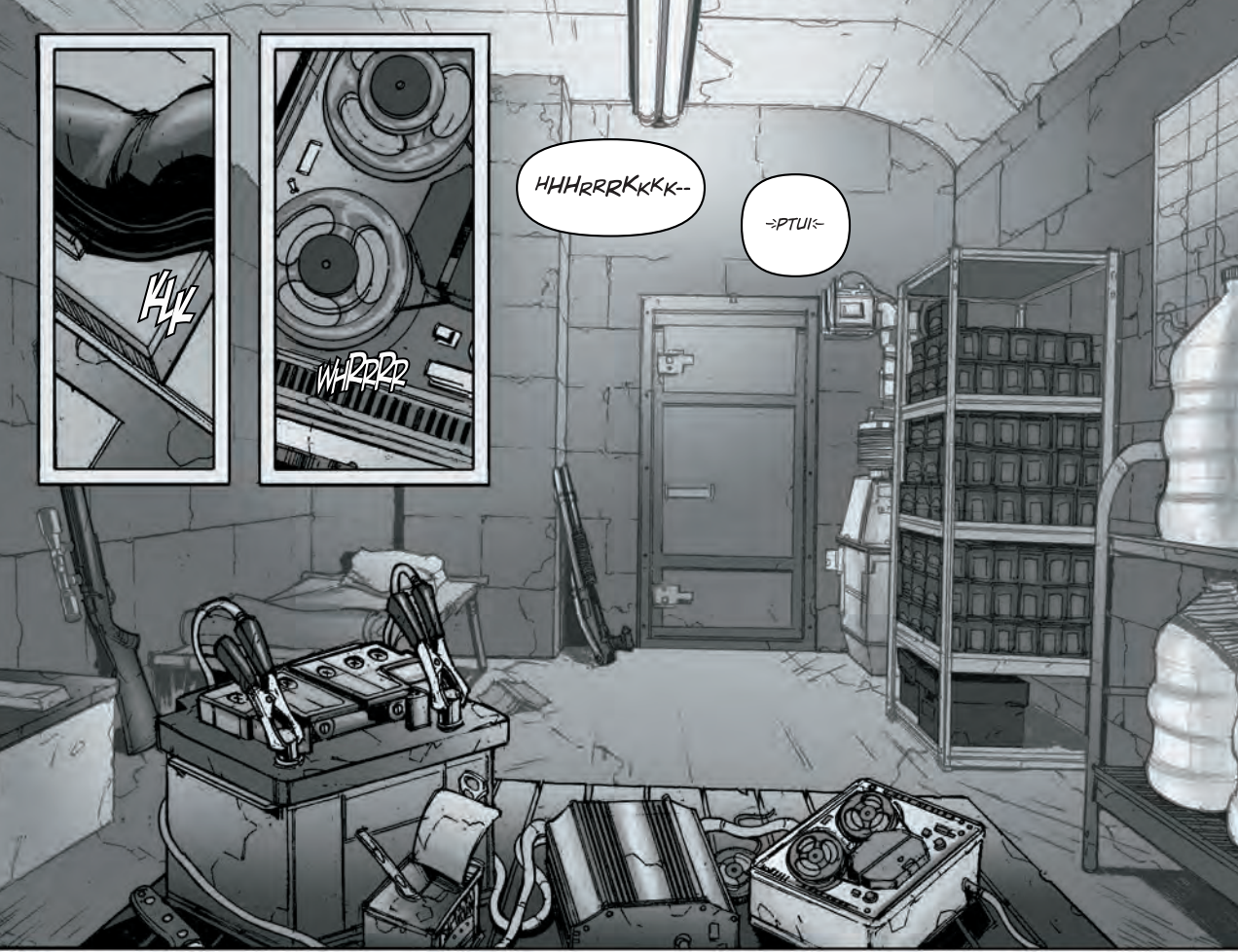


HHRRRKKKK--

->PTUI<-



WHOEVER FINDS THIS--

--IF ANYONE DOES--



--I WANT YOU TO KNOW--

BUT SINCE THE ZEDS, IF YOU WANT ANYTHING TO LAST, YOU GOTTA MAKE IT SOMETHING YOU CAN HOLD, IN YOUR HANDS.

MARK IT ON A PHYSICAL OBJECT...



--RECORDING SOMETHING THIS WAY WAS ARCHAIC AS HELL IN OUR DAY, TOO.

...LEAVE A WOUND.

WE SET TOO MANY THINGS DOWN IN JUMBLES OF ELECTRONS, ENTRUSTING THEM TO COMPUTERS...



...THAT'S ALL GONE NOW.

MIGHT AS WELL HAVE WRITTEN IT ON AIR.



BEFORE

"YOU CAN LOOK AROUND AND SEE HOW THINGS ARE *NOW*--

"--AND FROM ANY BOOKS AND MAGAZINES YOU CAN SCROUNGE, YOU CAN SEE THE WAY THINGS *USED* TO BE.

"THE STORY *I'M* GOING TO TELL YOU IS HOW WE *GO*T FROM ONE POINT TO THE OTHER.

"THERE'S A LOT OF HEROISM HERE, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, BUT ALSO A LOT OF STUPIDITY..."

AFTER

"...OF THE GOOD OLD HUMAN FRAILTY KIND.

"I GUESS WHAT I WANT YOU TO KNOW IS:

"THINGS DIDN'T *HAVE* TO BE THIS WAY.

"BUT HERE'S WHY THEY *ARE*.

"AND WHY WE CAN STILL COME *BACK*.

"STARTING AT THE *BEGINNING*..."



FIRST CONTACT
MURRYSVILLE, PA · SEPTEMBER 3 · 1014 HRS

