

World Mall 376

Chapter 376 Tier 5?

After getting everything he needed from the mall, Clovis went back to the car. His face showed an excited expression as if he were planning to hunt all the beasts they encountered.

"Did something good happen?" Erwin tilted his head in confusion. Clovis never showed this excitement during the trip. While it might also be to hide his excitement from Albert and Aileen, he should be able to see it.

"It's nothing. I'm just thinking about how we should kill as many Tier 4 beasts as possible." Clovis smiled.

Erwin couldn't help but furrow his eyebrows. Considering their team's strength, Clovis and Jay could definitely kill a Tier 4 beast by themselves. If they cooperated with Kanaria, Melody, and Ragna, they could even fight three to four Tier 4 beasts at once.

In addition, he had joined the team, which boosted the group's power even more.

Erwin could see that Clovis was actually considering not only a Tier 4 beast but a Tier 5 beast. On the one hand, none of them could handle a Tier 5 beast. The strength gap was simply too much. On the other hand, the potential was there.

If Ragna could somehow withstand the beast's attack or at least distract the beast for a while, the others could release a barrage of attacks to kill it. It looked feasible in his mind, but he didn't know whether the Tier 5 beast would be that easy to kill or not, let alone that they normally wouldn't be alone.

"I'm just going to say this. Don't be too reckless." Erwin patted Clovis' shoulder.

Clovis smiled wryly. It seemed that he had figured out his plan. At the same time, he couldn't help but think about it.

In the end, he chose to escape to the minibus while opening his status. There was a reason why he wanted to fight a Tier 5 beast.

Name: Clovis Hacfield

Tier: 2

Evolution Rate: 15%

Brain: 21.1%

Heart: 14.9%

Blood: 46.2%

Muscle: 38.5%

Bones: 22.6%

Compared to him two weeks ago, when he had just evolved to Tier 2, Clovis had filled up the evolution rate a lot.

In addition, he had been mastering the three techniques he got from the book store. His swordsmanship had become even more polished due to the basic knight's swordsmanship, his footwork also improved tremendously during the terrorist's raid, and his speed had been his strong suit this whole time.

If he added the mall's food to the calculation, he wondered if it was enough to somehow fight a Tier 5 beast. And there was one thing he wanted to test on this trip.

Nevertheless, with this progress, he should be able to reach Tier 3 in two to three months.

"Melody. What's about our route?" Clovis asked.

Melody projected the map, which already had a marking on it. "We are to go in this direction for a bit so as to avoid suspicion from the soldiers at the city gate. After that, we'll change our direction and gradually make our way toward this mountain range.

According to Aileen, there is a small track we can use to reach the mountain, but unfortunately, we might have to leave behind the bus before climbing the mountain."

"Do we have any safe place to put the bus? If not, we might as well leave this behind. I don't want to pay for another bus."

"Yes. Sir Albert has snapped a picture of a small cave. It's not big, but pretty hidden. It's easily reachable, and there are hardly any beasts in the area. After we clear this area up, we can leave the minibus behind."

"Sounds good enough." Clovis agreed. "In that case, two people need to protect the minibus on the way."

"We want to hide our vehicle, so we can't use guns since it will produce too much noise even with suppressors." Melody pointed at Clovis. "You will be one of them, protecting our right side. As for the second person, you can choose."

"I will protect our left flank." Erwin's head popped out. "I can drive, but I'll just let Ragna and Jay drive for now. As a new member, it's only right for me to start contributing to show you that recruiting me is not a mistake. Besides, the terrain is also pretty suitable for my fighting style."

Jay's eyebrows twitched. He had been driving this whole time so that he could switch with Ragna in the underground world. To think that Erwin would actually steal his job.

However, Jay didn't say anything yet because the mountain would be the main battlefield.

"So any orders from Sir Albert yet?"

"Nope. Sir Albert has reached the mountain and continued toward the city. Meanwhile, Aileen is going around the mountain. Hence, our objective remains the same. Kill the beasts on the mountain and secure a path for evacuation."

Clovis thought for a moment. "Tell Aileen that it's fine if she just scouts the area ahead. Mark the spot with the beast type and its number. She doesn't need to take action to conserve her energy. After all, there is still a long road to the city. The mountain is the main checkpoint."

"Sure." Melody didn't bother to argue, fully knowing that Clovis always wanted to kill as many beasts as possible.

"Also, if you have a chance, try to create a 3D map to show the state of the mountain from the evacuation route and add the data Aileen supplied."

"Well, it's going to be a lot of work, but I guess it can't be helped. We don't want the beasts to mess with the evacuation route. The huge number of beasts or big battles can cause a landslide after all." Melody let out a long sigh.

"Yes."

"What about the two groups that are led by Tier 6 explorers?"

"They are at the second and third checkpoints respectively. Once we clear the mountain and turn it into a checkpoint, they will begin the evacuation."

"Got it." Clovis nodded. "Thank you."

It took Kanaria another five minutes before she finally returned. "I'm back! Let's head out!"

Chapter 377 Test

"Clovis. There are ten incoming beasts." Melody informed.

"Got it." Clovis checked the direction and immediately rushed over once he stabbed the corpses around him with the essence collector.

As usual, Clovis continued his outstanding performance, killing a lot of beasts easily.

Meanwhile, Melody couldn't help but raise her voice when it came to Erwin. "Erwin. There are four more beasts coming!"

"I know. Give me a sec! I'm not as fast as Clovis!" Erwin had a hard time keeping up, even with the equipment from Another World Mall.

'Kh. How in the world am I supposed to keep up with this? They're moving too fast. After engaging with these new four beasts, I have to go back to the other spot to gather the essence collectors.' Erwin complained inwardly.

However, Melody simply said, "Just cut their head and be done with it."

"It's easy for you to say that!" Erwin clicked his tongue. He waved his hand, releasing his wires toward a beast. The beast sensed the danger from the wires and tried to avoid it, but the wires suddenly dropped and circled around its neck.

After that, with a single pulling motion, the neck was sliced apart by the wires.

Now that all the beasts had died, Erwin planted the essence collectors before attaching a wire to two trees, turning the wire into a slingshot.

He launched himself into the air, closing the gap between him and the four incoming beasts in a single leap.

Before the beasts could get close to the vehicle, Erwin had fallen on top of them. He killed two beasts in the same manner.

Still, he needed to launch back to grab the essence collectors while keeping up with the minibus.

On the one hand, he was overwhelmed by the task. On the other hand, he finally understood why Libation Fiesta was considered to be the most aggressive team during the competition.

It seemed that Jay had been the one doing this. Considering both of them having the same affinity, he realized that Jay might have another method to kill the beasts and collect their essence.

But for now, he had to keep up. He had told them that he would be contributing to the team after all. As someone with too much pride, there was no way he could admit he wasn't up for the task.

Meanwhile, Kanaria was observing the status of the operation. "Aileen seems to stay on the mountain for a bit longer. Sir Albert has gone to the second checkpoint."

Melody simply projected Aileen's message so that she could read it.

Kanaria frowned. "The mountain is dangerous? She has found more than twenty Tier 3 beasts and more than five Tier 4 spiders? We are still thirty minutes away from the mountain. Should we slow down our pace to conserve our energy?"

"No. We'll continue this way. Erwin can take his time to recover by staying on the back once we reach the mountain. What we currently need right now is speed." Melody shook her head before commanding the two again.

"In that case, the main vanguards on the mountain will be Ragna and Jay." Kanaria nodded.

"Yes."

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While they were advancing quickly, Aileen was actually standing on top of the mountain, watching them with a binocular.

"Are they insane? Advancing that fast requires a lot of stamina." Aileen frowned. "Granduncle told me to check on them and assist them if it's necessary, but I might have to make my move quicker than I expected."

That was what Aileen thought at first. It wasn't a mistake either. She was preparing to help them the closer they got. After all, Erwin and Clovis looked pretty exhausted.

Still, Clovis' face remained calm as if he already knew that this plan would tire him out. During this time, Aileen got another idea.

What if the Libation Fiesta could continue advancing in such a bold manner? The hardest enemies on this mountain were the Tier 4 spiders. Meanwhile, the mountain itself wasn't too big. There were some gentle slopes they could use to climb it.

If the Libation Fiesta could keep up at this pace, she might need to go to the second checkpoint rather than helping them.

How could she test them? There was one way to do it.

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"Hmm?" Melody couldn't help but furrow her eyebrows. "Guys. There is a wave of beasts coming from the mountain. It's climbing down the mountain at high speed. There are about twenty of them."

"!!!" Kanaria hurriedly opened the door and took a peek at the mountain. "We have a problem. A Tier 4 spider is spotted."

"That spider matches the picture Aileen took half an hour ago."

"There seem to be two Tier 2 and the rest are lower than that. I don't spot any Tier 3 spiders." Kanaria squinted her eyes. "But it's a bit hard to see them when they're hidden in the trees."

"We'll go with our original plan. Get ready for full combat!" Clovis immediately took over the command. "Erwin. Finish all the beasts in your direction and kill the weak spiders. Ragna, Jay, and Kanaria will take down the Tier 4 beast."

"Roger."

Jay and Ragna immediately exited the car. Meanwhile, Kanaria grabbed some equipment before coming out. She first tossed Ragna's shield before climbing to the top of the minibus.

Ragna nodded to Jay before taking the lead. His role was simple. It was to stop the enemy's attack and create an opportunity for Jay.

Meanwhile, Clovis had cut through the enemy and approached the enemy from the right.

Erwin still needed some time, but he could easily catch up just by leaping toward it.

Aileen felt amazed by their reaction time. "To think that they can get ready so quickly... not only the operators, but all of them are already aware of their roles. Still, can they defeat a Tier 4 spider with several other beasts—! What's that?" Aileen gasped when she saw Kanaria on top of the vehicle. It wasn't her position that shocked her, but her weapon.

"Hehehe. Thanks to the minibus, I can finally carry multiple weapons with me. For this unlucky spider, I guess I'll test this one." Kanaria smirked while setting up her sniper. "Get ready to be blasted with my Eclipse-X50. I guess a Tier 2 bullet is enough to pierce through the spider's body."

Chapter 378 Easily Killing a Tier 4 Beast

"Incoming." Ragna shouted, signaling Jay to get ready. Some of the beasts had no choice but to change their direction to stop Clovis.

Although it wasn't all of them leaving, Ragna still positioned himself to the right, avoiding being surrounded by the beasts from the left.

When the spiders were about to arrive, Ragna sped up. The change of pace immediately caught the spider's attention, causing them to target him.

The Tier 4 spider leaned its body forward, striking Ragna with swift but deadly bites. However, the latter managed to put his shield in front, which blocked the spider's attack.

Still, the other spiders took advantage of this chance to slip past Ragna's defense.

Ragna simply stepped to the left and slammed his spear on the spiders before they could reach him. Meanwhile, Jay moved to the right and cut down the spiders on this side before approaching the Tier 4 spider in the same manner as these smaller spiders.

The Tier 4 spider itself was looking majestic. With a three-meter-tall body, it was trying to overwhelm Ragna and pin him to the ground.

The Tier 4 spider was trying to avoid Jay, but all of a sudden, they heard a screeching sound from the right as multiple spiders were sent flying with their bodies chopped into pieces.

There wouldn't be any more spiders coming from the right, which allowed Jay to attack the spider's left legs.

When the spider was about to retreat, as if not planning to lose to Clovis or anyone else in the Libation Fiesta, Erwin launched himself into the air.

The spider managed to get away for a meter before multiple strings suddenly wrapped his body from above. The spider's body was lifted up a centimeter. It wasn't much, but it was enough to throw the spider off balance.

Jay hurriedly struck the spider's legs with all his strength. He even used his beast soul and launched the momentum to increase his power.

His new Tier 5 sword cut through all four legs, causing the spider to fall to the side.

"!!!" The spider didn't expect that a single exchange would actually injure it this much. But that wasn't all.

Kanaria suddenly shouted, "Get out of the way, boys!"

Jay and Ragna were confused while Erwin was observing everything from above as he was still in the air. They hurriedly got away, getting enough distance from the spider. This way, Kanaria could hit the Tier 4 spider without worrying about hitting them.

Bam!

A loud gunshot resounded across the woods.

The people looked shocked, not because of the shot, but because of the damage that shot caused.

The left part of the spider's head was blasted off its body. The bullet didn't stop only at the head but also hit a portion of its body, causing blood to be splattered everywhere.

"!!!" Ragna widened his eyes in shock. "What the hell with that firepower? Are you on steroids?"

It wasn't weird for Ragna to ask that question. Normally, Kanaria's bullet didn't have such destructive power. A Tier 3 would simply get some flesh splattered, but even when they were shot in the face, they wouldn't die.

Yet this time, a single bullet could actually blast a Tier 4 spider's head. Unfortunately, Kanaria couldn't be one hundred percent accurate and blasted the entire head. It was a small target even if the spider was big. That was one of the reasons why snipers didn't usually aim for the head.

But this shot was different.

"Hehehe. Do you like it? This is my new baby. I couldn't bring it normally since it's too heavy for me to carry around, but it changes when it comes to the minibus." Kanaria smirked.

While Kanaria was explaining, the battle still had to continue. The remaining spiders went berserk. In addition, the Tier 4 spider had yet to die.

Its collapsing body was still pointing its spinneret at Jay. If it died, it would still drag one enemy down together.

However, Ragna suddenly appeared in front of Jay. The spider, gradually dying, had no choice but to shoot out the last bit of energy it had.

The webs hit Ragna's shield. But because of this, Ragna couldn't avoid the attacks from the normal spiders coming from his left.

Erwin was about to send forth his own threads to help him, but Jay had actually come to the left and killed several spiders. There was a Tier 2 spider that was trying to buy some time for Jay and let the others attack Ragna.

Sadly, Erwin caught three spiders with his wires and crushed them. In addition, Clovis had finally reached them. He first cut the webs that stuck on the shield, freeing Ragna. They both then rushed to the left, killing the remaining spiders while leaving the Tier 4 spider behind.

Of course, Kanaria took this opportunity to shoot the Tier 4 spider one more time, finally killing it.

Aileen opened her mouth in shock. "This... I know Clovis is a monster like me, but his stamina is so high. He is able to do all that in his exhausted state. Even Erwin can hardly keep up.

"However, Kanaria's firepower is extraordinary. I guess guns, especially sniper rifles, are still quite good even in the middle tier. She might still be able to pierce through the skin of a Tier 5 beast with higher tier bullets. But that advantage will gradually disappear as they reach higher tiers.

"It doesn't matter. Right now, I've confirmed that they're able to take care of all the beasts on this mountain." Aileen shook her head and started heading toward the next checkpoint.

Little did she know, the most important role in this battle was actually Melody. The reason they could do such a complex maneuver without talking to each other was because Melody guided them and even showed them an arrow as a guide.

Yet, amidst their celebration, Clovis couldn't help but say, "I know you're happy, but Kanaria, that gun is too loud."

Clovis raised his head, hearing a lot of screeching sounds coming down the mountain. "A lot of beasts are coming now."

Chapter 379 The City's Condition

"Ha... Ha..." Clovis was panting heavily while looking at the numerous corpses in front of him. "How many beasts did we just kill?"

"I don't know. Maybe about 400 beasts?" Melody replied while monitoring the situation on the screen. While Melody was inside the minibus, feeling the chilling air from the air conditioner, her clothes were drenched in sweat.

In the end, the one who worked the hardest was her. She had been helping five of them while monitoring the entire field the whole time.

"I'm tired." Melody let out a long sigh while leaning back. "And Clovis wants a total of two teams? Can I even keep up with all of them?"

On the other hand, Clovis had sheathed his blade while checking the others, especially Erwin, who was lying down on the ground. He had a hard time keeping up with the insane pace.

"Oi. Are you alive?" Clovis jokingly called Erwin from a distance.

Erwin raised his head a bit while saying, "Your group is too much."

"Don't worry. You will get used to it sooner or later." Clovis stuck out his tongue.

Erwin chuckled. He couldn't deny it, considering Clovis had given him the items and other things, such as the Star Method and a technique from the bookstore.

Erwin knew that all of them were extraordinary, especially after revealing the fact that the Star Method came from his father while the technique originated from his grandfather.

If he managed to master all of them, he might be able to defeat Aileen, even if she was one tier above him.

Meanwhile, Jay and Ragna were collecting the essence from the corpses, while Kanaria remained on the lookout.

Clovis asked, "How is the situation in front?"

Melody looked at the map before reporting. "We have approximately killed about thirty percent of the beasts looming around the mountain. We will probably need another three hours to clean up the rest. And if we want to play it safe, we will take another hour just to make sure about it.

"Aileen has reached the second checkpoint and remained there for the time being. Sir Albert has left the third checkpoint and is now making his way to the city."

"Have you told them about our status?" Clovis contemplated. "What are their thoughts about it?"

"Yes. Aileen will be coordinating with us and sending reinforcement from the second checkpoint. This way, after we clear this mountain, the reinforcements will turn it into a safe checkpoint. Meanwhile, we will go toward the city."

Clovis rubbed his chin before asking, "What about the third checkpoint?"

"They will be sending reinforcements to the city. There are too many casualties, and a lot of people are missing. I'm not sure about their plan regarding it, but we are to head to the city after dealing with this mountain."

"To kill or to support?"

"Supporting the evacuation. We will be an escort for the SAR (search and rescue) team."

"Got it." Clovis nodded. "In that case, we will take a fifteen-minute break. After that, we'll go full throttle into conquering this mountain."

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While Clovis' group took care of the mountain, Albert had finally reached the city.

"The wall is still intact." Albert couldn't help but furrow his eyebrows. While it looked damaged and the beasts were still attacking the wall, the city didn't seem to have been breached from the outside.

There were still some people fighting on top of the wall. Their number wasn't as high as he thought. And they didn't seem to be using guns anymore. "They have run out of ammunition, haven't they?"

Albert raised his head a little bit, seeing smoke rising from the city. "As expected, they are getting pincered from both sides."

After observing enough, Albert used his fastest speed to reach the wall before leaping into the air. His jump wasn't enough to reach the top of the wall, but his swift and smooth steps allowed him to step a few times on the wall before reaching the top.

"Who?" One of the fighters aimed his sword at him.

"Not a soldier?" Albert looked around and noticed that only twenty percent of them were soldiers.
"Have they run out of soldiers?"

"Sir Albert. Is that you, Sir Albert?" One of the people noticed the commotion and turned around, recognizing Albert.

"Who are you?" Albert frowned.

"I am Rizky, a member of Shadow Division."

"So you're from the Shadow Division." Albert paused for a moment. "What's happening in this city? No. Lead me to the one in charge right now. Where is the commander of the underground city?"

"He..." The guy's face turned pale.

"Don't tell me..." Albert gasped.

"The previous command center was raided by the enemy. The commander was there and died in battle."

"But he was a Tier 6 human. How could he die just like that?" Albert abruptly stopped, realizing the culprit. "Don't tell me, the news about the Tier 7 beast is true..."

"Yes, sir." He nodded. "I will lead you to the vice commander."

"No. Just point out the direction. I'll go by myself. You'll remain here to stop the beasts."

"There. The three-story building with a black roof."

"Alright." Albert didn't immediately go. He noticed the gazes of the bystanders. He raised his voice and shouted with dignity. "People. I am a Tier 7 explorer, Albert Risevan. I'm here to help with the evacuation process."

However, I'll need you to lend me a hand. Please stop the beasts for a bit more."

The people who heard him couldn't help but widen their eyes.

"Albert Risevan?"

"The Shadow Killer?"

"I saw his face ten years ago on Skynet."

"We can finally go home."

"Fight! It's time to fight back and go home. Just hang on a bit more!"

"Ooh!"

The people became a bit more energetic.

Albert then jumped off the wall while looking at the city's state. Thirty percent of the buildings inside the city had been destroyed. He could see barricades here and there. But all of them were located near the center of the city.

As expected, the beasts came from underground and took control of the stone pillar and its nearby area. The Tier 7 beast should also be hiding in there.

"Still, it's awful."

Chapter 380 Evacuation

"Sir!" The vice commander greeted Albert. He was rather young, but the fact that he was a Tier 5 human was enough to give him the position. And he had been defending this area after the commander's death, so his ability seemed reliable.

Albert nodded. "We are planning to evacuate the city. How is the situation?"

"Please take a look at this, sir." The vice commander pointed to the map. The city was split into two. The first one was a small red circle in the middle, and the second was a green circle that covered the rest.

"Currently, the beasts are occupying the stone pillar as well as all the buildings around it, including the military area and the essence bank.

We are currently setting up a blockade on the third block."

"What about our casualties?"

"We can't find the exact number right now, especially because there are about two to three hundred people leaving the city in panic. Their fate is currently unknown. Meanwhile, there should be 400 casualties inside the city. Because they are coming from the middle, most of the casualties are coming from the soldiers. They have bought us precious time to evacuate the citizens to the outer circle."

"Are they scattered in all areas?"

"Yes."

"In that case, I need you to gather at the south gate. I also need another team to secure food and water for the evacuation because we don't bring much. The evacuation route should be secured in three to four hours. Before that, we'll have to complete the preparation for evacuation."

"Understood." The vice commander nodded furiously. "Ravi. Set up two teams. Go door-to-door if necessary. Mobilize all the troops and ask for the cooperation of the citizens if necessary. In this situation, even if you are a normal citizen, you're expected to contribute."

"Sir!" A young soldier saluted before heading out.

"What about the Tier 7 beast?" Albert asked.

"Please take a look at this." The vice commander typed a few things, showing a video. "This is a record before we lost contact with the commander."

"!!!" Albert widened his eyes.

The video showed an ambush in the control room. All the beasts crawling inside were spiders. They immediately secured the room, including destroying the security camera.

But he could see the giant figure in the corridor. Its body emerged from the floor below, which reflected its size.

"Is that the Tier 7?"

"Yes. We suspect that the spider is about 8 meters tall. Its legs could reach as far as 20 meters. I'm sure that Sir Albert has seen webs on the stone pillar. This Tier 7 spider covered the entire pillar in just twelve hours."

"..." Albert frowned. There was a chance that the inside of the stone pillar was also filled with webs. Even if they used explosives, it would be useless because the rubble would be stopped by those webs. "Where is the spider's location?"

"We don't know right now. After covering the stone pillar with webs, we couldn't find the spider anymore."

"Is it inside the stone pillar?" Albert clenched his fists. On the one hand, it was extremely dangerous to go inside the stone pillar. On the other hand, he had to confirm its existence and location personally.

"I can't say for sure." The vice commander shook his head.

"It doesn't matter." Albert sighed. "For now, you will focus on the evacuation. I will clear up the path once we're ready."

"Understood." The vice commander saluted.

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The soldiers worked quickly. They immediately spread to all corners with their military jeeps.

"All elderly and children are to head toward the south gate for evacuation."

The people were coming out of the buildings. They were desperate to go to the south gate because they wanted to go out as quickly as possible.

Still, some of them were rational enough. They realized that the outside was still swarmed by beasts.

"Sir. There are also beasts outside!"

"Yes. It doesn't matter if we go or not!"

They were swarming the car in panic.

"Don't worry. Tier 7 Explorer Albert Risevan is helping us with the evacuation."

Those who heard it were delighted. They had heard Albert Risevan's name, so they hurriedly turned around while running.

But before they could go too far, the soldier also said, "All adult males are to help with the evacuation and go door to door if necessary. Please help us to get as many people out as possible. All adult females should secure food and water supplies. The faster we prepare, the faster the evacuation will be. Please."

When the people heard of this announcement, some of them felt called out but chose to ignore it. They simply continued running toward the south gate, focusing on their safety.

However, some of them chose to help with the evacuation. At the end of the day, they needed to work together if they wanted to survive.

At least, almost half of them turned around and actually helped the soldiers.

"Go back!"

"We need to help the soldiers."

"That's right. If we can do it fast, we can get out of this city faster."

Some people felt moved by their reactions and chose to help as well. In fact, not only adults, but elderly people and children also wanted to help.

It was a shame that a lot of people were selfish and chose to ignore the plea, but there were still a lot more that tried to help.

They ransacked the supplies from stores. In fact, some store owners ordered their employees to bring out all their entire stock and donate it for the evacuation.

While there was chaos here and there, it didn't change the fact that the flow was going toward the south gate.

As for Albert, the one in charge of the evacuation, he was standing on top of a tall building, looking at the stone pillar.

His expression was solemn as he muttered, "Now then... What should I do? Should I poke them right now and find the Tier 7 beast, or should I wait a few more hours before accomplishing my mission? With all the ruckuses going on, I'm afraid that the beasts will notice them and try to attack us."