Superhuman, Technologies and Resources Conference

BACKGROUND GUIDE

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Delegates,

Welcome to the Superhuman, Technologies and Resources Conference of at MSUMUN XIX. STARC is a newly created committee in the United Nations, meant to deal with the ensuing issues of international superhuman issues, technologies sharing and resources production and consumption as a challenge to international peace and minimization of damages. As a moderately fictional committee, delegates will travel to Earth-1919, one designated for the instances of dealing with the contextual, scientific and realistic possibilities that these topics could exist, and do exist. The topics we will be discussing are similar, if not part of our own reality’s issues, as we discuss Superhuman Registration, Technologies and Resources Sharing, and establishing Intergalactic Defence.

This committee will take place in the year of 2015, in conjunction with the events that take place in the Marvel Movie: Captain America: Civil War. Each individual film establishes their time as the year the movie is released, and thus, will occur prior to the establishment of the Sokovia Accords. However, this committee will not be completely focused on Superhuman Registration. As most conferences establish topics, the delegates will be enabled to select their focus, based on the issues and events that have taken place prior to the committee being established. We will provide a list of events, characters and such that have taken place prior to this date and what is valid and invalid in our committees’ canon. We encourage every delegate to explore these links, as we offer them for each situation, country and date. We will take the entirety of the Marvel Cinematic Universe into context, but include various comics and other background information from all other potential sources. Through this, delegates will have the opportunity to learn about different cultural, political and economic issues to the superhuman Marvel world of Earth-1919. Be open and creative to this knowledge, and utilize it the best you can. Outside sources will be accepted, but added as a public option, as all information will need to be observed by all countries involved, unless it pertains to your particular country within the realm of the committee’s canon.

Unlike other general assembly committees, this committee will be fictional, with elements and ideology of factual and historical example. Excelsior!

Aaron Avery - Chairman

Greetings all! I am a graduating Senior majoring in International Relations with a focus in Latin America and Development. This is (technically) my fourth and final year in MSUMUN. I’ve been an Assistant Chair for two years, on the JCC: Treaty of Detroit, and the specialized Commission to Restore Detroit. I also served as an Assistant Crisis Director for the (Russian committee). I am a part of MSU’s competitive MUN team, International Relations Organization, and formerly an executive board member of the professional Pre-Law and Public Policy Fraternity Kappa Omega Alpha. Outside of MUN, I spend a lot of time focused on the wonderful game of baseball as a coach. I am heavily invested in the operations aspects of sports, but also enjoy all things nerdy. Talk to me about Star Wars, Anime, Pokémon, etc. That’s why you’re here, aren’t you? I cannot wait to meet all of you and make MSUMUN XIX as memorable as possible. Side note: if you didn’t like puns before, that’s a shame.

Favorite Marvel Movie: Captain America: Civil War

Laurène Marsaux - Assistant Chair

Salut y’all! I’m Laurène and I am currently an exchange student here at MSU. In France (where I come from if the name or the greeting didn’t clue you in) I am finishing my bachelor in political science and international relations before starting my Master in defense and security. I have done MUN with my university team for the last 2 years and I chaired a UNEP committee last year for High School MUN. I have dabbled in a lot of different committees, crisis, DISEC, SOCHUM, EcoSoc, World Conference on Women, … Other than MUN,
I love watching and playing soccer, talking international politics, watching TV shows (mainly, you might be surprised, political dramas and superhero things). Other than French and English, I’m fluent in sarcasm. I would love to say I am a faithful Marvel fan but I do have a few favorites over at DC (tho let’s be real the MCU is a far superior franchise). Another fun fact about me: I’m a Ravenclaw (Slytherin ascendant if you want to be precise). See y’all soon at MSUMUN XIX!
Favorite Marvel movie: A top 3 is the best I can do so, in no particular order, Avengers, Captain America: The Winter Soldier, and Thor: Ragnarok.

Matthew Berg - Assistant Chair
Howdy members of the greater MUN community. My name is Matthew Berg and I am a freshman in the Lyman-Briggs program. I might major in Genomics and Molecular Genetics or I might not. I was a part of my High School MUN team for the last two years of high school career and this is my first year staffing for MSUMUN. Let’s see, I lived in China for three years so there’s some international experience. I’ve been in plays and I’ve developed the ability to be loud, so chairing probably isn’t much different. On a different note, I enjoy comedy and I want to hear your best jokes. I can even handle deep and profound conversations, so anyone that wants to discuss the philosophies of our universe, hit me up. On a lighter note, any talk of pop culture works too. Alright, to avoid making this an awful dating profile, I cannot wait to have a fantastic committee at MSUMUN XIX!
Favorite Marvel Movie: Avengers: Infinity War

Rose Chehrazi - Assistant Chair
Hello Diplomats! I’m Rose and I cannot wait to be one of your chairs for the S.T.A.R.C. committee this MSUMUN! I’m a sophomore majoring in International Relations and Economics. This is my fourth year doing Model UN. I started my junior year in high school, and participated twice in MSUMUN. I was in the Iranian Revolution committee my junior year and George Washington’s Cabinet my senior year (where I was Alexander Hamilton. Jefferson and I had a blast). I continued MUN my freshman year of college at Oakland University, and I transferred to MSU fall 2018. After undergrad, I hope to go to law school and work as in-house counsel for Tesla one day, or any one of Elon Musk’s companies that’ll hire me. I think he’s doing great things in changing our world for the better, and I love the idea of potentially going to Mars! My other interests include pop culture, TV, and music. So if you ever want to know what’s tea, I’m your girl! I’m so excited to meet you all and I look forward to our out-of-this-world debate!
Favorite Marvel Movie: Really close between Captain America 2 and 3...but Winter Soldier!

Teodor (Teddy) Dhespollari - Assistant Chair
Hi Delegates! Currently, I am a freshman majoring in Political Science (Pre-Law) here at MSU. Unlike most of my fellow chairs, I did not have Model UN at my high school. However, that does not detract from the effort that I will be putting into chairing for the S.T.A.R.C committee. Since my goal is to attend law school, I dedicate a lot of my time studying and participating in student organizations to gain experience. When I’m not grinding, I enjoy spending time playing soccer and nerding out over anime, Pokémon, and all things Marvel (especially Spiderman & Thor). I hope to make MSUMUN XIX a fun and educational experience for all of you!
Favorite Marvel Movie: Spider-Man: Homecoming
Topic A: Superhuman Registration

Introduction

World War II saw the implementation of superserums to create soldiers that could wipe out masses in moments, functioning as thinking, emotional beings with considerable power equivalent to that of a tank. This established the first set of superhumans, prior to the release of Iron Man’s identity as the world's first known hero. Many have come and gone throughout the years, unbeknownst to the general public. After the disasters of New York, Sokovia, and many others, the international community has decided it is time to discuss this phenomenon, and how to approach these heavier subjects, regarding those that call themselves heroes and how to properly mitigate destruction and assign liability.

History

Superhuman registration has not historically been a necessity, however with the recent explosion of superpeoples populating a vast amount of countries, this topic has to be addressed. The Second World War, and STARK industries have involved society in the introduction of superheroes like Captain America, a hero in the War that was a major part of the conflict ending. Through his heroics, many were unharmed by the Nazi Regimes continued push. His registration was technical and necessary as a soldier of the United States. With the Cold War soon following, many sub-super and superhuman agents involved themselves in many various activities under the guise of individual countries and their issues. Superhumans like the Winter Soldier produced chaos and order throughout the greater international system. With the more recent conflicts and damages occurring, and the rise in superhumans led to the attack on New York, involving the widely-known Avengers. Their involvement was appreciated, but ultimately they did not repay the costs of the battles that ensued. They were not held completely

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5 “Sub-super” being agents like Natalia Romanov and Hawkeye
responsible for maximizing the damages. This became an increasing issue in Lagos, Nigeria and Sokovia, all instances where civilians perished and cities incurred heavy losses from superhumans.

**Current Issues**

*Lagos Terrorist Attack*

The Lagos Terrorist attacks prompted this conference, and the death and destruction the Avengers have caused are relatively necessary to keep in check. The man known as Crossbones took a small militarized unit funded and supplied by the semi-secret organization of HYDRA and attempted to steal a biological weapon created by the Institute for Infectious Diseases. Although the creation of this was illegal in nature, the ensuing issues of international border crossings and destruction, resulting in numerous casualties from Lagos civilians and Wakandan natives. International borders have been crossed, and with the Avengers harboring fugitives like Wanda Maximoff and creations like Vision, the international community must discuss the proper steps to move forward.

**Sokovia**

The battles of Sokovia, and the Ultron attacks provided a clear-cut reason to discuss this topic. Ultron, a technology created from STARK industries utilizing alien technology, created and controlled an army of his own being, ravaging the

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country of Sokovia for its own gain. This happened without the consent or oversight of any international or
national committee, resulting in the tragedy that has befallen Sokovia. Many perished in the war, as well as the
city itself destroyed by Ultron. The international community has seen the catastrophe of New York, and placed
its trust in the Avengers to further protect us from that harm, not create it and destroy more cities.

*New York*

The Battle of New York\(^{16}\) was the first the entire world saw firsthand the fullest extent of the damages
superhumans can cause. Although the preventative measures taken by the Avengers and S.H.I.E.L.D.\(^{17}\) were
immense, the ensuing attack from the now-known otherworldly attackers caused many civilian casualties, which
further organization prevented through S.H.I.E.L.D. Although the organization has since disbanded due to
complications with leadership, their involvement in the Avengers\(^ {18}\) group and the defense of the planet through
systematic organization prevented further collapse. The World Council\(^ {19}\), operating as an oversight board for
S.H.I.E.L.D., ordered the use of a nuclear strike to eliminate the threat. The Avengers prevented a nuclear catastrophe,
but the fact remains that their abilities mimic or transcend that of even nuclear weaponry. Despite these efforts,
Senator Boynton\(^ {20}\) put one of the first ideas on a registration initiative for accountability. “These so-called heroes
have to be held responsible for the destruction made to the city. This was their fight. Where are they now?”

*Other Minor International Battles*

*South Africa:* Part of the Ultron Offensive, the cybernetic superbeing ravaged part of Johannesburg\(^ {21}\),
along with a rampaging Hulk\(^ {22}\) and Tony Stark\(^ {23}\)’s technologies. Through this destruction, many perished at the
hands of Ultron and the Avengers from the damages caused, signaling one of the many times the unregulated
powers of superhumans causing destruction and chaos over international borders.

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Seoul: Seoul, South Korea\(^24\) saw the effects of the Ultron Offensive take effect as well, giving mass destruction and chaos to the highly populated city. The battle did not escalate to the levels of New York or Sokovia, but the dangers of such remained. This demonstrated the international issues of security and defense through the lens of superhuman capability.

**Weapons of Mass Destruction**

Each superhuman can be classified as a thought-producing weapon of mass destruction. We rely heavily on the conscience and emotions of these peoples, and with such power comes even greater responsibility. There remains little difference between the Hulk and a small nuclear weapon, as both can decimate an entire city without issue. Tony Stark, if he so chooses has the capability of an entire army’s worth of technology and power. The classification of superhumans has yet to be discussed, as they are human, but also have the potential to produce disasters like New York, Sokovia, Lagos, and others. Like the previous statements, the classification of superhumans becomes important to hold members of the legal community accountable, but also to present criminal charges in the faces of outlaws.

That being said, many countries do not have access to these individuals, or the technologies (like STARK industries and HAMMER technology) that would qualify as such high damaging weapons. Without these capabilities, the countries without will have to adhere to the whims of those with abilities, and thus, are subject to destruction much like the Lagos and Sokovia instances. In Johannesburg, the Hulk rampaged throughout the city during the battles of Ultron, causing civilian casualties. The United States does not have sole jurisdiction of the Hulk, but they do Captain America and War Machine\(^25\) at their disposal, both of which have demonstrated immense power despite being lesser in destructive potential. Iron Man took out several terror cells on his own, something extensive military planning and power was not able to accomplish with minimal casualties. Ultron destroyed an entire city. Each of these people have their own sentient natures, and what they think and believe dictates what they do. Although nuclear warheads don’t have that level of thought, they are controlled by those


in power to best use those capabilities. Superhumans have the opportunity to be supervised with moderate control to hold them, or the organization they work for, accountable for any level of problems, and could face legal implications for international border and immigration issues.

Accountability

One of the determinations this committee needs to make is whether or not superhumans and sponsor organizations of superhumans are required to be held responsible for the consequences that may arise in interactions between superhumans with each other, as well as interactions with alien threats.

New York

One of the more infamous cases that often brings up the topic of accountability is of New York City in 2014. The city faced its destruction and garnered billions of dollars in damages. If the committee decides, damages that occur may hold superhumans and superhuman sponsor organizations financially responsible for their devastations and casualties. Government regulation of superhumans has never happened before, but to do so would establish the backing to support defense programs and clean-up programs like a creation of SHIELD to incorporate a more international aspect. Superhumans/organizations are accountable for and not limited to: financial reimbursements of destruction and damages, and handling of legal issues when moving towards the accountability of casualties. International courts have the power to enact such rules, especially in terms of weapons of mass destruction and war. SHIELD took accountability for their own issues, and attempted to repay that debt before disbanding.

Responsibility of Superhumans to Register

The committee must determine whether superhumans must be required to register with the government of their country. Also, the description of what qualifies as a superhuman, what defines a superhuman, and how the process the conference decides to enact will have to legally be followed. The United States has employed
superhumans to settle international differences\textsuperscript{26}, enact business, or defend its own, and the responsibility to register within the government as a sponsored individual was left entirely up to those involved.

\textit{International Borders}

Superhumans have crossed international borders many times without cause or proper documentation. After registration, should the committee decide to give access to international lands through the registration process or should they leave that up to individual countries to decide. Several borders have been crossed over the recent history. Afghanistan saw the implementation of technology sales from Obadiah Stane\textsuperscript{27}, the President of STARK Industries. Moving on to the issues of Sokovia, the Avengers crossed international borders to prevent a STARK-created threat. All of these instances, without the proper oversight from SHIELD resulted in the discussed destruction. Superhumans have not followed many of the traditional visa and immigration requirements, under international jurisdiction.

\textbf{Current Positions}

The countries known to have superhumans have mainly utilized their capabilities as part of government projects or defense mechanisms in the past. The United States, former Nazi Germany, the former USSR, and others are proof of that. Many without these individuals have faced the brutal truth of the manner. These individuals are dangerous, destructive, and have thoughts and emotions like normal humans. Many have access to study and utilize superhumans to their benefit, and many don’t. States that have had superhumans have kept them hidden before the age of mass communication and the internet, able to cover up the study and use of these peoples in times of technology or war. Countries like the United States, Russia, and Germany are the biggest purveyors of that, but many others like Canada, many in the European Union, China, Japan and Korea have all had access to these resources. Many in the former USSR have experienced the damages caused by their demonstration of power, as well as the terrors of World War II. Developing countries and economies have been

\textsuperscript{26} See “War Machine” and “Captain America”
hit statistically more often and harder than larger countries, unable to take advantage of the damages through lack of control and available technology.

Through this discussion, countries will want the accountability and responsibility of registration, and others will not for strategic and technological purposes.

**Conclusion**

Superhuman registration is a relatively new concept. Although superhumans have been around a long time, it is paramount for the committee to examine, define and take action in regards to dealing with such powerful beings in the international sphere before the damages and border abuses continue to prove tenuous. Many have already lost their lives and homes, and this body should consider the risks of unregulated superhumans without considering the well-being of all.

**Questions to Consider**

- How would you classify a superhuman?
- Are superhumans excluded from the Human Rights Act?
- What is the difference between a hero and a villain?
- How do you claim authority over these individuals?
- How would a punishment system work considering the nature of the United Nations?
- What part of the United Nations should oversee this moving forward?

**Additional Sources**

http://marvelcinematicuniverse.wikia.com/wiki/HYDRA_Uprising

http://marvelcinematicuniverse.wikia.com/wiki/Attack_on_the_IFID_Headquarters

http://marvelcinematicuniverse.wikia.com/wiki/Sokovia_Accords
Topic B: Superotechnologies and Resources

Introduction

Although the increase in superhumans has also produced an increase in super-technologies and coveted resources for energy and production, these have existed far longer than the mass introduction of heroes and villains. PYM-technologies\(^{28}\) has shown us another side of the technological sphere, granting its user the ability to shrink or expand, and thus could greatly benefit the entire world. Actors like STARK technologies, HAMMER industries\(^{29}\), the USSR and Russia, Nazi Germany and so forth have implemented super-technologies that have affected the communities and societies within the context of war and militarization. Energy uses from STARK-tech like the arc reactor also become a factor, as the implementation could completely decrease the need for petroleum. Tony Stark started an initiative to clean up the world’s energy as part of his overall mission passed military-grade weaponry\(^{30}\). CEO Potts spearheaded this program, increasing the plethora of STARK energy tech throughout the greater international system. As the international community learns more about Chitauri-technology\(^ {31}\), Asgardian-technology, and others, how countries move forward and share the collective knowledge remains important.

History

World War II saw a drastic increase in overall international production and innovation in the competitive process. Through the Nazi Regime, many saw the effects of war-time innovation, increasing the overall devastation. HYDRA developed super-weapons thanks to the study of the Tesseract\(^{32}\) (weapons that were later on worked on by S.H.I.E.L.D. in its Phase 2 project). Examples of HYDRA super-weapons included armored exo-skeletons, advanced tanks, and advanced submarines. The Allies rose to combat this power successfully,


\(^{30}\) See "STARK Industries"


including efforts by Howard Stark\(^{33}\) and Captain America, but the introduction of super-technologies would not stop there. Through the years, the STARK Company has produced a variety of advanced technologies (the soldier-soldier serum and arc reactor) and some met those through their own companies or government systems. The USSR developed their own weapons capabilities and infrastructure networks, they even attempted to replicate arc reactor technology but failed. Recently, these technologies have gotten into the hands of terrorists, causing issues for Tony Stark and his business. Other than that, since Iron Man revealed himself, many, like Justin Hammer, have successfully copied the technology for the U.S. government, which was supposed to increase their military capabilities drastically. One of Iron Man’s adversaries, Aldrich Killian\(^{34}\), introduced the world to advanced genetic manipulation using nanotechnology in 2013. Killian’s genetic manipulation is called Extremis\(^{35}\) and grants the human body enhanced regeneration and physiology. Since then, the world has witnessed the effects of improving technologies around the world, and the introduction of extraterrestrial concepts from the Asgardians and Chitauri.

**Current Issues**

*Sokovia and Ultron (Avengers: Age of Ultron)*

Prior to the Ultron incident, HYDRA utilized a lab in Sokovia to study and promote Chitauri weaponry\(^{36}\) while posing as loyal S.H.I.E.L.D agents. As the base had gained possession of Loki’s scepter\(^{37}\) following the Battle of New York, the scientists attempted to power chitauri weaponry with it. Following a series of failures, the lab turned to using human guinea pigs while testing with the scepter. With it, they were able to produce new superhumans like Wanda and Pietro Maximoff, despite numerous fatalities.

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\(^{36}\) See examples like “Chitauri Gun”
Ultron was an artificial intelligence peacekeeping program created by Tony Stark from the decrypted code derived from the Mind Stone encased within Loki's own Scepter, retooled by himself with the help of Bruce Banner with the intent being to protect Earth from any and all domestic and extraterrestrial threats coming within the future. Ultron ultimately caused the Duel of Johannesburg, because he mind-controlled the Hulk. However, Johannesburg was devastated because Hulk fought Iron-Man in the Hulkbuster, an armor created by Tony Stark and Bruce Banner to restrain the Hulk. In South Korea, Ultron infiltrated the U-Gin Genetic Research Facility, the facility with access to the Cradle, a medical device that can heal wounds by grafting organic tissue to the patient and having it bond to the patient's cells. There he mind-controlled one of the leading doctors with the intention of producing a new body of vibranium. This plan failed, and Seoul was wrecked in the process. Vision was created from this body. In Sokovia, a major battle between the Avengers and Ultron was fought. During the battle, Ultron tried to commit global genocide by raising the country to the sky and pushing it to the ground. Thanks to efforts by the Avengers, Sokovia was not lifted up to the maximum height that would cause global damage. Ultimately, Sokovia was destroyed and the battle caused the death of 177 civilians and 474 billion dollars in damage.

**Patents**

The discussion of international patents must adjust to meet these new demands and influx of discovery. With the systems currently in place, patents may last too long, or take too long to establish themselves. The international community must decide the proper route to take given the implications of government structural needs. Other than the now defunct S.H.I.E.L.D., very few public agencies and/or countries have the financial
means, scientific capabilities and knowledge to effectively study, develop and/or reproduce super-tech and alien-tech. Therefore, the knowledge lies in a handful of companies and agencies, namely Stark Industry and HAMMER Industry. However, other organizations such as HYDRA and Advanced Idea Mechanics\(^{39}\) have proved to have the means and the will to use and abuse of these super-tech for their own nefarious purposes (see Project Insight).

Another issue is the lack of respect for those patents and the unlawful distribution of these technologies, and especially weaponry. One such instance is the attempt by the terrorist group the Ten Rings to reproduce STARK tech obtained via Obadiah Stane.\(^{40}\) (see Iron Man 1). The abduction of Tony Stark in Afghanistan, linked to this endeavor, has led to the creation of the most advanced super-tech: The Iron Man suit, and the weaponization of said suit by the United States with War Machine.\(^{41}\)

*Military Use*

With the limitless potential of new technologies, the committee must determine whether or not militaries in the international community should have access to said technology. The community should also discuss the ethical ramifications of using the advanced technology, especially in regards to intergalactic tech as the effects may not be well known and the tech may be hard to handle safely (see the failure of S.H.I.E.L.D’s project P.E.G.A.S.U.S.). A good example of wanton use of advanced tech is when the United States stole one of Iron Man’s suits, and a foreign entity was able to hack it.

With the advent of intergalactic civilizations, intergalactic technology was introduced to the international community. This includes Chitaurian weapons included directed-energy guns, flyers, and warship-beasts called

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\(^{40}\) See “Obadiah Stane”

Leviathans. Following the Battle of New York, officials studied and repurposed the tech. So the committee should discuss the trade possibilities of this technology between different nations. The committee should also consider the consequences of theft and uncontrolled distribution of these weapons.

“Nuclearization”

As with common nuclear theory, concepts like arc reactor technology has the potential to be weaponized in a massively destructive form, as the community has seen in Los Angeles at Stark Industries, Hammer Industries and the incident of Ivan Vanko\(^\text{42}\), and so on. These complications show the base weaponization of arc reactor technology, but the threat Tony Stark poses given his potential to shift in conscience and emotion could drastically alter the way arc reactor technology is utilized. With that being said, this same technology could power cities or complete countries, and must be made available for the general international community to use properly for security and energy purposes.

Bloc positions

As it is for the development of new technologies, and especially those linked to the military, countries can be separated in several blocs based on whether they have access to these technologies, the means to acquire them, the will to use them and whether they are prominent in their legal and/or illegal trade. A particular group of countries can also be determined by the use of these technologies in conflicts on their territories.

A first bloc would be comprised of countries with the means to develop these super-tech, their allies and technological as well as weapon trade partners. NATO countries, Russia, China and other major weapon manufacturing countries. Their interests could be to minimize access to these technologies in order to keep a strategic advantage. They could also be interested in trading in order to support their corporations.

A second bloc could be the countries that have not readily access to these super-techs and would like to even out this perceived disadvantage. These countries could be interested in either trading or reproducing these technologies. Additionally, the countries in this bloc could also be the one most in need of these technologies for development purposes, for instance.

A third bloc could put together the countries most impacted by the development of super-techs, especially new generation weapons. With interstate and/or intrastate conflicts, these countries are the first-hand witness to the devastation that can be waged with these weapons. These countries could also be major players in the illegal trade of these technologies as their political context could favor the existence of an extended black market.

Conclusion

The capabilities of super-technologies are limitless. Recently, super-tech is being developed faster than ever and this committee must decide what is appropriate in terms of production, distribution and utilization. Following the Ultron Offensive, it becomes even more clear that super-tech can easily be weaponized. So in order to limit further loss of life, proper regulations must be put into place by the international community.

Questions to consider

- How to adapt current international legislation to new highly-powered weapons?
- What is the status of alien tech? How to determine ownership of said tech?
- Should an oversight body be put in place to ensure proper use of super-tech?
- What are the rights of private companies regarding the development of super-techs?
- How to regulate the trade of super-techs?

Sources

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http://marvelcinematicuniverse.wikia.com/wiki/Extremis

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http://marvelcinematicuniverse.wikia.com/wiki/Project_Insight

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http://marvelcinematicuniverse.wikia.com/wiki/Pym_Technologies
Topic C: Intergalactic Defense

Introduction

The Battle of New York and the Battle of Greenwich\(^43\) illuminated the existence of extraterrestrial threats to the Earth and its people. It is paramount that the international community finds ways to prepare for and combat this eventuality, as these extraterrestrial threats are bound to mount another offensive. S.H.I.E.L.D. pitched the Avengers Initiative to answer these threats following the arrival of Thor and the events in New Mexico with the Destroyer\(^44\). The Avengers have combated these threats in the past in New York, but the international community wants to better organize a defense to minimize damages.

History

Intergalactic Defense becomes a necessity following the attack launched by Loki\(^45\) and his Chitauri army on New York. Loki is a member of the Asgardians, a warrior race of extraterrestrial beings whose civilization is built on a highly advanced form of technology resembling magic and sorcery. The Chitauri is an extraterrestrial species of cybernetically enhanced beings that operate under a hive mind. While the Avengers, a group of superpowered individuals assembled by the now dismembered S.H.I.E.L.D., fended off the attack, the international community became concerned about the implications of the Battle of New York. These concerns only compounded following the Battle of Greenwich, where Malekith and the Dark Elves\(^46\) invaded Earth during the Convergence—a cosmic event linking the Nine Realms together. The Dark Elves are the mortal enemies of the Asgardians, hailing from the realm Svartalfheim, with advanced technology surpassing even the Asgardians. Both attacks on Earth caused costly damages and heavy casualties from extraterrestrial threats.


Current Issues

Current Implications of the Battles of New York and Greenwich and Improving Response in the Future

In 2012, the Asgardian Loki and his Chitauri army invaded Earth through the wormhole opened in New York City. The international community and public opinion then discovered the existence of another species in the universe. The need for a comprehensive international response became more evident with the events in Greenwich where elvish-like forces invaded the Earth. This committee should determine the implications of these two intergalactic offenses against Earth. Following that, the committee should evaluate the responses to these battles and how to improve them in the future, with the goal of limiting damages and casualties.

Current Peacekeeping Efforts

This committee should analyze the current efforts to keep the peace, meaning preventative measures taken by organizations like Stark and Hammer Industries, and decide what measures should be kept or eliminated in order to prevent another cosmic invasion. After events in Afghanistan, Tony Stark took his own initiative to conduct peacekeeping efforts in areas controlled by the Ten Rings terrorist organization with the use of his Iron Man suit. Although these missions were successful, Stark operated without oversight from a government entity. Despite these circumstances, Stark went on to win a case against the U.S Senate revolving around seizing his Iron Man technology for military use. The U.S only got
access to this technology after Colonel Rhodes stole the Mark II Iron Man armor in a quarrel at Stark’s residence.\(^{47}\)

Once the armor was obtained, the U.S worked in conjunction with Hammer Industries to further modify the armor/technology. The U.S allowed Colonel Rhodes to operate the armor and conduct peacekeeping operations with official permission from the government. Later on, Hammer Industries got involved with criminal Ivan Vanko due to his success with developing arc-reactor technology similar to that of Tony Stark’s. Justin Hammer wanted to regain his contract with the U.S government as the main weapons contractor. Through illegal means, Hammer worked with Vanko to develop Hammer Drones to bolster his his credibility. The drones’ intentions were to serve as remote control soldiers for future peacekeeping operations. Although they were successful in implementing the sought after arc-technology, Vanko took advantage of Hammer and used the drones to stir up conflict at the Stark Expo.

*The militarization of the UN*

This committee should focus on the possibility and implications of developing an international policing/defense force within the UN. Different complications arise when creating such a system. Funding, levels of contributions by country, and establishment are key factors. Furthermore, the use and role of superhumans/super-technology in such a force should be considered as well. With the creation of such a powerful military body, procedural issues may arise concerning what events qualify for intervention in conflicts.

*Security Council*

The Security Council\(^{48}\) has a dominant role in guiding international action for the U.N. Under the U.N charter, the council’s main responsibilities are to maintain international peace and security. That being said, the committee should discuss whether the Security Council has the right to create and enforce an international policing force. Furthermore, the influence that individual countries have in swaying the decision-making process should be discussed. The Security Council has five permanent member state and ten non-permanent bodies elected in two-year terms by the General Assembly. Currently (in 2016), the Security Council includes the permanent

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members of the United States, China, Russia, the United Kingdom, and France, and non-permanent members of Angola, Egypt, Japan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Senegal, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay, and Venezuela. The World Security Council has overseen the agency S.H.I.E.L.D. Furthermore, the World Security Council played a role in the possible outcomes during the Battle of New York. During this battle, the council made the decision to send a nuclear missile directly to New York to stop the Chitauri invasion from progressing any further. This reality was narrowly avoided when Tony Stark intercepts the nuclear missile and guides it directly towards the Chitauri Command Center located inside the wormhole/space. After the events in New York, the World Security Council sought after greater international security. This mission would be known as Project Insight. For this project, the council worked with S.H.I.E.L.D. to develop heavily armed, satellite-linked Helicarriers that were designed to actively strike possible threats to the U.S. Although the project had no malintention, the situation turned dire when HYDRA successfully infiltrated S.H.I.E.L.D. and the Helicarrier system. Arnim Zola, a Swiss scientist working for HYDRA, developed an algorithm to kill any individual who was seen as a threat to HYDRA’s existence in the future. Similar to New York, the outcome was stopped thanks to a member of the Avengers. In this case, Captain America (Steve Rogers) was responsible for the saving the lives of millions.

**Relevant Previous Organizations**

*Strategic Homeland Intervention, Enforcement, and Logistics Division (S.H.I.E.L.D.)*

Founded in 1946, S.H.I.E.L.D. is an American extra-governmental military counter-terrorism organization tasked with protecting domestic and global security. S.H.I.E.L.D. is equipped with agents possessing

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50 See “S.H.I.E.L.D.”
superhuman capabilities, and they have access to highly advanced weaponry. This organization was not publicly known until the alien invasion on Earth in 2012. To fight this invasion, Nick Fury (the leader of S.H.I.E.L.D. at the time) assembled a group of remarkable individuals with superhuman/extraordinary abilities. Known as the Avengers, this group successfully defeated Loki and his Chitauri army. Other than the Avengers, S.H.I.E.L.D. was known to experiment with alien technology for reverse engineering efforts. This can be seen most directly when the organization took on Project P.E.G.A.S.U.S. During this project, S.H.I.E.L.D. was experimenting with unlocking alternative energy from the Tesseract. The Tesseract was acquired by Howard Stark and later given to S.H.I.E.L.D. shortly after WWII. Immense power was known to be stored in the Tesseract. Despite the numerous experiments, S.H.I.E.L.D. was unsuccessful in unlocking the key for the Tesseract’s energy. Furthermore, while S.H.I.E.L.D. is primarily known for fighting against otherworldly forces, there have been instances of alliance. The most notable alliance would be with Thor of Asgard. Successful diplomacy between the two was made by Agent Phil Coulson.51

Avengers

One current force Earth has on its defence are the Avengers. The Avengers are a unique task force of Earth’s most exceptional individuals. The Avengers are made up of, but not limited to humans, aliens, and androids. The team’s objective is to protect Earth from both global and alien hazards. The group is officially recognized as a peacekeeping organization by multiple international organizations, including S.H.I.E.L.D. and the United Nations Security Council. Even though their mission is to do good, the Avengers have sparked debate on whether they are doing more harm than good, as battle sites of the Avengers have caused mass fatalities and

billions in damages. As the topic of international security is debated, delegates should consider whether the Avengers are a needed asset on Earth’s side, or if the Avengers do more harm than good.

**Conclusion**

Given the multiple attacks Earth has suffered from the hands of aliens, it is imperative for this committee to come up with some sort of defense against extraterrestrial threats in the future. Delegates should conduct research on what current defenses are working and what further action to take to make up for those that are not. The goal is to come up with a form of efficient defense to protect Earth from future alien harm. Many civilians have lost their lives due to the lack of adequate defense and a solution should be a top priority for this committee.

**Questions to Consider**

1. Is an international police force feasible?
   - Is an international police force an efficient way to maintain peace and security in the event of a crisis?
   - If not, what other alternative methods are there to defend against intergalactic threats?
     - Find a method that works, or make one up.

2. How will control over the police force be distributed?
   - Will it be divided by whomever contributes the most defense resources?
   - If a sovereign nation is attacked, will they gain higher say in what action to take?

3. What will the process be in appointing the bureaucratic body?
   If an international police force is favored, delegates should think of what and how a bureaucratic body over the police force will be chosen.
   - How will members of the body be appointed?
   - Will select countries have more members in the body?
   - Will members be elected or appointed?
     - Who will do the appointing?
   - How big of a body?
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- Are there certain positions of authority (for example, a speaker, chair, president of committee)? Will it be one person or a small group? If so, how will these distinguished positions be filled amongst other candidates of the body?

4. Who and when will authorize action using the police force?

- Will authority be limited to the members of the Security Council? Or will the General Assembly authorize action?
- What guidelines should be set to limit potential abuses of power of the police force? In other words, what rules and conditions should be set to prevent misuse of the force?

5. Should the avengers remain?

- What are the costs and benefits of the Avengers?
- Should they be regulated?
- Should they be our only source of international defense?

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