



WORLD WAR HULK™

AVENGERS®

INITIATIVE

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AVENGERS THE INITIATIVE

AFTER STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT WAS DESTROYED DURING A TELEVISED FIGHT BETWEEN THE NEW WARRIORS AND A GROUP OF DANGEROUS VILLAINS, A FEDERAL SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT WAS PASSED. ALL INDIVIDUALS POSSESSING PARANORMAL ABILITIES MUST NOW REGISTER WITH THE GOVERNMENT. TONY STARK, A.K.A. IRON MAN, HAS BEEN APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF S.H.I.E.L.D., THE INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCE. HE HAS SET IN MOTION THE INITIATIVE, A PLAN FOR TRAINING AND POLICING SUPER HEROES IN THIS BRAVE NEW WORLD, INTENDED TO POSITION A LOCAL SUPER HERO TEAM IN EACH OF AMERICA'S FIFTY STATES.

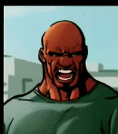
STAFF



YELLOWJACKET



JUSTICE



THE GAUNTLET



WAR MACHINE

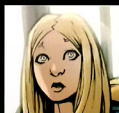


BARON VON
BLITZSCHLAG



HENRY PETER
GYRICH

TRAINEES



CLOUD 9



HARDBALL



KOMODO



TRAUMA



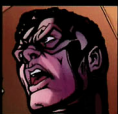
M.V.P.
(DECEASED?)



RAGE



SLAPSTICK



TRIATHLON



THOR GIRL



ULTRAGIRL

When a training exercise goes awry, M.V.P.--the most promising trainee in the Initiative--is killed. All those present in the room during the accident are told the incident never happened.

Today, a great stone ship has come to Earth, bringing with it a fighting-mad Hulk, who is determined to have revenge on the superhumans who have wronged him. As heroes fall, the young members of the Initiative decide to do what they can to help, which means abandoning the soft jobs they have been given and entering the heat of the battle against the Hulk and his Warbound.

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Camp Hammond, The Firing Range.

MEMO FROM HENRY PETER GYRICH,
SECRETARY OF SUPERHUMAN
ARMED FORCES: MR. PRESIDENT,
WE HAVE CONFIRMATION...

...THAT THE TACTIGON IS AN
OMEGA CLASS WEAPON.
UP THERE WITH KREE NEGA-
BANDS, THOR'S HAMMER...

Two Weeks Ago

...IS THAT WE
CAN'T GET THE
DAMNED THING
TO WORK.

ALMOST
HAD IT THAT
TIME, DOC.
LET'S GO
AGAIN!

NEIN.
SEVENTY-VUN
TRIES IS MORE
THAN ENOUGH. YOU
MAY STAND
DOWN.

ZZTT TKK TK

...AND QUITE POSSIBLY
THE COSMIC CUBE.
THE FACT IS, WE DON'T
KNOW ITS UPPER LIMITS.
ALL WE DO KNOW...

WHAT IS THAT? FIFTY
OF YOUR FINEST MEN,
HERR GYRICH? UND NONE
OF THEM POSSESSED
THAT SPARK. THAT
MAGIC TOUCH.

PERHAPS
VE SHOULD SEND
FOR THE GIRL, JAZ?
SO FAR ARMORY
HAS BEEN THE ONLY
VUN WHO COULD
MAKE IT--

NO! SHE WASHED OUT. SHE
IS NOT COMING BACK. IS THAT
CLEAR? THERE ARE ONLY
TWO OPTIONS HERE,
GENTLEMEN...

WE TURN HEROES
INTO SOLDIERS OR
SOLDIERS INTO
HEROES. THERE'S
NO ROOM FOR IN-
BETWEEN.

PERMISSION TO
SPEAK FREELY,
MR. SECRETARY?

GRANTED.

SOLDIERS
ARE HEROES. SAY
SOMETHING LIKE THAT
AGAIN, SIR, AND I
WILL RIP OFF YOUR @%\$##
AND @%\$## DOWN YOUR
@%\$##. IS THAT CLEAR?

OF COURSE.
SORRY, SERGEANT.
I WASN'T THINKING.
I'M STILL A LITTLE
UPSET...

...I REALLY
WANTED MY
BIG GUN.

FORTUNATELY,
IT'S NOT THE ONLY
OMEGA CLASS
WEAPON ON BASE.

Danielle Moonstar's Quarters.

TERRANCE "TRAUMA" WARD IS OUR MOST POWERFUL RECRUIT: A SHAPE-CHANGER WITH THE ABILITY TO BECOME ANYONE'S GREATEST FEAR.

LIKE THE TACTIGON, WE HAVE YET TO CHART THE LIMITS OF TRAUMA'S POWER.

PROGRESS REPORT, MS. MOONSTAR?

TERRY'S MADE SOME GREAT STRIDES. USING TECHNIQUES I LEARNED FROM BOTH VISION QUESTS...

...AND MY TIME AT THE XAVIER INSTITUTE, I THINK I'VE HELPED HIM GET A HANDLE ON HIS GIFT.

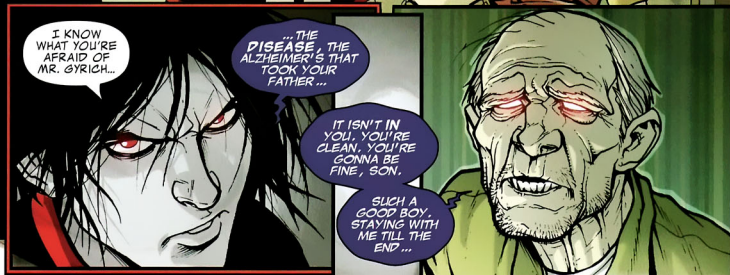
HOWEVER, UNLIKE THE TACTIGON, THERE'S NO WAY TO STRIP THAT POWER FROM ITS HUMAN BAGGAGE.



IN FACT, IT'S NO LONGER AN "ALL OR NOTHING" AFFAIR. BY FINE-TUNING PEOPLES' FEARS IN SMALL TO LARGER DOSES...

...I BELIEVE TERRY COULD BECOME ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST BEHAVIOR THERAPISTS...

...HELPING PEOPLE OVERCOME THEIR WORST FEARS ONE STEP AT A TIME. TERRY?



I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE AFRAID OF MR. GYRICH...

...THE DISEASE, THE ALZHEIMER'S THAT TOOK YOUR FATHER ...

IT ISN'T IN YOU. YOU'RE CLEAN, YOU'RE GONNA BE FINE, SON.

SUCH A GOOD BOY. STAYING WITH ME TILL THE END ...



WHAT IN THE HELL HAVE YOU DONE? THAT BOY'S AN OMEGA LEVEL THREAT!

AND YOU'VE TURNED HIM INTO A NEW AGE, TREE-HUGGING LIBERAL @##%!!

THAT'S IT! KID, YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!

WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HIM?

HE'S A SOLDIER. HE'S TRAINED. I'M PUTTING HIM IN THE FIELD!

BUT YOU CAN'T-- HE'S JUST A BOY!

AND HE'LL BE WELL LOOKED AFTER...

...BY THE BEST OF THE BEST!

GENTLEMEN. MA'AM. YOU ALL KNOW HOW WE GOT HERE...

Bengal.

WHAT DO YOU WANT NOW? HAVE I NOT DONE EVERYTHING YOUR "INITIATIVE" HAS ASKED OF ME?

I AM NOT EVEN OF THIS COUNTRY. AND YET I SERVE...

FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR AMERICAN WIFE AND CHILD. I UNDERSTAND. DUG NO TRAIN.

I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE NOT HAPPY HERE.

Constrictor.

ONE THAT ANSWERS DIRECTLY, AND ONLY, TO ME. AND WE COULD USE A MAN WITH YOUR TALENTS, FRANK.

SHIELD TRAINING SURVIVED ONE-ON-ONE ENCOUNTERS WITH HERCULES AND THE HULK. VERY IMPRESSIVE.

AND IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR SERVICES, I'M PREPARED TO OFFER...

...A FULL PRESIDENTIAL PARDON FOR ALL YOUR PAST CRIMINAL ACTS.

BUT THE WHOLE REASON I REGISTERED WAS TO SHED MY OLD SKIN. Y'KNOW. BE A HERO. OUT IN THE OPEN.

BUT THIS BLACK OPS TEAM YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT... I DUNNO.

WHAT DO YOU THINK, RICHMONDS? YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TALKED ME INTO THIS.

THIS'S A GREAT OPPORTUNITY, FRANK. PASS IT UP, AND PEOPLE WILL SAY YOU'RE...

Mutant Zero.

CRAZY? WELL...

I HAVE TO KNOW, SAMSON. YOU'RE THE SHRINK. IS SHE READY?

MY PROFESSIONAL OPINION? LEAVE HER TIME IN THE FIELD AND SHE'LL BE FINE.

THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO REINFORCE HER NEW IDENTITY. FROM NOW ON, SHE'S MUTANT ZERO.

CHECK. DON'T GO BY ANY OF THE OLD NAMES.

I THINK I CAN HANDLE THAT.

The Scarlet Spiders.

SECRETARY GYRICH?

YOU ASKED TO SEE US?

HOW CAN WE HELP, SIR?

BOYS. ARE YOU READY FOR A NEW ASSIGNMENT?

WE WERE BORN READY, SIR!

...AND NOW THAT WE ARE ALL TOGETHER, IT'S TIME...

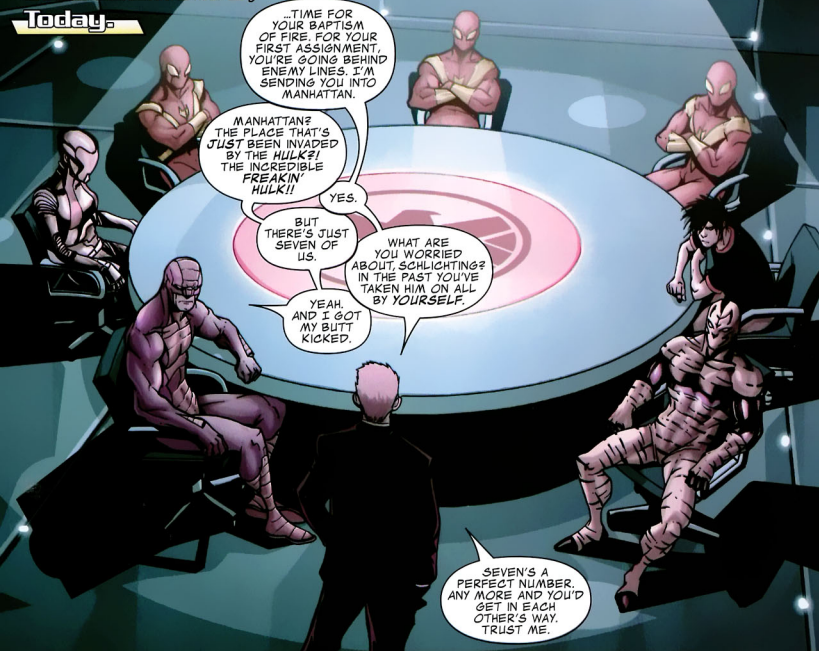
In the wake of a costly super hero CIVIL WAR, America was promised a new age of Marvels: a Fifty State Initiative that would place teams of super heroes within every state of the Union. Each team member would be registered with the government and held accountable for their actions. It would be an age of trust and transparency, aboveboard and in the public eye. The only problem is...there are still some things that have to be done in the dark...

**Trauma, Bengal, Constrictor, Mutant Zero,
and the Scarlet Spiders:**

THE SHADOW INITIATIVE

Subbasement 9,

Today.



SECRET WEAPONS

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EXCUSE ME, MISS? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

GREAT. NOW WE'RE DOWN TO SIX.

SORRY. I SHOULD HAVE EXPLAINED. MUTANT ZERO WAS JUST HERE TO MEET YOU ALL.

SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO ATTEND BRIEFINGS. EVER.



WE GOT A MUTIE ON THE TEAM? WOW, GYRICH, YOU ARE CONNECTED.

BARELY ANY OF 'EM LEFT ANYMORE. I HEARD THEY WERE DOWN TO 198--

WE PLACE THE ACTUAL NUMBER AT AROUND 300. BUT ONLY 198 HAVE BEEN CATALOGUED.

ALL RIGHT. SO WHICH ONE IS SHE?

199.



WHAT?!

LOOK, I JUST WANNA KNOW WHO SHE IS.



OFF THE RECORD.

SURE. OFF THE RECORD.

NO, MORON. I'M TELLING YOU. SHE'S THE 199TH MUTANT. SHE'S OFF THE RECORD.



OKAY THEN. ON THE RECORD. WHO'S MUTANT ZERO?



ON THE RECORD?

YES!



THERE IS NO MUTANT ZERO.



I'M IN HELL.

AND IT'S A BAD ABBOTT AND COSTELLO SKETCH.

WE'RE WASTING TIME.

THE BOYS RIGHT. IF THIS MISSION OF YOURS IS SO IMPORTANT, THEN LET'S GET TO IT.

INITIATIVE
CBI WORKS...

AGREED.

AS YOU
AND MOST OF
THE WORLD KNOW,
THE HULK, ARMED
WITH ALIEN
TECHNOLOGY...

...AND
ACCOMPANIED
BY A SMALL ARMY
OF POWERFUL
EXTRATERRESTRIALS,
HAS INVADED
MANHATTAN.

"HE HAS
ALREADY
DEFEATED
IRON MAN.

"AND THERE HAVE
BEEN REPORTS THAT
HE AND HIS 'WARBOUND'
HAVE OVERPOWERED BOTH
THE AVENGERS AND THE
FANTASTIC FOUR.

"WHAT IS
NOT PUBLIC
KNOWLEDGE..."

"...IS THAT SIX OF
OUR YOUNG CADETS
BROKE RANKS
WITH THE INITIATIVE
AND ENTERED THE
COMBAT ZONE.

"MAKING MATTERS
WORSE, THEY APPEAR
TO BE FOLLOWING
THE LEAD OF ONE
ELVIN HALLIDAY,
CODENAMED: RAGE.

"A MINOR AND, GET
THIS, A PROUD FORMER
MEMBER OF THE
NEW WARRIORS.



"IS THIS STARTING
TO SOUND
FAMILIAR,
GENTLEMEN?"



"A GROUP OF
SUPER-POWERED
KIDS RUSHING
INTO BATTLE..."




"...WITHOUT
SUPERVISION..."



"...WITHOUT
PROPER
TRAINING..."



"...AND
WITHOUT
A PLAN!"



"AND, AS ANY
IDIOT CAN
GUESS, GETTING
MASSACRED!"

"I DON'T HAVE
TO TELL YOU THAT,
IF THIS GETS OUT,
THE INITIATIVE
IS FINISHED."



"OUR ONLY
HOPE IS FOR
YOU TO GO IN
AND RECOVER
THEIR BODIES."

"DEAD OR ALIVE, I
DON'T GIVE A @##%.
AS LONG AS YOU
GET EVERY PIECE
OF 'EM BACK HERE
BEFORE ANYONE
FINDS OUT."

"AND ALL
THAT'S STANDING
IN OUR WAY..."

"...IS HIM: DR. ROBERT BRUCE BANNER, THE HULK. THE ORIGINAL OMEGA LEVEL THREAT. THE REASON THE AVENGERS FORMED IN THE FIRST PLACE.

"AND THIS TIME HE'S Madder than he's EVER BEEN. SO THAT MEANS HE'S STRONGER THAN HE'S EVER BEEN."

HOPEFULLY, YOU WON'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH THIS SON OF A @##% AT ALL.

WE'RE IN TIGHT CONTACT WITH THE NON-SUPERHUMAN ARMED FORCES AND ARE COORDINATING OUR INCURSION WITH THEIR ASSAULT ON THIS MONSTER.

THAT SHOULD KEEP HIM DISTRACTED LONG ENOUGH FOR YOU TO TAKE A STEALTH SHIP INTO THE CITY...

...HERE AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, ACCORDING TO S.H.I.E.L.D. INTEL, THE HULK'S FORCES HAVE COMMANDEERED THIS SITE...

...AND ARE HOLDING ALL OF THEIR SUPERHUMAN P.O.W.S IN THE LOWER LEVELS.

WE ALSO HAVE IT ON GOOD AUTHORITY THAT THE PRISONERS HAVE BEEN OUTFITTED WITH ALIEN "OBEDIENCE DISKS"...

...AND OTHER EXTRATERRESTRIAL SECURITY MEASURES MAY BE IN PLACE AS WELL. QUESTIONS?

YES.

IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT THE APPEARANCE OF ENDANGERING UNTRAINED MINORS...

...WHY ARE WE BRINGING THE BOY?

GOOD POINT.

RED TEAM, LISTEN TO ME. THOUGH HE DOESN'T LOOK OR ACT LIKE IT, TRAUMA IS THE ONLY OMEGA LEVEL THREAT WE HAVE ON THE BASE.

IF ANYTHING, THIS TEAM IS HIS DELIVERY SYSTEM. WATCH HIS BACK, GET HIM TO THE TARGET, AND HE'LL DO THE HEAVY LIFTING. HE'S YOUR "BIG GUN."

MR. SECRETARY?

THE AVENGERS. THE OTHER HEROES. WHILE WE'RE THERE, SHOULD WE--

ABSOLUTELY NOT! CONVENTIONAL FORCES CAN ONLY HOLD THE HULK FOR SO LONG. WE'RE LOOKING AT A SMALL WINDOW.

THIS IS A SURGICAL STRIKE. YOU'RE IN, YOU GET THE CADETS, YOU'RE OUT, AND THAT'S IT! UNDERSTOOD?

BUT IF WE WENT IN WITH MORE MEN? OTHER MEMBERS OF THE INITIATIVE--

THEY'RE BUSY! THIS BRIEFING IS OVER. DISMISSED!



WE'RE STRETCHED THIN, BUT WITH NEARLY EVERY OUT-OF-STATE TEAM JUMP-GATED IN...

AND MY OLD SENTINEL SQUAD PULLED FROM WESTCHESTER. WE DID IT!

WE'VE BUILT A SUPERHUMAN PERIMETER AROUND THE CITY.

I DON'T GET IT.

HOPEFULLY THAT SHOULD KEEP THIS CONTAINED TO MANHATTAN.

THE LAST THING WE NEED IS FOR THIS TO SPILL OUT AND BECOME SOME KIND OF "HULK WORLD WAR."



WHY DON'T WE JUST ALL GO IN THERE AT ONCE AND OVERPOWER HIM?!

WE CAN'T, VANCE. I'VE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH TIM DUGAN AT S.H.I.E.L.D....

...AND IRON MAN'S GOT A CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR MANHATTAN... I--LOOK, I CAN'T TALK ABOUT IT. JUST DROP IT.

BESIDES, SOMEONE HAS TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC. ALL THESE PEOPLE, DISPLACED IN THESE TENT CITIES--



*SEE IRON MAN #20.



SORRY TO INTERRUPT, JIM, BUT I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK...

...SINCE WE STARTED THE INITIATIVE, SUPER-CRIME AND STREET CRIME HAVE GONE DOWN...

...BUT MINOR CRIMES LIKE VANDALISM AND GRAFFITI HAVE GONE UP LIKE THIS. I'VE BEEN SEEING THIS TAG ALL OVER TOWN.

"NW"? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

GUYS, IT STANDS FOR "NEW WARRIORS." AS MUCH AS SOME PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO DRAG THAT NAME THROUGH THE MUD...

...THE KIDS ARE TAKING IT BACK. THEY'RE CHANGING THE MEANING. IT'S ABOUT YOUTH AND REBELLION...



"...IT'S ABOUT BEING
INDEPENDENT. DARING.
TAKING RISKS. AND
MAKING HARD CHOICES.

"ALL THE AMAZING
QUALITIES THAT YOU
CAN'T BEAT OR 'TRAIN'
OUT OF SOMEONE."

STUPID
NEW WARRIOR
WANNABES. LOOK AT
ME, BECAUSE
OF THEM...

...I'M
MARCHING OFF
TO GET MY HEAD
CAVED IN BY OL'
JADE JAWS.

YOU ARE
A CONFUSING MAN,
CONSTRUCTOR.

IS IT NOT
YOUR WISH TO
BE A "SUPER
HERO" NOW?

Manhattan

YEAH. BUT WHAT GOOD IS
IT IF NO ONE SEES ME DOIN' IT?
THE WHOLE CITY'S A FREAKIN'
GHOST TOWN.

CHECK
OUT ALL THESE
ABANDONED STREETS,
BUILDINGS... JEWELRY
STORES...

FRANK
SCHLICHTING,
BEFORE YOU GO
ANY FURTHER, I
MUST CAUTION YOU...

...I AM FAIRLY CERTAIN
THAT OUR TEAMMATES,
THE SCARLET SPIDERS,
ARE NEARBY...

...IN STEALTH MODE,
AND THAT THEY'RE
RECORDING OUR
EVERY ACTION FOR
MR. GYRICH.

@#%#! WHAT
IS THIS? BIG
BROTHER?

MAN.
I HATE THAT
SHOW.

KIDS.

AT EASE,
CONSTRUCTOR.
FROM HERE, THEY
WILL FAN OUT AND
BECOME OUR EYES...

...KEEPING
WATCH FOR
DR. BANNER.

WHAT? SO
IT'S JUST
THE THREE
OF US?

AT THE
MOMENT.

GREAT.
AFTER
YOU.





ARE YOU INSANE?! WHAT HAPPENED TO "QUIET AS POSSIBLE"?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE STEALTHY NINJA-GUYS!

WHAT? THEY'RE ROBOTS. NINJA CRAP DON'T WORK ON ROBOTS.

TRAUMA, STOP. DON'T MOVE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "DON'T MOVE"? WE GOTTA SPEED IT UP! THIS PLACE IS GONNA BE CRAWLING WITH--

TEUU

@#&%

WEEOOOWEEOOOWEEOO

MORE OF THEM, AND THIS TIME THERE IS NO ELEMENT OF SURPRISE.

WHOA! THEY'RE EVERYWHERE! OKAY, KID, YOUR TURN. YOU'RE OUR "BIG GUN".

SO DO YOUR THING ALREADY AND TAKE 'EM OUT!

YEAH. THERE'S ONE PROBLEM WITH THAT...

MY THING? IT DON'T WORK ON ROBOTS, EITHER.

AW, GREAT. WE'RE SCREWED.



WE ARE SO--
WAIT. ARE
THEY...?

THEY'RE
STOPPING.

I DON'T
GET IT.
WHY WOULD
THEY...?



DEATH'S HEAD
UNITS HOLD.
RECALIBRATE
SENSORS.
THESE THREE
TARGETS ARE
NOT THE PRIMARY
THREAT.

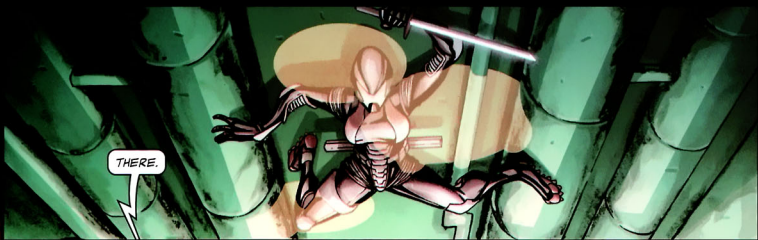


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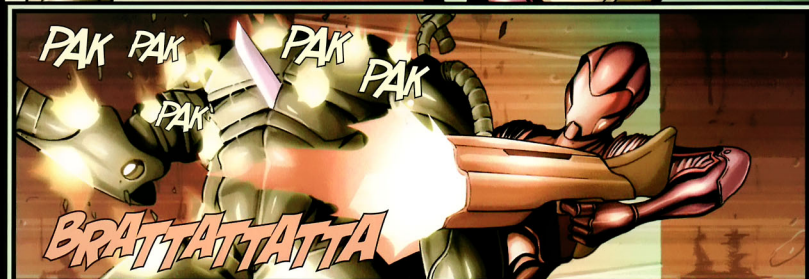
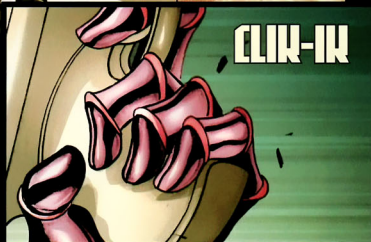
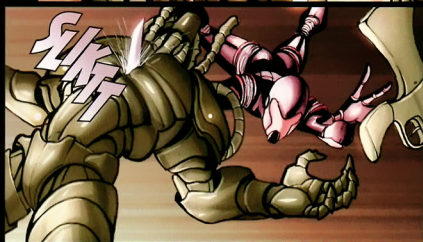


THERE.



ACQUIRE
LOCK. ALL WEAPONS,
OPEN FIRE.

**BRATTATTATTA
BRATTATTATTA**



WHERE DID SHE GO?
I MEAN, WE COULD
REALLY USE HER.

ACCORDING TO GYRICH, SHE CAN ONLY BE
"ACTIVATED" ONCE PER MISSION. HOPEFULLY,
WHEN WE NEED HER MOST.

IT IS
ONE OF HER...
LIMITATIONS.

HMM.

LOOKS LIKE
OUR LITTLE
TEAM'S GOT ITS
OWN "DEUS
X-MAN."

HEH, THAT'S
ACTUALLY
PRETTY
GOOD.

YEAH,
KID. WE GET
OUTTA THIS ALIVE,
I'M GONNA
PATENT IT.

BENGAL?!

THIS WAY,
MY FRIENDS.
I HAVE THEIR
SCENT.

HERE
BEHIND
THIS
DOOR.

KARRAKK

ALLOW
ME.

THE RECRUITS.
AND THEY'RE
STILL ALIVE.

JACKPOT.
SO, YOU'RE THE
DUMB&– KIDS
WHO THOUGHT THEY
COULD TAKE ON
THE HULK, HUH?

ACTUALLY,
THEY WERE.

I JUST
WENT ALONG
'CAUSE EVERYBODY ELSE
WAS DOING IT AND I
WANTED TO BE POPULAR.

TRAUMA?

FORGET
HIM!
LOOK...

...IT'S SOME
A' THE HULK'S
WARBOUND
BUDDIES!

WHY'S
HE HERE?!
GET HIM
OUTTA
HERE!

PINK-SKINS!
YOU WERE WARNED
NOT TO MEDDLE IN
OUR AFFAIRS!

BENGAL.
CONSTRUCTOR.
SEE TO THE
KIDS...



SHADOW INITIATIVE,
COME IN. THIS
IS RED TEAM TWO.
PLEASE COPY.

BUG OUT. I REPEAT.
BUG OUT. THE HULK HAS
FINISHED HIS ENGAGEMENT
WITH THE ARMY. OVER.

BENGAL
HERE. WE
READ YOU.

THE
ENTIRE U.S.
ARMY?

YES, SIR,
AND HE IS NOW
EN ROUTE TO
THE GARDEN.

HE'S HEADING
YOUR WAY.

MOVE IT
OR LOSE IT,
PEOPLE!

YOU
HEARD THE
MAN! TIME
TO GET THE @#%\$%
OUTTA
DODGE!

BUT THE
OTHER HEROES!
IRON MAN! THE
AVENGERS!
THEY'RE STILL
IN THERE!

WE HAVE
OUR ORDERS! ALL
OF YOU TO THE
STEALTH SHIP!

BUT WHAT
ABOUT THE
HULK?!

DON'T
WORRY. I'LL
HOLD MY LINE.
I'M SUPPOSED
TO BE THE "BIG
GUN." RIGHT?

GUESS
HERE'S
WHERE
I PROVE
IT...

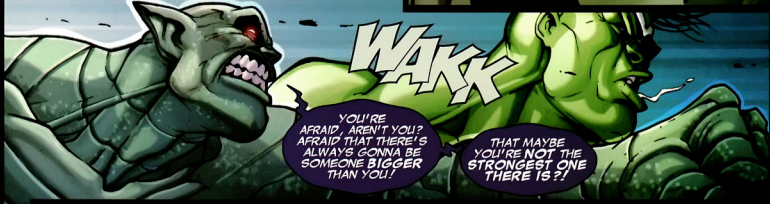
YOU'RE TRIPPING.
I'VE SEEN YOU, MAN.
YOU'RE A WRECK.

SINCE WHEN CAN
YOU CONTROL YOUR
POWERS?

I GOT
BETTER. IN
FACT...

...IT'S TAKING ALL
MY CONTROL TO
NOT TURN INTO
YOUR GREATEST
FEAR.

GET.
ON. THE.
SHIP.





IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME TILL THEY FIND A WAY TO--URK!!

HA!! I JOBBED YOU YESTERDAY, LOSER! THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO?

C'MON! GIMME YOUR BEST SHOT!



TOUGH GUY? HUH?



TOUGH ENOUGH TO TAKE ON YOUR OLD MAN? YOU SNIVELING LITTLE BRAT!



NO, YOU'RE WORSE THAN THAT! YOU'RE NOT EVEN BRUCE! YOU'RE JUST A TINY PART A' HIM.



HE'S RIGHT. YOU'RE AN ASPECT OF ME. MY ANGER.

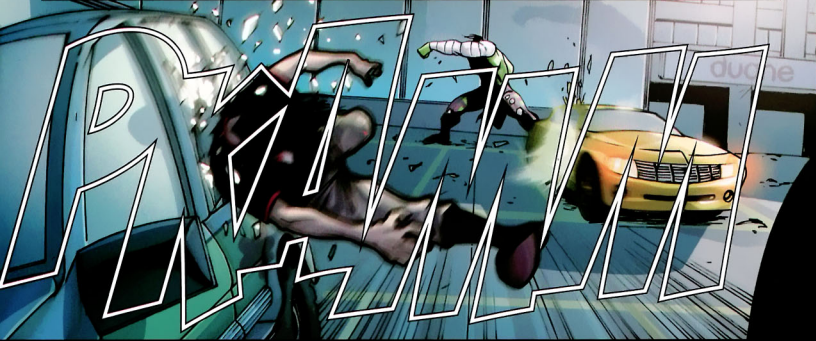
NEXT TO ME, YOU'RE NOTHING. NOTHING BUT RAGE.



GOOD! I CAN LIVE WITH THAT!



WAIT! WHAT'S HAPPENING? I CAN'T CHANGE! I CAN'T--





AHHH

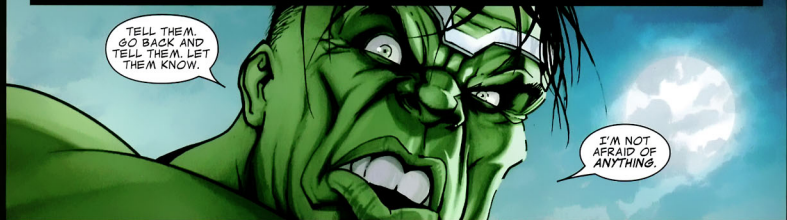
GNNN...
OHNN...

YOU'LL
LIVE.

I HELD
BACK BECAUSE
I WANT YOU TO
LIVE. YOU'RE GOING
TO GIVE THEM
A MESSAGE
FROM ME.



MY POWERS.
THEY DIDN'T... WHY
DIDN'T THEY WORK
ON YOU?



TELL THEM.
GO BACK AND
TELL THEM. LET
THEM KNOW.

I'M NOT
AFRAID OF
ANYTHING.



RED TEAM ONE.
HULK IS LEAVING
THE SECTOR.

RED TEAM
THREE, BRING THE
SHIP BACK. WE
HAVE THE BOY.



STEALTH
MODE: OFF.

WE'RE
HEADING HOME.

THWIP



HAVE A MEDICAL
TEAM STANDING
BY, OVER.



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. HE'S ONE OF US, AND HE TOOK ON THE HULK. THAT'S-- THAT'S...

Camp Hammond,
The Infirmary.

THAT, MY FRIEND, IS THE STUFF OF LEGENDS.

I CAN'T BE HERE, HARDBALL! EVERY TIME I GET NEAR THIS GUY... BAD THINGS HAPPEN...

HE FREAKS ME OUT. I JUST WANNA GO. OKAY?



IT'S COOL, ABBY. WE PAID OUR RESPECTS. WE CAN TAKE OFF.

CLOUD 9? COME HERE.

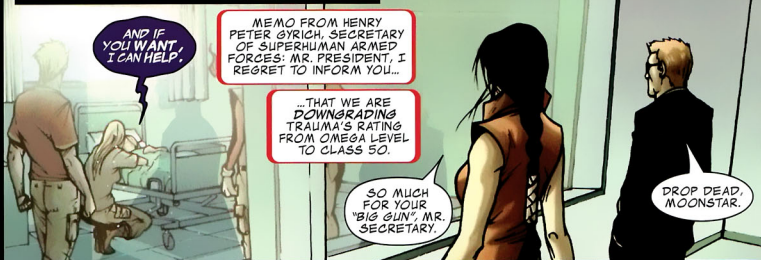
IT'S OKAY. THERE'S NO NEED TO BE AFRAID. I KNOW...



I KNOW WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU. YOU'RE SCARED ...



...SCARED OF WHAT YOU'RE BECOMING.



AND IF YOU WANT, I CAN HELP.

MEMO FROM HENRY PETER GYRICH, SECRETARY OF SUPERHUMAN ARMED FORCES: MR. PRESIDENT, I REGRET TO INFORM YOU...

...THAT WE ARE DOWNGRADING TRAUMA'S RATING FROM OMEGA LEVEL TO CLASS 50.

SO MUCH FOR YOUR "BIG GUN", MR. SECRETARY.

DROP DEAD, MOONSTAR.



OH, I JUST KNEW HE COULD BE SO MUCH MORE.

I WISH I COULD PUT A POSITIVE SPIN ON THIS, SIR. BUT FOR THE LIFE OF ME, I HAVE NO IDEA HOW.

Next: Throwing
Down The Gauntlet