

**BRAZILIAN BILLIONAIRE AND INTERNATIONAL TROUBLEMAKER
ROBERTO DA COSTA STRUCK A DEAL WITH THE U.S. TO
TRANSFORM A.I.M. FROM A ROGUE ORGANIZATION INTO
AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE MECHANICS. THEY ARE NOW...**

U.S. AVENGERS

**THE U.S. AVENGERS AND THEIR SUPPORT STAFF OF SCIENTISTS, SPIES AND TACTICIANS NOW
SERVE AS THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT'S FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST ALL THINGS BIG,
CRAZY AND WEIRD--BY GOING BIGGER, CRAZIER AND WEIRDER.
BUT BACK WHEN THE TEAM WAS KNOWN AS THE NEW AVENGERS, GENERAL ROBERT MAVERICK
TURNED A PATRIOTIC SOLDIER NAMED CORPORAL TODD ZILLER INTO THE MONSTROUS
AMERICAN KAIJU TO TAKE THEM DOWN. MORE RECENTLY, THE KAIJU WENT ON A RAMPAGE
THROUGH EUROPE, CAUSING AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT THAT WAS JUST BARELY CONTAINED
BY A.I.M. BUT THE DEBACLE EARNED ROBERTO A SURPRISE VISIT FROM NEWLY ANNOINTEED
DIRECTOR OF S.H.I.E.L.D. (AND UNDERCOVER HYDRA AGENT) STEVE ROGERS.***

***WARNING: READ THIS ISSUE BEFORE STEVE ROGERS: CAPTAIN AMERICA #16, ON SALE NOW!**



★ **CAPTAIN AMERICA.**
STEVE ROGERS.

HAIL
HYDRA.

MEET THE NEW BOSS

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AVENGERS CREATED BY STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY

EXCUSE ME...?

JUST CHECKING.

TONY TOLD ME THAT ONE. SORRY, I SHOULDN'T LEAD WITH A JOKE, BUT...

...WELL, I WANTED YOU TO FEEL AT EASE.

CITIZEN V.
ROBERTO DA COSTA.

OBVIOUSLY, YOU'VE MADE SOME QUESTIONABLE DECISIONS SINCE...WELL, SINCE I MADE YOU AN AVENGER...

...BUT YOU'RE NOT IN TROUBLE.
REALLY.

WELL, AH, THAT'S... THAT'S GOOD TO...

I MEAN, YES, I'M DIRECTOR OF S.H.I.E.L.D. NOW, YOU'RE DIRECTOR OF A.I.M.--AND SINCE WE ABSORBED A.I.M., I GUESS I'M YOUR BOSS--

--BUT AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, NOTHING'S CHANGED. WE'RE JUST STEVE AND ROBERTO.

THE KID FROM NEW YORK.
AND THE KID FROM BRAZIL.

...



WELL... I...

OH, THAT REMINDS ME. COULD I GET A COFFEE WHILE I'M HERE?

IT'S THE LITTLE BLUE GUYS WHO DO COFFEE, ISN'T IT?

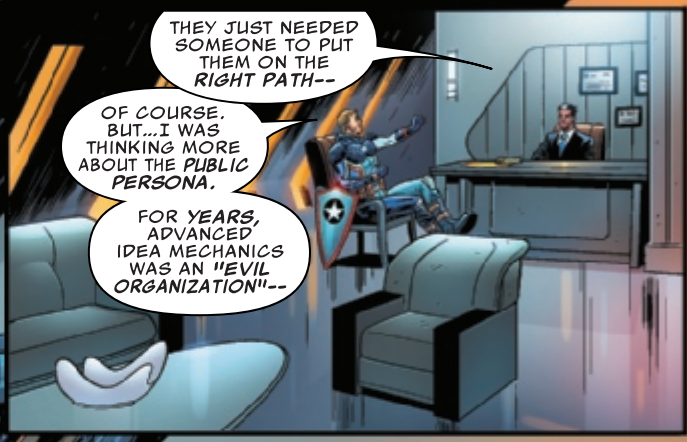
BLUE TEAM HANDLES ADMINISTRATION-- THEY KEEP EVERYTHING WORKING. THEY DON'T JUST GET THE--



I'M SURE. YOU'VE DONE GOOD WORK HERE, ROBERTO. GOOD WORK.

IF YOU'D TOLD ME A FEW YEARS AGO THAT A.I.M. COULD BE REHABILITATED LIKE THIS...

THEY'RE DECENT PEOPLE, STEVE--THE ONES I KEPT ON, ANYWAY.



THEY JUST NEEDED SOMEONE TO PUT THEM ON THE RIGHT PATH--

OF COURSE, BUT... I WAS THINKING MORE ABOUT THE PUBLIC PERSONA.

FOR YEARS, ADVANCED IDEA MECHANICS WAS AN "EVIL ORGANIZATION"--



--BUT NOBODY LOOKED AT THE UPSIDE. THE GOOD THEY COULD DO.

AND NOW? THE PUBLIC, THE MAINSTREAM MEDIA-- THEY'VE ACCEPTED THEM. FORGIVEN THEM. THANKS TO YOU.



AND ALL IT TOOK WAS THE FLAG.



REALLY SHOWS WHAT CAN BE DONE.

DON'T YOU THINK?

...CAN WE GET TWO COFFEES IN HERE?

