

SOKOVIA.

A FORMER SOVIET BLOC NATION PLAGUED BY DECADES OF BRUTAL CONFLICT AND CORRUPTION.



TODAY, UNITED NATIONS HUMANITARIAN RELIEF MISSIONS STRUGGLE TO ALLEVIATE THE HUNGER AND SICKNESS THAT HAS BEFALLEN A COUNTRY RAVAGED BY WAR AND BROKEN BY INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS.



THE CITIES ARE HOLLOWED-OUT HUSKS AFTER YEARS OF BOMBINGS, WITH MANY AREAS LACKING CLEAN DRINKING WATER OR BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE--



--AND THE CRIES OF THOSE SUFFERING GO UNHEARD BY THE COUNTRY'S BRUTAL DICTATOR, GENERAL KAMIL NOVOTY, THE BUTCHER, AS HE IS CALLED BY MANY OF HIS CITIZENS.

NOVOTY'S TOTALITARIAN CONTROL AND APPALLING HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD IS THE STUFF OF INFAMOUS LEGEND, BUT RECENTLY HE HAS FACED A NEW CHALLENGE TO HIS AUTHORITY--

--HYDRA.



LONG SYNONYMOUS WITH FASCISM AND TERRORISM, THE GROUP IS PLAYING A DIFFERENT ROLE HERE--



--AS LIBERATORS.

AS THEIR FORCES MARCH ACROSS THE NORTHERN REGIONS, THEY ARE BEING GREETED AS CONQUERING HEROES BY SOKOVIANS DESPERATE TO SEE NOVOTY OVERTHROWN, AND WILLING TO OVERLOOK ANY IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES IN THE MEANTIME.

ANSOR KRYZEMEN, WHO SAID HE LOST A SISTER TO ONE OF THE REGIME'S CHEMICAL ATTACKS, SAID HE WAS SUPPORTING THE INVASION.

FOR MANY YEARS, THE WEST DID NOTHING. THEY WOULD CLAIM TO CARE FOR US, BUT IT WAS NOTHING BUT EMPTY WORDS.



NOW WE ARE FIGHTING BACK. NOW WE ARE FREE. I MAY NOT AGREE WITH THESE MEN ABOUT EVERYTHING, BUT TODAY THEY HAVE ANSWERED OUR PRAYERS. HAIL HYDRA!

BUT THAT SENTIMENT IS NOT SHARED BY S.H.I.E.L.D. LEADERSHIP--

WHILE WE'VE LONG OPPOSED THE SOKOVIAN GOVERNMENT AND ITS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, HYDRA CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO ESTABLISH TERRITORY IN EUROPE.

IT WOULD HAVE A DESTABILIZING EFFECT ON THE ENTIRE REGION AND THREATEN GLOBAL SECURITY INTERESTS IN TOO MANY WAYS TO COUNT.

WE CANNOT ALLOW FASCISM TO RETURN TO POWER IN THE WESTERN WORLD.




EVEN STILL, WORLD LEADERS HAVE BEEN SLOW TO RESPOND-- MANY EXPRESSING FRUSTRATION OVER BEING CAUGHT BETWEEN A ROCK AND HARD PLACE, WITH NO NATURAL ALLY IN THE CONFLICT. THE GRIDLOCK CONTINUES--

--EVEN AS MILITARY EXPERTS CLAIM HYDRA'S BLOOD MARCH THROUGH THE COUNTRY COULD REACH THE CAPITAL CITY WITHIN DAYS.





TONIGHT WE
WILL BECOME
SOMETHING
GREATER--SOMETHING
STRONGER--
THAN EVER
BEFORE!



"TONIGHT WE WILL
SHOW THE WORLD
WHAT WE HAVE BUILT--
THEY WILL WATCH,
HELPLESS, AS WE
INHERIT THE EARTH.



"TONIGHT WE WILL
BREAK A NATION
AND MAKE IT
OURS!"



AND WHEN IT IS OVER,
THEY WILL KNEEL BEFORE
US! THEY WILL KNOW OUR
TRUE POWER!

AS WE GO
TO FIGHT, LET
THE CALL RING
OUT--



HAIL HYDRA!



IT'S GOOD TO HAVE FRIENDS.

PEOPLE YOU CAN COLINT ON--



EVEN WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN.



ESPECIALLY THEN.



CAPTAIN ROGERS! SURRENDER NOW-- WE HAVE YOU SURROUNDED.

NO--



--HE HAS YOU DISTRACTED.

NATASHA ROMANOV--THE BLACK WIDOW-- IS A SORT OF FRIEND.

NOT THE KIND YOU TRUST--