



**SECRET**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN**  
**THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20318-0001

MEMORANDUM FOR: Commander in Chief, POTUS  
Chief of Staff, US Army  
Chief of Naval Operations  
Chief of Staff, US Air Force  
Commandant of Marine Corps  
Commander in Chief, US Atlantic Command  
Commander in Chief, US Space Command  
Commander in Chief, US Special Operations Command  
Commander in Chief, US Strategic Command  
Commander, US Element, NORAD

MCM 616-96  
18 August 1996

Subject: Ongoing Battle in Central Manhattan; New York, NY

On 17 August, 1996, SHIELD began monitoring a massive shift in the Earth's electromagnetic field in the vicinity of Westchester County in New York State. The Joint Chiefs were informed of the situation at that time. According to SHIELD operatives, an encrypted broadcast from an unidentified location in ██████████, made by ██████████ the mutant currently known as ██████████ was intercepted. The agents were unable to determine the intended destination or recipients of the video message. A SHIELD transcript of the message is as follows:

"If you can hear me -- you need to know what happened here. ██████████ have been hit hard... worse, we were taken totally unaware. ██████████ -- ██████████ -- have been decimated. If you respond to this distress call, be advised that mansion security has been deactivated from within! As hard as it is for me to say this... you need to know... we've been betrayed... by one of our own. Incredible as it sounds ... ██████████ ... has gone insane. The most powerful psi on the planet is no longer in control of his mutant ability. As near as I can tell, ██████████ was the first to die. I'm the only one left standing who can make this message... and he's seen to it that my power's negated. It's our own fault. Really... after what I saw in his mind... we should never have trusted that there were no after-effects from ██████████ shutting down ██████████'s mind. We knew so little about the psionic damage that would result from ... wait! I sense... he's here."

SHIELD agents are currently working on determining the destination of the video signal. FEMA units are currently en route to New York. Special Forces have been deployed and all divisions of the Armed Forces and National Guard are on standby.

All offices are advised of the possible sensitivity of this situation. Units on location have reported possible deaths of several 'heroes' in the ongoing battle in New York. If the public finds a mutant connection to this event, public opinion may become such that it will make our abilities to respond effectively increasingly difficult.

Please leave all lines of communication to your offices open for additional briefings and correspondence.

**SECRET**