
GUIDEBOOK TO THE MARVEL CINEMATIC UNIVERSE



Collecting information from *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. Season 1 (2013-2014)*.

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S.H.I.E.L.D. CREATED BY STAN LEE AND JACK KIRBY



BUS (a.k.a. S.H.I.E.L.D.-616)

FIRST APPEARANCE:
Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D., Season 1, "Pilot" (2013)

A CXD-23 A-201 airborne mobile command station formerly in heavy rotation in the 1990s prior to the advent of the Helicarrier, S.H.I.E.L.D.-616 has been assigned to Agent Phil Coulson for use by his handpicked unit. These aircraft have the ability to take off vertically using turbojet engine technology.

An expansive and versatile plane piloted by Agent Melinda May, the Bus has been heavily modified to Coulson's specifications and contains a crow's nest office, spacious living quarters, a command center, a detention area, and a laboratory connected to a loading dock at the plane's rear. The Bus' lower decks are equipped with interchangeable modules to allow for mission-specific versatility, including quarantine pods and cargo containers. The Bus is capable of docking mid-flight with other aircraft, including S.H.I.E.L.D.'s highly specialized Quinjets.

FACT SHEET

- ▶ S.H.I.E.L.D.-616 IS REFERRED TO AS "THE BUS" BECAUSE SHORTHAND IS PREFERRED IN FIELD OPERATIONS.
- ▶ WHILE COULSON WAS IN CENTIPEDE CAPTIVITY, AGENT VICTORIA HAND COMMANDED THE BUS.

Coulson's Office: Atop the Bus stands Coulson's crow's nest office, a multi-purpose space that doubles as personal sleeping quarters. The sequestered work area enables Coulson to take confidential communications and meet privately with his team. Coulson's office is a tribute to S.H.I.E.L.D.'s history; the collection of technology and artifacts surrounding his desk dates back to the first World War.

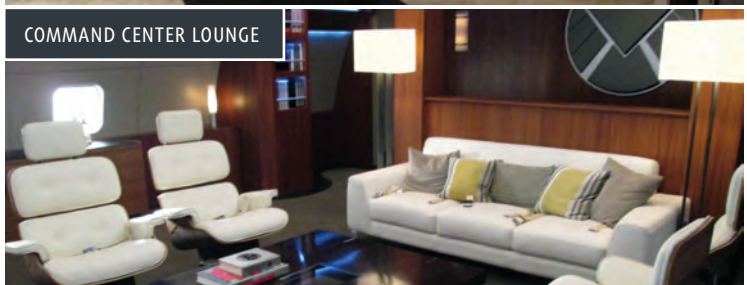
The Command Center: A tactical and operations suite flanked by sleeping and eating quarters, as well as a recreation area/lounge,

the command center runs the length of the Bus. The command center contains tactical displays and an interactive touchscreen table used for mission briefings and strategy. At the rear of the level is the Cage, an EMP-shielded room for interrogations and imprisonment.

Fitz-Simmons' Lab/Cargo Bay: A state-of-the-art research facility within the Bus's cargo bay, Leo Fitz and Jemma Simmons' lab contains equipment needed for on-the-fly biological and mechanical engineering and research. At the lab's center is a supercomputer-powered holotable allowing the interactive inspection, documentation, and analysis of a variety of objects. Upon contamination by a highly volatile or contagious foreign body, the lab can be quarantined from the rest of the aircraft. Thanks to a retrofit from Fitz, the cargo bay can project and display an echo chamber to holographically recreate investigation scenes for life-scale inspection. The cargo bay can house two terrestrial vehicles—including one of Coulson's old S.H.I.E.L.D. collectables, a 1962 Corvette he affectionately named "Lola" (Levitating Over Land Automobile). It has also been used to depart the plane mid-flight via high-risk parachute free falls. ☼



COMMAND CENTER TACTICAL OPERATIONS



COMMAND CENTER LOUNGE



PHIL COULSON UPDATE

FIRST APPEARANCE: *Iron Man* (2008)

Agent Phil Coulson had spearheaded S.H.I.E.L.D.'s T.A.H.I.T.I. project, using alien DNA to resurrect slain operatives, but it was shelved when the test subjects went insane. When Loki murdered Coulson, Director Nick Fury decided saving him was worth the risk, but had false memories implanted hoping to prevent mental deterioration; Coulson believed he had been swiftly revived and had recuperated in Tahiti. Tasking Coulson's old friend Melinda May to monitor him, Fury instructed Coulson to select agents to investigate strange phenomena, then manipulated parameters so Coulson recruited the operatives May needed—Grant Ward, Leo Fitz, Jemma Simmons, and May herself—to operate aboard the Bus, an airborne command station. During the team's first mission, to track the Rising Tide hacktivist group and locate unregistered superhuman Mike Peterson, Coulson encountered Skye. The young hacker revealed the existence of the shadow organization Centipede, which was attempting to create Super-Soldiers using Advanced Idea Mechanics' unstable Extremis serum. Coulson developed an admiration for Skye, recruiting her as a consultant in spite of Ward and May's objections.



UNDERCOVER WITH AGENT MAY

Unsure of Skye's loyalty, Coulson later investigated her mysterious past. With May, he tracked down former S.H.I.E.L.D. Agent Richard Lumley, who informed them that Skye had been found years before as an infant in a Chinese village after its destruction.

Coulson's team quickly learned to work together despite clashing personalities—locating an 0-8-4, the S.H.I.E.L.D. designation for an object of unknown origin, in Peru; retrieving the ancient Asgardian Berserker Staff, capable of granting its user superhuman strength; investigating an illness caused by the remnants of Chitauri warriors from the Battle of New York; and recovering the sonic weapon known as the Overkill Device from a Russian separatist group in South Ossetia.

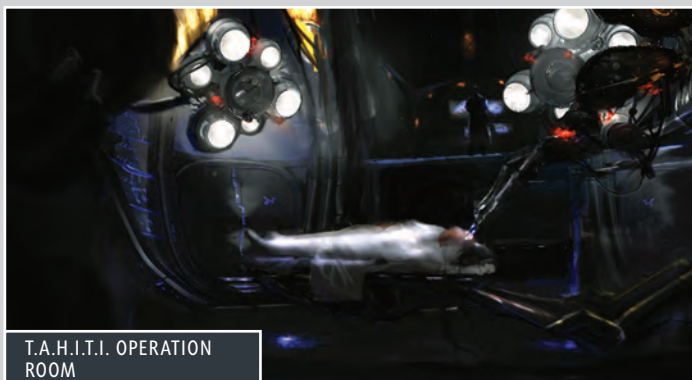
Continuing to track Centipede and its elusive leader, the Clairvoyant, Coulson was tasked with retrieving prison escapee Edison Po, who had ties to both Centipede and its manipulative recruiter, Raina. Peterson assisted in Po's recovery—but his son, Ace, was kidnapped and Peterson was blackmailed into handing Coulson over in exchange. After retrieving Ace, Peterson apparently died trying to rescue Coulson. To uncover the secret of Coulson's resurrection, Raina placed him into a device that used theta waves to recover the memories erased from his brain. However, high-ranking S.H.I.E.L.D. Agent

Victoria Hand launched a rescue operation, and S.H.I.E.L.D. liberated Coulson and arrested Raina.

When the team investigated corrupt multinational businessman Ian Quinn's ties to the Cybertek corporation, Skye learned Peterson was alive—his damaged body augmented with mechanical combat implants by Cybertek's clandestine Deathlok program—but she was shot by Quinn before she could tell the team. Coulson placed her into a cryo-chamber to preserve her life. He entrusted Fitz and Simmons with his personal Death and Recovery Report in an effort to locate T.A.H.I.T.I. and heal Skye. Coulson encountered his old friend,

S.H.I.E.L.D. Agent John Garrett, during this mission. When Coulson disobeyed a direct order, refusing to surrender the now-captive Quinn for incarceration at S.H.I.E.L.D. Fringe detention facility, Garrett ordered his protégé, Agent Antoine Triplett, to intervene. Examining Coulson's file, Fitz and Simmons deduced that T.A.H.I.T.I. was based at the Guest House. Breaching the facility, Coulson's team discovered the GH-325 serum despite the Guest House's guards initiating the base's self-destruct failsafe. Coulson also discovered the serum's alien origins, but too late to prevent his team administering it to Skye. Despite his fear there might be negative side

T.A.H.I.T.I.



T.A.H.I.T.I. OPERATION ROOM

A top-secret S.H.I.E.L.D. initiative, Project T.A.H.I.T.I. was created to revive an Avenger in the event of being killed in battle. Upon Agent Phil Coulson's death, Director Nick Fury had him taken to the Guest House, a former World War II bunker, where he was injected with a regenerative serum extracted from a mysterious blue alien's DNA. Known as GH-325, the serum healed Coulson's wounds, but the process robbed him of his will to live. To relieve Coulson's mental distress, an operation on his brain replaced his memories of the experience with those of a luxurious and restful vacation on the island paradise of Tahiti.



LOLA

effects, Skye made a full recovery and told the team of Peterson's cyborg status.

Using S.H.I.E.L.D.'s Index, a database of gifted individuals, to help identify the Clairvoyant, Coulson gathered S.H.I.E.L.D.'s top brass and newly promoted Agent Skye for a calculated strike to apprehend Centipede's leader. Garrett framed quadriplegic Thomas Nash as the Clairvoyant, but Ward executed Nash to prevent his interrogation and hide Garrett's identity, claiming he was protecting Skye. However, Coulson already suspected Nash was a patsy.

When World War II terrorist organization Hydra apparently assassinated Fury and were publicly revealed to have heavily infiltrated S.H.I.E.L.D., Coulson and Hand suspected each other as traitors. Hand nearly captured Coulson's team at S.H.I.E.L.D.'s Hub command center. Garrett

inadvertently revealed himself as the Clairvoyant, who ran Centipede as a cell of Hydra and used S.H.I.E.L.D. intelligence in place of psychic abilities. Stunned by Fitz, he was sent to the Fridge. In transit, Ward killed Hand, revealing his loyalty to Garrett and Hydra. Garrett and Ward raided the Fridge, releasing prisoners and stealing technology.

Following U.S. Government orders to apprehend all S.H.I.E.L.D. and Hydra agents, Air Force Col. Glenn Talbot requested a meeting with Coulson at the Hub. Sensing a deception, Coulson and his team retreated to Fury's secret Providence base. After Coulson rescued former girlfriend Audrey Nathan from Fridge escapee and superhuman stalker Marcus Daniels—without revealing his presence—he re-

turned to Providence to find a hastily scrawled message from Skye, which revealed she deduced Ward was Hydra. Infiltrating the Bus and using his beloved flying Corvette, Lola, Coulson personally rescued Skye from Ward, who had taken her prisoner to decrypt the team's valuable 0-8-4 data. Coulson's team reunited and fled to a motel to plan its next move with former S.H.I.E.L.D. Deputy Director Maria Hill.

Looking for a way to track Garrett, May and Coulson infiltrated Cybertek, there learning Garrett was an early Deathlok test subject. Later, Fury returned, his death having been faked, and helped defeat Garrett and take Ward into custody. Fury explained the extraordinary use of the T.A.H.I.T.I. program on Coulson—to him, Coulson was the same as an Avenger—and appointed Coulson the new director of S.H.I.E.L.D. so Fury could remain underground. After Coulson was granted Fury's "Toolbox" to help him rebuild the organization, Coulson regrouped with his team at the secret Playground base. Unknown to the others, he began compulsively carving alien symbols into a wall with a knife. ☒

FACT SHEET

- ▶ UPON MENTION OF "TAHITI" IN ANY DISCUSSION, COULSON WAS PRONE TO UTTER THE AUTO-RESPONSE, "IT'S A MAGICAL PLACE."
- ▶ AT A TIME WHEN COULSON QUESTIONED HIS LOYALTY TO SELF AND DUTY, HE AGAIN ENCOUNTERED THE ASGARDIAN WARRIOR LADY SIF, WHOSE DEDICATION TO DUTY REFRESHED HIS OWN; COULSON REGAINED HIS RESOLVE TO TAKE DOWN THE CLAIRVOYANT.
- ▶ COULSON WAS INSISTENT THAT THE CHERRY RED LOLA NOT BE TOUCHED BY ANYONE OTHER THAN HIMSELF.



COULSON'S S.H.I.E.L.D. BADGE COLLECTION