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Andor

CHMUN XXI

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Committee Background

In a galaxy far, far away, a conflict between the Galactic Empire and the Rebel Alliance is set against the backdrop of vast star systems, hyperdrive travel, and an empire-spanning political machine. After the Galactic Republic failed, its formerly democratic government led by a senate was seized by absolute power and declared by Chancellor Palpatine to be Emperor. Through terror, trickery, and force of arms, he reshaped the Republic into the Galactic Empire: a totalitarian regime which rules the galaxy with brutal efficiency. Civil liberties were abolished overnight, protest was a crime, and once-independent star systems were brought into the Empire's tightening grasp. In their wake came not peace, but surrender.

Supporting the Empire's power is its military-industrial complex. Stormtrooper armies, Star Destroyer squadrons, alongside an endless system of intelligence allow the Empire to project its power far beyond the confines of Coruscant, its capital world. The Imperial Security Bureau (ISB) operates behind the scenes to suppress any rebellion or deviation from Imperial ideology. Stormtroopers are raw power, but the ISB agents operate as shadow police, acquiring intelligence, manipulating regional authorities, and eliminating threats before they can develop more efficiently than any other force. They are not loud but unyielding.

In opposition to this oppressive regime is the Rebel Alliance. But to call it a unified "alliance" is mistaken. The Rebellion is an amorphous group of insurgents, revolutionaries, exiled senators, deserting soldiers, and everyday people who will not be governed by the Empire. Rebel cells are independent of each other, following their own agenda, ideas, and leaders. Some are committed to pure sabotage, others to political subversion or the spread of hope via clandestine media. Their sole shared purpose is obvious: topple the Empire and create a free galaxy.

As a member of the Rebel Alliance, you must deal with the constant specter of asymmetrical warfare, the transience of coordination, and the danger of losing the very ideals that you are fighting to preserve. Planning is essential. Coherence is difficult. And time is running short. The galaxy does not yet know that the Empire can be challenged, but if the Rebel Alliance is to survive, that has to change. It begins here, with you.

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Topic A: Neutralizing Project Stardust

As Project Stardust, codename for the Death Star, approaches being fully operational, it poses a galaxy-wide threat surpassing anything prior to its creation. With the power to eradicate entire nations in the hands of the Empire, the Rebellion must take initiative in order to better their chances in the evergoing war. In order to be successful, this threat would have to be countered strategically, as the rebellion's lack of resources and splintered organization leaves any direct attack on the Death Star unfeasible.

The largest threat of neutralizing the Death Star resides in its sheer size, amassing a diameter of 120 kilometers, alongside its planet-destroying superlaser and advanced defense systems render it virtually immune to traditional military assault. Even the strongest Rebel Cruisers, such as the Millennium Falcon or MC80 Star Cruiser's primary attacks lack any substantial impact on the Death Star's defenses with the shield system being seemingly state-of-the art.



Thus, with brute force proving to be unreliable, and all previous efforts of direct infiltration on the Death Star being unfeasible, it is imminent to explore new approaches to neutralizing the Death Star with more indirect tactics.

Despite the rebellion's scattered nature, with little coordination throughout the galaxy, there is a high level of cohesion in their common goal of resisting the dictatorship of the Empire. In general, the rebellion's greatest strengths lie in their ability to be covert, utilizing espionage, sabotage, and guerilla attacks to undermine the authority of the empire. However, even with this skill set, the rebels cannot simply infiltrate the Death Star, courtesy of their internal defenses; Aside from the thousands of stormtroopers swarming the battle station at all times, Director Orson Krennic's personal supervision over the sector ensures the Empire a powerful safeguard, allowing

To have any hope of neutralizing the Empire's new creation, the rebels must resort to intelligence operations and subtle, but gradual strategy while also making moves towards formulating a more united front before their separated nature meets them with the inevitable repercussions. With the Death Star still having time before reaching completion, an opportunity to sabotage may present itself, scoring a great victory for the rebellion.

Questions to Consider

1. How can the rebels balance their limited resources with substantial efforts?
2. What steps must the rebels take in order to gain intelligence on Project Stardust?
3. How can the rebels balance risks of civilian casualties and the urgency to stop Project Stardust?



Topic B: Overcoming Imperial Blockades to Maintain Rebel Weapon Supplies

Starting from the early days of the Empire, they have been aware of the precarious nature of the Rebel Alliance. In light of this came the ISB's imposition of strictly regulated blockades on main hyperspace arteries and supply lines to isolate the transport of resources that would aid rebellion efforts. These blockades, heavily defended by Star Destroyers and patrols, threaten to sever the lifeline of the rebellion. As they continue to be deployed, the rebels find it increasingly more difficult in order to develop enough weaponry in order to advance the stages of important operations against the Empire.

The challenge lies in the Empire's superiority and strategic control of pivotal star systems and trade lanes, ultimately quashing the majority of rebel smuggling operations, instilling fear with Imperial intelligence operations stating rapid punishments on anyone caught aiding the rebellion



effort. With resources being limited, rebel operations become stalled as there simply is not enough manpower to make significant progress. The Empire's culture of fear and deprivation forces the rebels to improvise and keep their heads above water for any chance of survival. Additionally, with the

implementation of chain code regulations, anything can be tracked, complicating operations such as supply runs leading up to vital steps in the battle against the Empire, with nothing going unnoticed.

Even with insurmountable obstacles, the rebellion continues to maintain their resilience by investing in smaller ships capable of dodging Imperial detection. This in turn allows the rebels to exploit smuggling routes from sympathetic planets, but this would prove not to be reliable as the Empire continues to improve their way of ratting out traitors.

Questions to Consider

1. How can the rebellion improve coordination between cells to strengthen supply chains?

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2. What can the rebels do to undermine the ISB's efficiency?
3. How can the Rebellion conduct high-risk operations without exposing their key leaders or compromising their broader network?

Helpful Links on Both Topics

1. <https://gregrobison.medium.com/andor-season-1-explained-a-deep-dive-into-rebellions-genesi-s-imperial-politics-and-e7dbbd910c09>
2. <https://www.wired.com/2016/12/rogue-one-teaches-us-rebel-alliances-military-chops/>
3. https://starwars.fandom.com/wiki/Imperial_Security_Bureau



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