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VIA AUTHORIZATION BY VOTE OF THE
SMITH-SHIMANO CORPRO BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

Operation EMPEROR

Operation EMPEROR is a special circumstances long-term scientific observation program, with the eventual goal of priority biological sample extraction from Planet Of Interest ARDENNES-3 (HERCYNIA). It is the united opinion of our Exotic Materials branch that the resultant biological samples will provide us with the means to form a coherent, lossless transfer of biologically encoded information (memory, personality, subjectivity) from one organic data substrate to another. Rather than the facsimile produced by our current means of subjectivity implantation, it is the belief of our Exotic Materials branch that **this would allow the true transplantation of a human intelligence from one brain to another.** The importance of this to SSC's lifelong mission should be, in the opinion of our Exotic Materials branch, plainly obvious to the Honored Directors, and with it the importance of Operation EMPEROR and the resultant risks to our Corpro's good standing.

Namo Eleon

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE EXOTIC
MATERIALS BRANCH AT SMITH-SHIMANO CORPRO.

DEFINITION OF 'BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE'

The object of interest upon the surface of ARDENNES-3 (HERCYNIA) is **a form of intelligent alien life native to the planet**. Records pulled from recovered Second Committee data objects on the planet have given us the name **EGREGORIAN** to refer to this alien species. These Egregorians are beneficiaries of **a species wide, biological data network by which they share information and cultural memes**, using a poorly understood, paracausal principle known as Witness, which they cultivate via **purely biological methods**. It is through this paracausal principle our Exotic Materials branch hopes to fulfill the vision of Project EMPEROR.

While several biological samples have already been extracted, alive and dead (See AUX. DOCUMENTATION 'Drone', 'Warrior') these have offered us little insight into the true nature of Witness. What theoretical understanding we have is crude, and unfit for our ultimate goal of subjectivity transfer. These specimens are what we have tentatively referred to as 'receiver' clades: **retransmitters of Witness from an external source**. When removed from the vicinity of ARDENNES-3 (HERCYNIA), they rapidly experience emotional distress beyond anticipated levels, and eventually go into a state analogous to neurogenic shock. Only one specimen of those we have removed from the planet's surface have recovered from this condition, and they were left incapable of expressing Witness in any capacity we - or they - could detect.

PRIMARY GOALS OF OPERATION EMPEROR

Therefore, to form a practical, actionable understanding of Witness, it is the opinion of our Exotic Materials branch that **we must acquire the sole surviving member of the Egregorian species' 'broadcaster' clade: a unique individual our living specimen has referred to as both 'Overmind' and 'Endeavour'.** This specimen is either the source or the coordinator of the Witness network which propagates through the extant Egregorian civilization, and it is the belief of our Exotic Materials branch that they may be safely extracted from the planet and moved to one of our secure research facilities without loss of Witness capability/familiarity.

The secondary goal of Operation EMPEROR is **the acquisition or creation of what the extant Egregorian civilization refers to as an 'Empath'**- a human that can interact with Witness, acting functionally as a member of the 'receiver' Egregorian clade. Genetic markers that correlate with Witness capability/familiarity are at present completely unknown, if they do, indeed, exist. For this reason, the capture of an Empath, alive or dead, will be an eventual necessity if Witness-based technologies and subjective procedures are ever to become Constellar assets.

Tertiary goals of Operation EMPEROR

include:

- Developing a method to preserve the life and Witness capability/familiarity of 'receiver' clade Egregorian biological samples during extraction from the planet
- Genetic indexing of the Egregorian genome
- Creation of Egregorian-derived biotechnologies such as medical implants allowing Witness capability/familiarity, Witness-receptive biotic components in machinery, vacuum-capable biotic components (see AUX. DOCUMENTATION 'Exomorph'), etc

ACTIONS WE MUST TAKE

To fulfill the primary, secondary, and tertiary goals of Operation EMPEROR, our Exotic Materials branch has requested these actions be taken by the Honored Directors-

-The establishment of a semi-legitimate SSC presence on the world, to prevent unexpected interference from Union. Our Exotic Materials branch believes a colonial venture on the planet's surface to be the best method for this. The extant Egregorian civilization is presently confined to a number of large, interconnected caverns beneath the planet's surface, and as such it is unlikely that colonists recruited or produced for this purpose would be aware of the planet's current occupants. It is equally unlikely that the extant Egregorian civilization would willingly reveal itself to a spacefaring civilization, due to a number of persisting cultural traumas which we believe to persist and be amplified by the Egregorian's Witness network (See AUX. DOCUMENTATION 'Hercynian Crisis').

Risk of discovery increases exponentially as time goes on, but disbarring any extreme deviations from our current models, our Exotic Materials branch believes that we may fulfill Operation EMPEROR's goals within that time, **IF AND ONLY IF ALL** requested actions are taken. Upon which point, we may leave damage control regarding the planned colony and the extant Egregorian civilization to Union- using a shell company may be prudent to avoid fallout from the failure of a colonial project in such a dramatic manner.

-The establishment of a forward operating base in Hercynia's orbit. The requested colony must not be aware of their true role on the planet, so coordinating Operation EMPEROR from within the colony is untenable. Instead, our Exotic Materials branch requests the establishment of an observation and command post for SSC assets on the world. Hercynia's sole moon is a prime location for this FOB.

-The assignment of CML-P class assets to accomplish the tactical-level objectives of Operation EMPEROR. Extracting the 'broadcast' clade specimen presents several extreme challenges- the presence of an unaware colony on the world, the extant Egregorian civilization's location deep underground, the hypothesized large size of the specimen, potential morale issues and data leaks from standard ConSec assets when faced with the task, and, of course, violent interference from the specimen's subjects. For this purpose, our Exotic Materials branch requests a squad of Constellar Midnight Line 'PILOT' assets to perform this extraction. Given the paracausal nature of Witness and several other unconfirmed paracausal incidents (see AUX. DOCUMENTATION 'Orbital Survey') upon the planet's surface, the assignment of one or more Constellar Midnight Line 'EXOTIC' assets may also be prudent. Our Exotic Materials branch will be hard at work producing a CML-E asset for this purpose.