EXERCISE ONLY!!

Impact Exercise, Day 3: December 30, 2021 Closeup Images Reveal Asteroid 2019 PDC Headed for Denver Area: Efforts to Prevent Impact Accelerate

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- The Space Mission Planning and Advisory Group has coordinated an extensive deflection campaign involving multiple space agencies
- A suite of spacecraft of various designs have been under development for the last 2+ years; the updated deflection campaign consists of:
  - 6 Kinetic Impactor (KI) missions to be launched by various space agencies
    16 months from now, some launches carrying multiple individual impactors
  - a rendezvous recon spacecraft scheduled to be launched in a few months that is designed to be capable of carrying nuclear explosive devices
  - a previously launched interplanetary science spacecraft is being re-tasked to visit the asteroid, to provide a second rendezvous recon spacecraft
- The KI spacecraft will use intercept trajectories that will move the asteroid's impact point eastwards; the westwards KI missions were not selected as an option due to schedule constraints and ineffectiveness
- The nuclear deflection option has many political and legal implications and faces controversy both nationally and internationally

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- The projected impact location is now well known, both geographically and in the b-plane, and so is the *required* deflection displacement in the b-plane: about 12,100 km
- The total delta-V that the KI missions must impart for a successful eastwards deflection on Aug. 30, 2024 is determined: 4.5 cm/s
- Since the asteroid's mass and  $\beta$  parameter are still uncertain, the amount of delta-V that each KI mission can achieve is uncertain
- Uncertainty in mass leads to uncertainty in escape velocity, and thus, uncertainty in how the asteroid will respond to the kinetic impactors
  - Will each KI delta-V exceed 10% of the asteroid's escape velocity?
- When the rendezvous recon mission arrives at 2019 PDC, its mass will become well determined, but the suite of deflection missions must have already launched by that time



