

5TH ANNUAL
CBA MIDDLE SCHOOL
MODE UN

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2017

SECRETARIAT GENERAL...WILLIAM WALSH, BRYAN SOLER
CRISIS DIRECTOR.....DANIEL TREVAL



U.S. SENATE, 1941

TOPIC: WORLD WAR OR APPEASEMENT?
CHAIR.....RYAN MURPHY
CO-CHAIR...JOSEPH SORRENTINO
RAPPORTEUR.....JAKE GRILLO

Letter From the Dais

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to Fifth Annual Christian Brothers Academy Model United Nations Conference! We are Ryan Murphy and Joseph Sorrentino, your Chair and Co-Chair. We hope that you are ready to delve into the important historical event that is the US response the outbreak of World War Two. Our debate will start after aggressions by Japan in the East and the growing threat of Germany and the Axis in Europe and Africa. We will explore the possible US responses to these issues, and put ourselves into various US Senators' shoes.

The following information is a brief overview of the topics and information that surround our committee. Although the guide gives some history, extra research and preparation is needed. We can not wait to see all of you in November to have this interesting and involved debate. We hope that you will have fun and want to continue Model UN through high school and beyond. If you have any questions regarding committee procedure or your character's role, feel free to email either of us, as we know this committee is on the more advanced side.

Sincerely,

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Senate Proceeding

In this mock U.S. Senate, we will be discussing and debating the World War at hand. There will be Senators from all over the country of various political parties. The main objective of this committee is to have an organized debate on whether the United States should enter World War Two or stay at peace with the aggressors and appeasers. Should the United States only declare war on the Empire of Japan? Should the United States ally with Britain and France to take down the Nazi regime of Adolf Hitler while allowing Japan to expand in the East? These questions must be discussed in this U.S. Senate.

As committee proceeds, we will be debating whether to appease the aggressive nations in the world or join the war effort. There will be debates, arguments, motions and ideas, and formal votes. This is the United States Senate, so be prepared to participate in Senate voting which could change the course of the world and America forever.

It is crucial to come prepared to this committee with information and evidence to support your Senator's stance on war. Before reading the background information and preparing for committee, take note that this committee starts before Pearl Harbor. This will definitely change the view of the Senators. For example, many Senators will not want to go to war because the U.S. has not had any direct involvement yet and war is extremely expensive and costly. These are the things that should be pondered upon by all delegates.

Background Information

WWI's Devastation

World War I killed more people--more than 9 million soldiers, sailors, and pilots and another 5 million civilians--involved more countries--28--and cost more money--\$186 billion in direct costs and another \$151 billion in indirect costs--than any previous war in history. It was the first war to use airplanes, tanks, long range artillery, submarines, and poison gas. It left at least 7 million men permanently disabled.

World War I probably had more far-reaching consequences than any other proceeding war. Politically, it resulted in the downfall of four monarchies--in Russia in 1917, in Austria-Hungary and

Germany in 1918, and in Turkey in 1922. It contributed to the Bolshevik rise to power in Russia in 1917 and the triumph of fascism in Italy in 1922. It ignited colonial revolts in the Middle East and in Southeast Asia.

Economically, the war severely disrupted the European economies and allowed the United States to become the world's leading creditor and industrial power. The war also brought vast social consequences, including the mass murder of Armenians in Turkey and an influenza epidemic that killed over 25 million people worldwide.



World War I left the world horribly backwards. Countries were crippled and angry, and tensions remained high for years. “The War to End All Wars” did not seem to appease the hostility brooding on the horizon.

A Great Depression

After four years at war, the world’s economy had been drained. Britain, whose economy had relied on trading, faced serious economic problems. Forty percent of its merchant fleets had been destroyed by German submarines in the war, making it difficult to export goods. Other countries imposed high tariffs on imports to protect their own industries, but this hurt Britain's economy. Britain's old and outdated factories, machines, and mines also hurt its industries.

Germany was also hit hard by the aftermath of the war. In an attempt to find money to pay its \$33 billion debt in reparations, Germany printed an abundance of paper money. However, this merely led to severe inflation. In 1923, the value of German money dropped so significantly that one had to fill a wheelbarrow with cash simply to buy a loaf of bread

The Depression crippled many economies and added to the unease that already plagued the world. The U.S. economy collapsed in 1929 and this spurred on the Depression all over the world. The Great Depression played a huge role for causing World War Two.

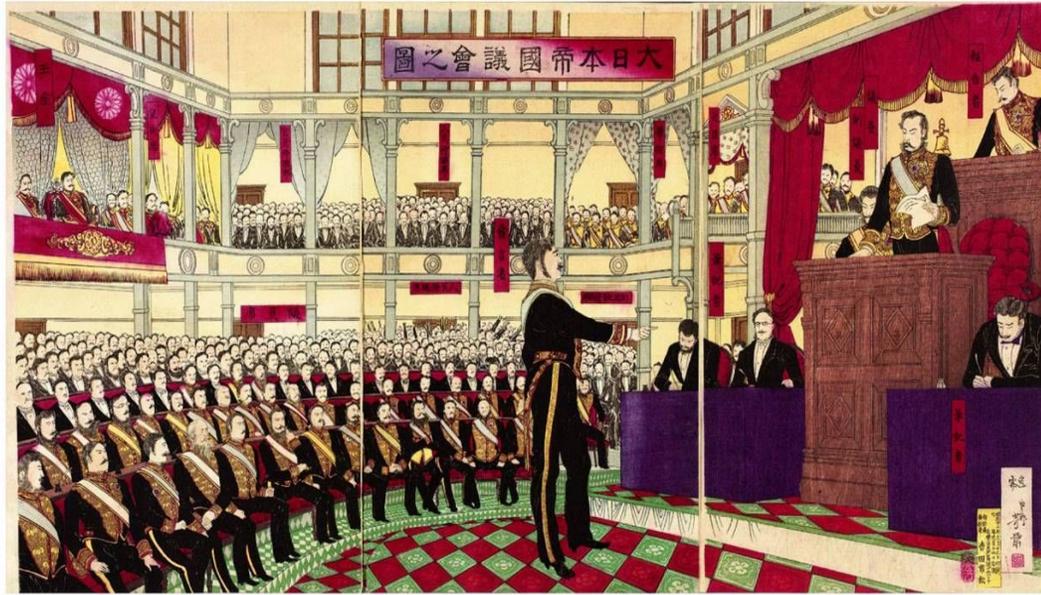
Japan: A Nation Awoken

The Meiji Restoration was the resumption by the Japanese emperor of a starring role within his own government and the first step in Japan's modernization.

American naval forces commanded by Commodore Matthew Perry succeeded in convincing Japan to sign a treaty with the United States in 1854. The resulting trade caused inflation in Japan; and the reigning government, the Tokugawa Shogunate proved unable to solve the problem.

The combination of the post-Perry treaties and the restoration of the outward-looking emperor resulted in a Japan that was more much likely to adopt Western models of economics and trade. In particular, Emperor Meiji (whose name means "enlightened rule") pursued a path of rapid industrialization. Spurred by an influx of new trade, the country expanded its factories and its manufacturing.

In the next few years, the government moved toward a national outlook, rather than the regional focus that had been so much a part of the shogunate lifestyles. The government abolished the title of samurai, in favor of a national army. The government established a national dialect, which replaced regional dialects, and a national education system. It also established a national railway and a national communications network; these accelerated a move for many Japanese people from the countryside to urban centers.



Under the Imperial Government a national army was to be created opened to all castes
"Illustration of Grand Festival at Yasukuni Shrine" by Shinohara Kiyooki, 1895

Another area of expansion for Japan as the 20th Century dawned was in the military. The shogunate had felt outgunned by Commodore Perry and his ships and Marines. The Meiji government set about to increase Japanese military might and prestige. The army trained in Western tactics, using Western weapons.

Japan grew into a military power because the government focused heavily on modernizing and Westernizing the Japanese military.

War Breaks Out



In late August 1939, Hitler and Soviet leader Joseph Stalin signed the German-Soviet Nonaggression Pact, which incited a frenzy of worry in London and Paris. Hitler had long planned an invasion of Poland, a nation to which Great Britain and France had guaranteed military support if it was attacked by Germany.

The pact with Stalin meant that Hitler would not face a war on two fronts once he invaded Poland, and would have Soviet assistance in conquering and dividing the nation itself. On September 1, 1939, Hitler invaded Poland from the west; two days later, France and Britain declared war on Germany, beginning World War II.

On September 17, Soviet troops invaded Poland from the east. Under attack from both sides, Poland fell quickly, and by early 1940 Germany and the Soviet Union had divided control over the nation, according to a secret protocol appended to the Nonaggression Pact. Stalin's forces then moved to occupy the Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) and defeated a resistant Finland in the Russo-Finish War. During the six months following the invasion of Poland, the lack of action on the part of Germany and the Allies in the west led to talk in the news media of a "phony war." At sea, however, the British and German navies faced off in heated battle, and lethal German U-boat submarines struck at merchant shipping bound for Britain, sinking more than 100 vessels in the first four months of World War II.

On April 9, 1940, Germany simultaneously invaded Norway and occupied Denmark, and the war began in earnest. On May 10, German forces swept through Belgium and the Netherlands in what became known as "blitzkrieg," or lightning war. Three days later, Hitler's troops crossed the Meuse River and struck French forces at Sedan, located at the northern end of the Maginot Line, an elaborate chain of fortifications constructed after World War I and considered an impenetrable defensive barrier. In fact, the Germans broke through the line with their tanks and planes and continued to the rear, rendering it useless. The British Expeditionary Force (BEF) was evacuated by sea from Dunkirk in late May, while in the south French forces mounted a doomed resistance. With France on the verge of collapse, Benito Mussolini of Italy put his Pact of Steel with Hitler into action, and Italy declared war against France and Britain on June 10.

A Growing Power

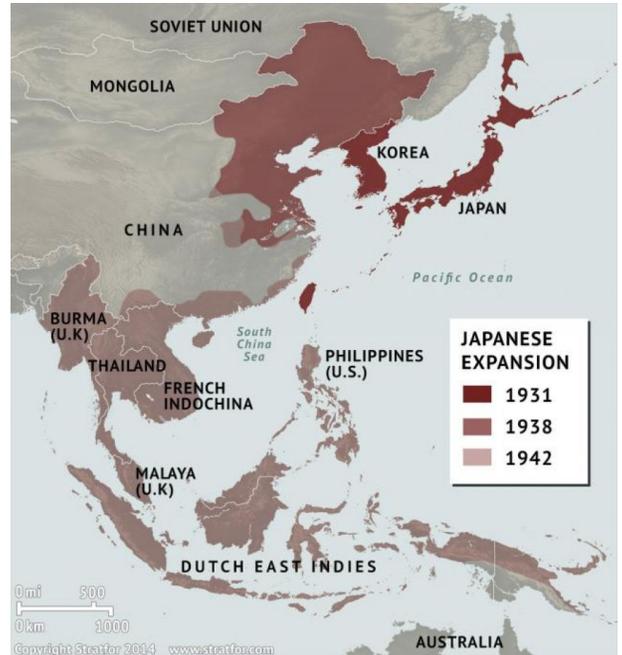
Japan, as an island nation, has always been heavily constrained by lack of resources. Going into WWII, the nation imported 88 percent of its oil and was utterly dependent on raw material imports to sustain its industrial base. Unable to achieve self-sufficiency, and unwilling to capitulate,

the Japanese had no alternative but to go to war and seize by force the resources they desperately required. Particularly vital to Japanese interests were the petroleum-rich Dutch East Indies — modern-day Indonesia — and the rubber plantations and tin mines of British Malaya. An Imperial push into Southeast Asia had the added advantage of cutting off the Burma Road, which ran north through modern Myanmar into China's Yunnan province. This key transit route had long sustained the Chinese in their struggle against Japan.

The resulting Japanese war strategy hinged on massive initial blows that would surprise Allied fleets and air forces at port or in vulnerable airstrips. This would give Japan the maritime and air power advantage to rapidly seize its objectives and create an extended and heavily defended perimeter to protect both the home

islands and Japan's newly acquired overseas resources before the Allies had a chance to recover. The Japanese could then present such a formidable and costly defensive line to the Allies that they would accept Japan's gains and sue for peace.

The expansion and growth of Japan in the East created discussion in Washington about possible ways to appease or stop the Empire. Japan set sights on U.S. territories in the Pacific and many other strategic locations, and this made the U.S. government very uneasy. They did not know how to deal with Japan's aggressions and this led to hostility between the two nations.



Questions To Consider:

1. How should the US respond to the current Japanese aggression in the Pacific?
 - a. Tariffs?, Trade Embargoes, Military Action?
2. Should the US get involved in Europe?
 - a. Is Germany a threat to the US or just Europe?
3. What would be the consequences of any of the actions taken by the Senate?
4. What do the American people want? War or peace and prosperity at home?
5. Is Asia important for the US, an aspiring world power?

6. What are the consequences of war?
7. What would provoke direct US action?

Senators

When researching your assigned senator consider the following questions:

- What does my state/ constituents desire: war or isolation from foreign affairs?
- What committees is my senator a part of?
- Note on Non-Voting House members (Alaska, Hawaii, Philippines)
 - Your delegate will not have the power to vote, however, your delegate will have **great relevance and influence** as your territories are among the closest US territories to Japan. As non-voting members of this body, you will try to influence other delegates by presenting the evidence as to how much Japan threatens your territories which are US land.

Suggested Reading

1. <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1937-1945/pearl-harbor>
2. <http://edsitement.neh.gov/curriculum-unit/road-pearl-harbor-united-states-and-east-asia-1915-1941>
3. <https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/WorldWar2/japan.htm>

Another Great Website

<https://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2013/07/the-debate-behind-us-intervention-in-world-war-ii/277572/>

Remember, you can learn from many different sources, including documentaries. We encourage you to research the topic any way you like.

Please Refer to the Delegate Prep Guide for additional tips on how to Prepare for Committee.

Ask your moderator for one if you do not have a copy.

We look forward to seeing you in committee, Good luck preparing!