



JejuMUN X

Background Guide

The Lincoln Cabinet

1 | Resolving tensions and disputes during the American Civil War

SDG 16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions, 17. Partnerships to achieve the Goal

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Committee Introduction

Greetings,

Welcome to the Crisis Committee of JEJUMUN X.

Unlike a more traditional General Assembly committee, in a crisis committee, delegates assume the role of a character rather than represent a nation. Each delegate will have the ability to exert influence based on their position and individual power, with the overall aim of devising solutions for the given agenda. Delegates will also possess greater authority to address the various kinds of challenges during the conference compared to General Assembly committees, as Crisis committees can take direct actions, whereas the General Assembly can only pass non-binding resolutions.

The Crisis 2 committee will specifically focus on resolving the disputes and tensions during the American Civil War from the Union perspective. Delegates will be assigned roles representing various positions within the Union, such as the president, vice president, military commanders, and government officials. Within the Union Cabinet, the delegates are encouraged to utilize their personal power, cooperate, and debate to resolve the disputes and tensions during the American Civil War while adhering to their character role.

Due to the distinctive and often unpredictable nature of a crisis committee, delegates are strongly encouraged to thoroughly acquaint themselves with the historical context, roles, and authorities of their assigned characters. They should also be prepared for sudden, impromptu responses and debates. It is crucial to bear in mind that despite the committee's storyline being rooted in real historical events, the resolutions and actions proposed by delegates in this committee may diverge from the actual history.

Agenda Introduction

At this point of the conflict, the United States of America and its ideals are at great yet imminent peril. The Civil War, initially anticipated to be of brief duration with the Union holding a distinct advantage, has surpassed its initial expectation and now poses a threat to the nation's very existence. In this critical hour, the United States is in desperate need of brilliant minds and accomplished strategists to guide the Union Army's devastating setbacks suffered in the First Battle of Bull Run and the Battle of Ball's Bluff, and to turn the tides of the course of the war.

The sequence of battlefield defeats has placed the capital into great vulnerability, possibly losing the war to the rebel states. Should the committee fail to effectively address the crisis, and, ultimately, falter in turning the course of the war, the dissolution of the Union would not be so far away.

If the Confederacy emerges triumphant in this war, the Southern Slave states will forever be apart from the United States of America, thereby attaining international recognition as a sovereign nation. Consequently, the nation's economy, population, and military capacity would suffer significant impairments, impeding the nation's development. Slavery, deemed at great odds with the nation's once revered principle, would be recognized as necessary and lawful in half of the nation's territories as well.

Regardless of the Confederacy's slight military advantage upon which their victories are predicated, it certainly is not an impossible task for the Union to grasp the victory, given its superior manpower and resources. However, the committee must confront challenges in order to harness the fullest potential of the union; these challenges encompass the inherent conflict between the pacifists and the war supporters, the need to unite the public under established governmental leadership, the necessity to kindle public fervor in support of the war cause, and the need for strategic brilliance.

Letter from the Chairs

Greetings Delegates,

We are Minjae Jung, Roy Lee, and Daniel Lee from Korea International School Jeju (KISJ). It is our utmost pleasure to serve as your chairs for the second crisis committee of JejuMUN X: The Lincoln Cabinet.

Our committee will be discussing the agenda of “Resolving the disputes and tensions during the American Civil War”: a historical topic that requires in-depth knowledge regarding the stances of clashing political parties and general historical context. Instead of a diplomatic debate between the leaders of the Union and the Confederates, our crisis committee will be placing the focus on the creative tactics and plans of action within the discussion of the Union’s notable officers and generals. Over the course of two days, you will engage in fruitful discussions and debate with your fellow Union officers on the best approach against the Confederates, whether it be an operation plan for military aggression or the terms for a peace treaty.

We strongly encourage the delegates of this committee to engage fully in the discussions, actively speaking out against other delegations and defending one’s cause with passion. Although there may be a spectrum of experience for the participants of this committee, don’t feel pressured. We promise that your experience in JejuMUN X will be a memorable one that can serve as your stepping stone into the fascination of Model United Nations.

Sincerely,

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Key terms

Secession

The act of southern states formally withdrawing from the United States to form the Confederate States of America. The election of the Republican candidate, Abraham Lincoln triggered the secession of the Southern States with Jefferson Davis getting selected as the provisional president of the Confederacy.

Union

The United States of America and the Northern states that remained under the federal government during the Civil War. Besides the Border states, the Union generally is against the institution of slavery.

Confederacy

The Confederate States of America, composed of the 11 Southern States that seceded from the union: South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina.

Border States

Slave-holding states that remained part of the Union during the American Civil War. Located on the border between the North and the South, they played a critical role in the Union's victory, providing support through wide manpower and industrial capacity.

Emancipation Proclamation

A proclamation and executive order issued by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863, which provided freedom for all African Americans from the confederate states. Through expanding the scope of the war to abolition, it not only provided a source of moral purpose for the Union soldiers, but also prevented British intervention in the war.

Confiscation Acts

Wartime measures issued by Abraham Lincoln, which provided the Union army with the authority to seize enemy property. Lasted from 1861 to 1864.

13th Amendment

Constitutional amendment ratified in 1865 claiming that “neither slavery nor involuntary servitude . . . shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction” abolishing the practice of slavery in the United States permanently.

Anaconda Plan

A military strategy devised by Union general Winfield Scott, aimed to blockade southern ports and cut off its resource supplies by taking control of the Mississippi River, successfully splitting and isolating the south.

Missouri compromise

A compromise between the southern and northern states to balance the southern desire to expand the institution of slavery and the northern desire to reduce it. The compromise admitted Missouri as a slave state while Maine was admitted as a free state to maintain the balance, while also establishing the 36 '30 line which acted as a dividing line to ban any slavery north of it.

Compromise of 1850

Another compromise between the southern and northern states before the outbreak of the Civil War, which admitted California into the Union as a free state while tougher fugitive slave law was passed to return runaway slaves from the South back to their owners even if they were in a free state.

Historical Background

In the annals of American history, a destructive struggle erupted within the once united nation, birthing the harrowing American Civil War—a monumental clash that stirred emotions, destructed the nation, and completely reshaped the course of the young nation.

Though the tension of an upcoming war was in the makings for decades, most of the history and major events leading up to the actual war took place mainly over the fifty years prior.

1820 Missouri compromise

Following the Louisiana Purchase, arranged by President Theodore Roosevelt with the French Leader Napoleon, the halls of Congress were quick to debate upon the statehood of the newly acquired territory, Missouri, as either a slave state or a free state. Swiftly escalating, the bitter debate gained momentum as the admission of Missouri as a slave state to the union would give the pro-slavery/southern faction a congressional majority breaking the 11-11 slave and free state balance. Ultimately, the discord was resolved by the Missouri Compromise, whereby Missouri was admitted as a slave state to the union while Maine joined as a free state. The terms of the compromise also consisted of the 36 '30 line, where slavery was now strictly limited to the territories located south of the demarcation.

1846 Wilmot proviso

Legislation proposed by David Wilmot of Pennsylvania, which posited that slavery should be strictly forbidden in any of the territories acquired as a result of the Mexican-American war. Although the amendment was passed twice by the House, it never got passed through the Senate falling short in effect. Nonetheless, the persistent discourse surrounding the institution of slavery casted an ominous shadow over the sectionalized nation, slowly setting the stage for the civil war.

1850 Compromise of 1850

Amidst the soaring national debate sparked by the Wilmot proviso, a shaky accord was reached called the Compromise of 1850. Successive congressional measures was established in attempt to simmer down the sectional tensions , granting the North the inclusion of California as a free state, while granting the South the passage of a tougher fugitive slave law, designed to compel Northerners to return runaway slaves back to their southern owners; Although the compromise settled down the immediate tension postponing an outright war, sectional division further deepened.

1852 Uncle Tom's Cabin' Published

An antislavery novel authored by Harriet Beecher Stowe, vividly depicting the horrors of slavery through the narrative of a slave named Tom. The novel was quick to

capture the hearts of Northern and European readers while the Southern defenders dismissed it as a biased prejudice against the Southern way of living. The issue of slavery was now brought to the eyes of the public, even widening the division between the North and South.

1854 Kansas - Nebraska Act

The proposed Territorial act set forth by Stephen Douglas established Kansas and Nebraska territories within the Union, employing the principle of popular sovereignty to determine the fate of slavery by the hands of the residents. The act repealed the previously established demarcation of the 36 '30 line from the Missouri compromise. Consequently, settlers from both the North and South flooded into Kansas in advocating for their respective causes. The implementation of the Kansas Nebraska act swiftly devolved into a violent guerilla warfare, with both antislavery and proslavery governments getting established in the region aggressively asserting their control and stances.

1857 The Dred Scott Decisions

U.S. supreme court ruling which denied Dred Scott's entitlement as a freeman. The Court's decision essentially asserted that slavery could not be outlawed as it would violate the fifth amendment's protection of property rights, thus denying slaves the due process of law. This legislative classification of slaves as a property effectively denied legality of black citizenship in American soil. The ruling further deepened the stark division between the free and slave states (the north and the south), heightening the tension that would very shortly lead to the Civil War.

1860 Election of 1860

The firm abolitionist, republican Abraham Lincoln was elected as the 16th president of the United States. In response to Lincoln's anti-slavery outlook, the feared Southern States began to secede from the Union starting from South Carolina establishing the Confederate states of America choosing Jefferson Davis as president.

The secession crisis swiftly divided the once united nation into two factions: the Confederacy consisting of southern states, and the Union representing the northern states. It was the union who sought to continue to preserve the United States in one unified nation, while the confederacy aimed to establish independence and safeguard the institution of slavery

Apart from these major forces in the Civil War, there were five border states: Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, and West Virginia. Located geographically in the heart of the country, both the Union and the Confederacy recognized the strategic significance of these states and sought to capitalize on their value during the conflict.

Initially, these border states, like the South, were slaveholding states. Thus, they opposed president Abraham Lincoln's vision, but they still differed from the Confederacy in that they believed in a strong federal union and desired to remain part of the United

States. Overtime, they shifted their support to Lincoln providing manpower and industrial assistance to the Union cause.

However, the Civil War had not yet officially commenced. The intensity of the conflict escalated greatly with the pivotal Battle of Fort Sumter, which resulted in a swift and conclusive victory for the Confederates. The battle unequivocally signaled to the Union that the civil war wasn't going to be an easily resolved conflict.

Current State of Affairs

Charleston was the Confederacy's most important port on the Southeast coast. The Confederates saw that Fort Sumter was protecting the harbor and sought to take control of it. Fort Sumter was in an awful state of defense: unable to defend against a land attack with its guns pointed out to sea and in lack of supplies. As expected, the defending troops were outnumbered and exhausted, leading to a surrender to Confederate General P. G. T. Beauregard. While the Confederates were greeted as heroes, the war was far from over. Both sides began calling for volunteers to mobilize for the upcoming conflict.

The Battle of Bull Run was the first official war between the Union and the Confederates, resulting in huge numbers of casualties for both sides. Months after the initial skirmish at the Battle of Fort Sumter, the two sides clashed in Virginia. Lincoln had been receiving immense amounts of public pressure to end the war quickly, which prompted him to push the cautious General McDowell to advance. Lincoln's plan to swiftly gain victory was to go on a campaign directed at capturing the Confederate capital in Richmond. The Union's force was stopped by P. G. T. Beauregard's Rebel forces at Bull Run, where fighting began. The Confederates eventually rose victorious, providing a dreadful reminder for the Union that this war would be a long and grueling one.

The Battle of Antietam served as a turning point in the American Civil War: the Union's victory provided President Lincoln and the Union with hope. After several defeats, the union's morale was low, and President Lincoln was strongly criticized for his leadership. However, General George B. McClellan's Union army defeated General Robert E. Lee's Confederate army in a decisive battle in Antietam Creek near Sharpsburg, Maryland. Lee planned to move the focus of battle toward Federal territory and promote military aggression into the Federal capital of Washington, D.C. Although McClellan dragged the battle with his cautious approach, the Union eventually came out victorious.

Today is September 17, 1862—a day after the Battle of Antietam. The Union has finally seen its first hope of winning the war.

At this pivotal moment in the American Civil War, President Lincoln and his cabinet have a lot of choices to make. With Frederick Douglass and his abolitionist movement constantly putting pressure on Lincoln for a policy on freeing Southern slaves, Lincoln has to decide whether to make the war just about unifying America or expanding it to include emancipation. Lincoln's generals and officers have to decide on a strategic war plan in order to gain an advantage in the war, using information from past wars, surrounding geography, and relationships with other major global powers as reference.

Stances of Parties

Abraham Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln was the first Republican president of the United States. He would play a decisive role in the Union's victory in the American Civil War. With his clear vision towards the abolition of slavery, he declared the Emancipation Proclamation, which ended slavery in the United States and successfully unified the divided country.

Andrew Johnson

Andrew Johnson served as a senator of Tennessee and the military governor of Tennessee under Lincoln from 1862. Johnson is a main figure of the War Democrats, the democrats who remained under the Union during the succession and the Civil War. He represented the Democrats in the Union during the Civil War.

Charles Sumner

Charles Sumner was an American statesman who represented Massachusetts in the United States Senate from 1851 until 1874. He was a renowned advocate for abolitionist causes in the Republican Party.

Frederick Douglass

Frederick Douglass was a prominent figure in the abolitionist movement, a formerly enslaved person who later emerged as one of the most influential activists, authors, and public speakers in the United States. He penned his first autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, Written by Himself* firmly advocating for the equality of African Americans. He also played a vital role in counseling and supporting the president's plan for the emancipation of proclamation, pushing for the abolitionist cause throughout the Civil War.

George G. Meade

General George G. Meade is a Union army officer who is also known for leading the Army of Potomac during the Battle of Gettysburg, where he gave the Union forces their first major victory, completely turning the tides of the war.

George McClellan

General George McClellan is a fiercely ambitious general who is also called "young Napoleon". He led the army of the Potomac to capture the Confederate capital, Richmond, but failed. Despite this defeat, he is regarded as a key contributor to organizing and training the Union army for the challenges they would face in the Civil War.

George Thomas

George Thomas is a Union general known as "the Rock of Chickamauga" for his great defense during the Georgia battle. Despite being a Virginia native and receiving several prominent commissions in the Confederate army, he remained loyal to the Union. He had a deep tactical understanding of warfare and played a critical role in shaping the war beyond the Appalachian Mountains.

Hannibal Hamlin

Hannibal Hamlin served as the vice president of the United States from 1861 to 1864. Formerly the senator from Maine, Hamlin transferred to the Republican Party when it was formed, even though he started his political career in the Democratic Party.

Irvin McDowell

General Irvin McDowell is best known as a military general who led the Battle of Bull Run, the first major armed conflict between the Union and the Confederates. Though the Union forces were defeated in the battle, General McDowell is still widely respected as a military tactician and a strong leader.

John A. Logan

John A. Logan is a Union general who fought in eight major campaigns and commanded the entire Union force at the Battle of Atlanta. Following the war, he was a founding member of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), a veterans organization comprised of former Union Army soldiers, and the creator of Memorial Day.

John C. Frémont

General John C. Frémont led several expeditions into the West before the war and became the Commander of the Department of the West under the Union. He fought at the Battle of Cross Keys but failed to destroy the opposing enemy. He was relieved of his command as a result of his own request.

Joseph E. Hooker

Joseph E. Hooker is a Union general who successfully reorganized the Army of the Potomac. Known as "Fighting Joe," he was greatly respected for his leadership. After he took over the Army of the Potomac, he effectively halted desertion, established reliable information collection, and restored the confidence of the army.

Joseph G. Totten

Joseph G. Totten is a Union general and army chief engineer who engaged in various scientific and military studies. One of his most significant achievements was the design and construction of the previously failed Minot's Ledge Light near Cohasset, Massachusetts.

Oliver O. Howard

Oliver O. Howard is a Union officer known as the “Christian General,” who led the Freedmen's Bureau during the Reconstruction period, providing aid to newly freed African Americans in their transition from slavery to freedom. Despite his troop's lack of performance, he was reputed as an efficient and courageous officer.

Salmon P. Chase

Salmon P. Chase was the United States Secretary of the Treasury from 1861 to 1864, as part of the Lincoln cabinet. Well known for his strong anti-slavery notions, Chase was a leader of the more radical faction in the Republican party, popular among the radical Republicans and abolitionists. His chief political rival is William Henry Seward, the secretary of State.

Samuel R. Curtis

Samuel R. Curtis led Union forces to victory at the Battle of Pea Ridge, successfully preventing the Confederate forces from gaining control of Missouri. He was known as one of the most respected generals by his soldiers due to his leadership, which greatly elevated soldier morale during the battle.

Ulysses S. Grant

Ulysses S. Grant was a Union army officer who would also later serve as the 18th president of the United States. He was one of the most prominent generals to lead the Union during the Civil War through multiple successful military campaigns including his massive victory in the Battle of Vicksburg. Greatly respected for his strategic planning ability, he became the overall commander of all Union forces under President Lincoln.

William Henry Seward

William Henry Seward was the United States Secretary of State from 1861 to 1869, a prominent figure in the opposition to the spread of slavery. He is an influential politician of the Republican Party, formerly serving as the senator of New York. Seward originally ran for the Republican presidential candidate, but lost to Lincoln and joined Lincoln's campaign. His chief political rival is Salmon P. Chase, the secretary of the Treasury.

William Rosecrans

William Rosecrans is a Union general and renowned strategist, as well as a professor, engineer, businessman, and inventor. He led his troops to hard-fought victories at Corinth and Iuka, Mississippi. His defeat at the Battle of Chickamauga, however, resulted in his removal from command.

William Tecumseh Sherman

William Tecumseh Sherman is best known for leading the Union campaign “March to the Sea”, claiming total war against the South through successive campaigns to crush

through the South in regions such as Georgia and Carolinas, and greatly contributing to securing the Union victory of the Civil War.

Winfield Scott

Winfield Scott is a Union general who first proposed the “anaconda plan”, a commendable strategic plan to defeat the Confederates by completely blockading their access to southern ports and the Mississippi River. His strategic plan would play a decisive role in the Union victory in the Civil War, as his plans would continue to be implemented by other Union Generals later.

Possible Solutions

Negotiations for peace with the Confederacy

Delegates may explore possible ways of initiating a peace negotiation with the Confederacy, where representatives from both sides convene to seek common ground. The significant loss of lives and extensive economic damage incurred by both the Union and Confederacy during the war may create a willingness to consider a peaceful compromise. Through diplomatic negotiations, the two warring factions can write a resolution that takes all accommodations into account.

To ensure a more efficient mediation process, the involvement of a neutral third-party moderator, such as an international entity, could prove beneficial. The involvement of an impartial mediator may facilitate the negotiations and provide assistance in the decision-making process, fostering an environment conducive to finding common ground of agreement and lasting resolutions.

Creating ties with border states

In the current state of affairs, the Union faces the challenge of dealing with instability within governments of four border states that are torn between supporting the Union or joining the Confederacy. To address this situation, the Union should prioritize diplomatic outreach to these border states that have not yet seceded. Delegates may propose a series of negotiations and high-level incentives to persuade these states to remain loyal to the Union cause thus taking advantage of their industrial capacity and manpower against the South.

Although it is key for the Union to understand and address the concerns of the border states; these considerations may include preserving states' rights within the Union, assuring their autonomy, and respecting their unique regional interests. Offering economic benefits and trade incentives could further entice these states to align with the Union.

This approach not only would strengthen the Union in the war but also would weaken the Confederate cause by diminishing potential sources of support for the secessionist movement.

Exploring ways to weaken the south

In the context of the ongoing conflict, delegates must critically assess the advantages the North, or the Union, possesses over the South. The North's strengths lie in its significant population advantage, comprising a greater number of states compared to the South. The North also gains far greater industrial capacity, bolstered by close ties to the border states.

Later in the war, the North also gained greater morale advantage" through President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation (which, as of now, has not yet been implemented in the committee). By turning the war into an effort to emancipate enslaved

individuals, the North's cause gained a powerful moral dimension, rallying more support and strengthening the resolve of its troops and citizens.

Taking all this to account, delegates should strategically identify and exploit the weaknesses of the South to further tilt the balance in favor of the Union. Key actions may be disrupting supply lines to cut off war resources, diminishing the already limited industrial capacity of the South, and more others to make the confederates less capable of sustaining prolonged military operations. By doing all so, the delegates may be able to effectively turn the tides of the war in favor of the North and potentially pave the way for a quicker path to peace.

Questions to Consider

1. In the event of initiating an attack, which specific areas in the South should the Union prioritize for gaining control? What regions hold the utmost strategic significance for the South's overall military and war efforts?
2. How does the committee plan to implement measures to secure the cabinet and prevent any information leakage to the South? In the event of a present spy, what would be the committee's response?
3. What are areas of disadvantage that the North has compared to the South? How does the committee plan to mitigate and minimize any potential damages in these specific areas?
4. What are some military strategies that the committee may implement attacking the South? Cutting off supplies or possible ambush?
5. How would each delegate utilize their personal power and influence within the committee? Apart from securing the union's victory, what specific goals do individual delegates aim to achieve during the proceedings?

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