



JejuMUN X

Background Guide

Aviation Crisis Response Cabinet (ACRC)

1 | Negotiations to resolve the Dawson's Field airline hijackings during the 1970 Black September crisis

SDG: 16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

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November 24th–25th, 2023

Last updated August 22nd, 2023

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Committee Introduction

**Please keep in mind that the Aviation Crisis Response Cabinet is a fictional nonexistent cabinet. While we are a historical committee in the sense that we address a real historical event and take the roles of real people, the cabinet itself is fictional in nature.

Introduction to crisis committees

The Aviation Crisis Response Cabinet (ACRC) convenes to address an international crisis in need of multilateral dialogue. Taking place September 6th, 1970, subsequent to 4 consecutive plane hijackings, this committee aims to explore what may have occurred in the actual incidents. Herefore, the delegate's main objective throughout the committee regardless of one's role should be to draft responsive, collaborative and effective resolutions to concurrent crises. Members are to devise strategies that minimize casualties and engage in productive discourse, determining the fate of passengers to come. The 4 simultaneous plane hijackings are of no issue to be dealt with lightly, and as a member of this committee it is the delegate's duty to negotiate with terrorists and ensure safe landing of flights.

In a crisis committee the delegates must be aware they bear a conclusive position—it is a task they face of making prompt and diligent decisions to address ever-changing circumstances that shape the outcome of a crisis. Delegates are expected to accurately represent their position in an affiliation, and should submit directives and propose notions accordingly. For instance, delegates within the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) must be cautious as they are the instigators of the hijackings and remain separate from the goals of other parties. This distinctive feature of a crisis committee though, is what ensures an engaging and dynamic experience throughout the conference. To make the most of this experience, delegates are recommended to research comprehensively and refer to the JejuMUN Crisis Rules Of Procedure document prior to attendance, as it provides extensive insights into the workings of a Crisis committee.

Specialized procedures in ACRC

With the fact that we are a crisis committee, we want to make sure delegates are aware of the specialized procedures that may take place at any time of our conference. Specialized procedures in the past have included; trials, interrogations, Presidential elections, war, etc, and will mean that we will diverge from the classic ROP in the time being. Although the details of such procedures or how it will exactly go will depend on the situation in which they are called upon, we wanted to provide you brief examples of how it would look like in order to assist in your preparation. Most specialized procedures will go on for no longer than an hour.

1. Trial: If a delegate has been accused of a crime that could be prosecuted upon the laws of their country, they will take the stand as a defendant. We may bring in lawyers or a jury to decide their fate in our committee.
2. Interrogations: If an accused criminal is caught within the committee, we may have a Q&A form of interrogation with the entire committee.
3. Elections: If there comes a situation in which there is a change in regime, we may accept candidates and conduct a vote within the committee.
4. War: In the past we have had wars between different committees, however in the case of the ACRC it is highly likely that if there is to be a war, it will happen within. The scenario of a war is highly flexible, although a method that has been done in the past is to have a fast-paced cycle of 5~10-minute debate—submit directives—crisis update in which all motions will be suspended.

Directives and portfolio powers

The most important aspect of this committee, at least initially, will be to convene with those that are from the same association as your character—for example; PLO/PFLP members, Jordanian representatives, American or Western representatives, etc. This is because there are purposely no members of significant power in this committee, such as King Hussein or President Nixon meaning you and your fellow members of your association will have to represent a similar stance that voices the decisions and opinions of such individuals. Personal endeavors are always a possibility—in fact, I personally recommend it. However, you are a delegation that is getting direct orders and updates from your nation / association therefore you at least would have to initially appear as if you are representing a collective opinion.

Still, it's worth mentioning that as a representative of a country, you will have access to its press, military, and parliament. Meaning that for example if you're a state official, although you cannot call direct military action unless you are a president, you can request to do so through submitting a directive (both private and public, subject to the situation) due to the absence of powerholders. The directive will go through under the notion that it is being requested to your, for example, president, and it will be under the discretion of the director whether or not it will be enacted.

Agenda Introduction

Before going into details about the hijackings itself, it is imperative that delegates are aware of the goals and objectives of all parties involved. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) is a Marxist-Leninist organization founded with the purpose of liberating Palestine and establishing an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. It operated as a member organization of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and engaged in the conflicts that ensued during the Black September Crisis of 1970.

The Dawson's Field Hijackings refers to not one, but five hijackings instigated by the PFLP as a part of their movement. It should be reminded that the exact starting date of our committee will be on September 6th of 1970, following the simultaneous hijackings of flights EL Al Flight 219, TWA Flight 741, Swissair Flight 100, and Pan Am Flight 93.



EL Al Flight 219

The information following is a censored version of what's available on the internet as of present day, and will only include information that the chairs expect delegates to be aware of as diplomats, politicians, or revolutionaries involved in this case in September of 1970. In other words, this is not the whole truth of what has happened; it is a realistic extent of information that would've been available in the historical setting. Please make sure to read this portion of the report with care, as it will include crucial information that has been slightly altered from real events.



TWA Flight 741

El Al Flight 219 was intended to head to John F. Kennedy Airport from Amsterdam when a hijacking was attempted by individuals identified to be 27-year-old male Patrick Arguello and 26-year-old female Leila Khaled. Details of the entire event are still unclear in its majority, however Captain Uri Bar-Lev's intercom reveals that he has refused to meet the hijackers' demands and made an emergency landing at London Heathrow Airport after shots were fired in the plane. The only casualties from this incident are steward Shlomo Vider—shot by Arguello however alive, and Patrick Arguello himself—shot four times in the back by an unidentified identity and pronounced dead after landing. Ergo, the hijacking of El Al Flight 219 has now concluded as an attempted hijacking.



Swissair Flight 100



Pan Am Flight 93

From what has been reported to the committee, the hijackings of TWA Flight 741, Swissair Flight 100, and Pan Am Flight 93 has happened almost simultaneously, very shortly following the failed hijacking of El Al Flight. The identities of the hijackers on all three flights are still yet to be confirmed, although it is highly likely that they are, too, members of the PFLP as they themselves are claiming to be. Information from the Swissair Flight 100 seems to suggest that the plane is looking to make a landing in Dawson's Field, a desert airstrip near Zarqa, Jordan. All three hijackings are of international airlines that carry over 130 individuals per plane, crew and passengers included. Yet, although not confirmed, there is reason to believe that hijackers in all flights are heavily armed, and that Pan Am Flight 93 may contain a large amount of explosives. Furthermore, with the passengers on the plane being held captive by the hijackers, this case is not only a series of airline hijackings—it is also a hostage crisis with 400+ individuals being held as hostages on air being threatened by belligerent individuals with political demands.

The committee will operate under the notion that the events in El Al Flight 219 have been concluded, while it has been about an hour since the hijackings of the remaining three planes.

Letter from the Chairs

Welcome aboard delegates! This is Wieroo Park, Diane Seyeon Lee, and Seohyun Elin Jang who will guide you through the atrocities of the Dawson's Field Hijackings. We look forward to the diverse debates and schemes that will take place in this committee.

Hi all, my name is Wieroo Park, and I'm a senior in Branksome Hall Asia. I've been doing MUN since 6th grade and have participated in probably 20ish conferences, and MUN remains to be one of my favorite things about high school—although, my favorite has always been historical crisis committees. I want to mention that me and my co-chairs are fully open to creative and outlandish directives; that's what makes crisis committees fun! With many years of experience between me, Diane, and Elin, we can ensure you that you are in good hands.

Hello delegates! My name is Diane Seyeon Lee, a sophomore at Branksome Hall Asia. Until now, I have been a part of around 17 conferences as a delegate, a chair, and also a secretariat. Each conference I attended was such a remarkable experience and I want you, the delegates, to leave with an unforgettable memory from the committee. Wieroo, Elin, and I will try our best to make this committee enjoyable, and remember that if you have any questions regarding the committee, you can always reach out to one of us (or all!) through our emails below.

Greetings, my name is Elin Jang, and I'm currently attending Branksome Hall Asia as a senior. I have been part of the MUN community for 5 years now, and each conference has been an experience worth remembering. I cannot be more excited for us to create great memories together, learn together, and enjoy our time together. See you soon!

This committee will cover the series of airplane hijackings which may be a bit unfamiliar to the majority of delegates, so we highly recommend depending on this background guide as a major source of information. The delegates will take on roles that played a crucial part in the given context and will negotiate in order to resolve the Dawson's Field Hijackings.

The chairs look forward to intense discussions, active negotiation, and creative solutions when faced with life-and-death situations. But always remember that enjoying this special experience of freely cooperating and debating with different delegates comes first. Please feel free to let us know if you have any questions.

Best Regards,

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Key Terms

Hijacking

Hijacking refers to the illegal takeover of a vehicle, typically an aircraft, ship, or other means of highly populated transportation. Usually done by individuals or groups with the intent of achieving their own objectives, often including political or ideological aims.

Black September (crisis)

The Black September Crisis refers to an event that took place in September 1970, primarily in Jordan. It involved a series of clashes between the Jordanian government and the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), led by Yasser Arafat. The crisis emerged from long standing tensions between the Jordanian monarchy and the growing Palestinian refugee population, who sought increased autonomy. The conflict escalated into violence, leading to Jordanian military deployment against PLO and Palestinian militants. The crisis culminated in a negotiated ceasefire brokered by various Arab states, ending the immediate confrontation.

Black September (group)

Black September was a Palestinian organization founded in 1971. The group emerged from the broader Palestinian struggle for liberation and was responsible for various acts of violence and terrorism, targeting both Israeli and international diplomatic interests. The name "Black September" derives from the crisis, which marked a turning point in the Palestinian resistance movement.

PLO

The formation of the organization was initiated after a conference of the Arab League in 1964. PLO, short for Palestine Liberation Organization, was founded in June 1946 after the Palestinian National Council convened. The organization formed to protect and represent Palestinians and to build an independent Palestinian state.

PFLP

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist political organization based in Palestine. It was founded in 1967 with the goal of achieving Palestinian self-determination and liberation from Israeli occupation.

Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict refers to a long-standing and complex dispute between Israelis and Palestinians over territorial, sovereign, and rights issues of both populations in the historical region of Palestine.

Socialism

The basic idea of socialism is that the population of a state owns the means of production and property of the state while the government controls them. The end product of the work done by the population is divided up equally between each member of the state proportionately.

This allows all members of the society to have the basic necessities of life and also start in the same economical level which creates equal opportunities for everyone by removing the cause of material (monetary) disadvantage. Socialism also eliminates class distinctions based on generational wealth or any other unfair factors in life to ensure a competitive ground where everyone has to compete only using one's personal strengths.

But even though the concept seems very idealistic, socialism usually results in failure in the real world mainly because its main ideologies do not fit with typical human behavior.

Marxism-Leninism

Marxism-Leninism is a political ideology that combines Marxist principles, with the strategies and tactics advocated by Vladimir Lenin. It calls for the overthrow of the capitalist system through a revolutionary party, which leads the working class in establishing a socialist state that eventually transitions to a classless, communist society. This ideology emphasizes the importance of centralized control, the role of the state in guiding societal development, and the need for international solidarity among workers to achieve global revolution.

Guerrilla

Typically refers to an irregular military group that is attempting to alter the government by launching surprise attacks on official army units

Terrorism

Violence rooting from mainly political disagreements striving to achieve a certain political goal. Most likely results in casualties.

Historical Background

There are two primary historical aspects of this crisis; namely the Black September crisis and the international spike in airline hijackings during the 1970s.

Black September



The Dawson's Field Hijackings, although a crisis in itself, is a part of a bigger conflict called the Black September or the Jordanian Civil War. The hijacking of ELA Al Flight 219 marks the start of the conflict on September 6th, 1970. The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was a liberation group led by Yasser Arafat established in the late 1960s, operating under the goal of establishing an independent Palestinian state in the territories occupied by Israel. With Jordan as their base, the PLO's

relationship with the Jordanian monarchy deteriorated as it deemed the organization to pose a threat to Jordan's sovereignty, leading to a military crackdown against the Palestinian militant factions. September 6th of 1970—the date of the hijacking of the four flights and the starting date of this committee marks the beginning of the Black September (crisis, not to be confused with the splinter group of the PLO under the same name).



1972 Munich Olympic Massacre

Although not included in the timeline of the committee, events such as the 1972 Munich Olympic Massacre that left over is able to exemplify the violence and intensity of the Palestinian movement during Black September.

The PFLP, the organization that is suspected to be the entity responsible for the hijackings, is a section of the PLO. PLO was founded in 1948 as a response to the Palestinian refugee crisis with the creation of Israel, with the goal of liberating Palestine from its control. The late 1960s was when the PLO gained significant control, seeing the emergence of armed factions such as Fatah—challenging and directly threatening Israeli occupation.

The relationship between Jordan, Israel, & Palestine

The relationship between those three countries will be the main source of conflict of opinion in this committee. Information on this matter is widely available on the internet, however I understand that it may be a difficult topic to digest. Therefore, we have summarized the issue into terms that might help your understanding. Still, do remember, this is an extremely simplified version and may not be sufficient for a complete insight into the matter.

Israel is a historically Jewish country while Palestine is Arab-dominated. Due to the Arab-Israeli war (1948), thousands of Palestinians became a part of Israel but not fully accepted as Israeli people. With Israel's subsequent rapid occupation of Palestinian land that has been deemed illegal by international law, Palestinian territory and people were forced to comply with the Israeli regime. The PLO became one of the outcomes of the occupation, struggling to achieve liberation from Israel.

Jordan comes into the conflict with the fact that the PLO gained momentum in Jordan, as their primary base. Although their predominant struggle was against Israel, King Hussein of Jordan started to sense that the PLO was becoming a threat to his government in which he even took measures that involved armed conflict as an effort to push the PLO out of Jordan (Black September).

Although this cabinet is specifically for the Dawson's Field Hijackings, the events that transpire in Black September will have direct influence in the course of the hijackings and the negotiations that could be made.

Airline Hijackings during the 1970s



Hijacking of Trans World Airlines Flight 847

The period of time between 1960 and 1973 is considered to be the “golden age” of aircraft hijackings, globally. Political resistance and statements were the primary motivator of many of these hijackings, such as the hijacking of Western Airlines Flight 701 and Lufthansa

Flight 181. Yet, there still were hijackings such as the case of D.B. Cooper which was relatively unrelated to any known political motive. Still, such a spike in airline hijackings is greatly due to the increased accessibility of air travel in the 1960s paired with poor airport security, making it easier for individuals to board planes with weapons or explosives. Furthermore, the 1960s and 70s saw political upheaval in especially the Middle East following the decolonization of several countries in the region, leading to the establishment of several independent nations such as Yemen and Oman. The Arab-Israeli Conflict also played a major role in universal political instability, being the root cause of many wars and uprisings by Israeli and Arab territories.

Current State of Affairs

Please keep in mind that the Aviation Crisis Response Cabinet (ACRC) is a fictional nonexistent committee, thus not most but some of the content written in this section will be fictional, however be built upon the basis of real, historical information.

As mentioned prior, the ACRC consists of notable leaders of the PFLP and the PLO, in addition to American, Jordanian, Palestinian, British, Swedish and Israeli diplomats and negotiators. The ACRC has been formed in response to the hijacking of the ELA AI, on September 6th of 1970, and has convened by the time of the remaining three hijackings.

Shortly afterward the initial hijacking, the PFLP announced that it was responsible for the hijackings as a means to draw attention to their cause. The group demanded the release of Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli jails and the release of certain individuals from other countries, including the Baader-Meinhof Gang members in Germany and the Red Army Faction members in Japan.

In terms of the Jordanian crisis, it is reported that King Hussein has ensured that the situation is under control, and that Amman (capital of Jordan) will be back in Jordanian hands, back from Palestinian groups. It is also suggested that Iraqi troops have reportedly stepped aside in response to the participation of the Jordanian Army, heavily implying the influence and significance of military involvement. With the alleged success of the Jordanian army, there is possibility that the PLO and their movement might get further heightened and enraged at this development which would have direct influence on the decisions made by the PFLP hijackers on-air. Yet, many are skeptical of King Hussein's claims that the situation with Palestinians in Jordan is "under control", when in fact the domestic conflict has climaxed to the start of Black September as of this very day. There are also reports that Yasser Arafat and the PLO members on Jordanian ground are gearing up for an armed confrontation.

Currently there are over 400 innocent civilians being held by the organization, on air, awaiting rescue. Delegates of this committee are tasked to negotiate and debate with each other to reach a consensus that will allow the safe landing of all three aircrafts on air, and for its hostages to return to their families safe and unharmed.

Stances of Parties

Ali Hassan Salameh

Ali Hassan Salameh, also called Abu Hassan, was the chief of operations for the Black September organization. Born on April 1st, 1941 to a wealthy family, Salameh was known for showing off his wealth and being around women. Being a key member of the PLO, Salameh is against Israel. During the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, his father was killed during a war by the Israeli Defense Forces, also one of the fuels for being anti-Israeli. Multiple sources back the suspicion that Salameh was a key bridge between the PLO and the CIA. From this interaction, Salameh was requested to not kill American citizens while the US financially funded and politically supported the PLO.

Bassam Abu Sharif

As a member of the PLO and a senior adviser of the Chairman of PLO, Yasser Arafat, Abu Sharif is a key figure in shaping the PFLP's strategy and the decisions that pertain to their armed resistance against Israel. As a senior adviser, he is to work closely with fellow members of the PLO and PFLP for their demands to be met, and for their organization to avoid facing international scrutiny in the process of advocating for their cause.

Chad Michael Young (Fictional)

Chad Michael Young takes part in this committee as a professionally trained psychologist for terror negotiations, dispatched by the United States of America for the purpose of mitigating further hijackings. He is most concerned with the well-being of civilians, thus aims to stand neither for or against all sides of the crisis. Highly experienced in the field, Young has a substantial success probability in convincing terrorists in-action, and will be a useful resource for both the negotiators and the PLO/PFLP. Delegates must keep in mind that Young is under no specific higher association, meaning his personal beliefs and motives are entirely up to the delegate's attention.

Damon Alibarn (Fictional)

Damon Alibarn is a notable reporter of the infamous American-based international news network, The Universal News Channel (UNC). Having garnered recognition for his riveting socio-political conspiracies, the Black September is merely another opportunity to his path to fame. Subsequently, he is profit motivated and aims to draft the most eye-catching headlines regardless of its validity. Though vulnerable to monetary bribery, he is not to be underestimated considering his undeniable influence over public opinion. Throughout the committee, he is expected to publish riveting stories and explore collaboration with different associations.

George Habash

As the secretary and founder of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) since 1967, George Habash served as a terrorist tactician, a physicist and a Palestinian Christian. He strongly believed that these actions were necessary to draw international attention to the Palestinian struggle and pressure global powers to address the issue of Palestinian self-determination. A revolutionary Marxist-Leninist, he sought for the end of Israeli occupation which would therefore open up the ultimate scope for Palestinian rights, unity and the implementation of his ideology.

Gunnar Jarring

Gunnar Jarring is a Swedish diplomat that is best known for the Jarring Mission (1967) in which he worked with the United Nations to come to a peaceful settlement between Israel and neighboring Arab countries. Having made significant contributions to Middle Eastern diplomacy, Jarring participated in talks with Joseph Sisco (Under Secretary of State for the U.S., under Henry Kissinger), as he is serving as the United Nations Special Representative for the Middle East. He has direct involvement with King Hussein's efforts and would serve as a link between the committee and Middle Eastern forces as a whole.

Habis Majali

Habis Majali was a highly respected chief of staff in the Jordanian Armed Forces from 1958. He also served as the Minister of Defence in addition to being a member of the Jordanian Senate for 20 years, starting from 1967. As noted, Majali poses great power in Jordan's power, and his decisions would pose a considerable impact on the committee since Jordan borders Israel. He was also the only Arabian commander to fight against Palestinians, Syrians, and Israelis and reach victory. Even though he went through all these victories, Majali does not forgive old enemies and strives for his own country's success.

Henry Kissinger

As a future Nobel Peace Prize winner, Kissinger served as the United States National Security Advisor at the time of the hijackings. He led the majority of the talks between the U.S. State and Defense sectors, the FBI, CIA, and President Nixon. With conflict of opinion within the American Security sector such as that the use of U.S. forces would be impractical, Kissinger is tasked to mediate and represent the U.S. 's decisions. He is a staunch believer that the U.S. should not pressure the PFLP in order to prevent jeopardizing the lives of the passengers and thus rejects the notion to extricate the passengers from the plane for the time being, and that force would only be used as a last resort. While he is continuing talks with the Jordanian government, he believes that there is reason to suggest that King Hussein has lost control of the Jordanian Army, which is currently the only entity surrounding the airfield of the planes.

Moshe Dayan

Born in 1915, Moshe Dayan was a key member of the Israeli military, serving as the Chief of Staff of the Israel Defense Force from 1953 to 1958 and leading the Israeli soldiers to victory in the 1948 Arab-Israel War. Dayan contributed greatly to establishing the state of Israel itself and its approach to security. He was also appointed as Israel's Minister of Defense during intense situations. Overall, Dayan is a very patriotic individual and would put the needs of Israel before any other factors.

Sir Denis Greenhill

Sir Denis Greenhill served as the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Head of Diplomatic Service. He initiated dialogue between the U.S. and the Prime Minister, and firmly believed that U.S. engagement and contribution will be able to persuade Israel towards meeting PFLP's demands. As a representative of the UK, his concerns lie on the decisions of King Hussein, his negative relationship with the PLO and Palestinians as a whole, and the implications it may have on the hostage situation. In this committee, he will be representing the beliefs of the Prime Minister of the UK and will serve as the communication front for the British Parliament.

Wasfi Tal

Wasfi Tal, born in Jordan in 1919, has numerous notable achievements. He served as a captain in the British Army during World War Two, and fight for the Arab Army during the 1948 Palestine War. In 1963, he was appointed as the Prime Minister of Jordan followed by two more appointments in 1965 and 1970. When he was appointed in 1970, Jordan was going through the Black September crisis. Tal is against anything that disturbs national security, whether it is Israel or Palestine. Just like Majali, he will favor whatever favors his country which is his top priority to protect. As one of the three representatives from Jordan, he will strive to do any means necessary to keep his people safe even if it might mean that it might upset the PLO or the Mossad.

William D. Cavill (Fictional)

William D. Cavill is a British Broadcasting Company (BBC) journalist tasked with publishing updates on the September crisis. Together with Sir Denis Greenhill, he will reflect orders of the Prime Minister of the UK to control the extent of public knowledge on this matter. A journalist of a prevalent broadcasting company, the way he formulates his articles will have a considerable impact on public opinion.

Yasser Arafat (Mohammed Abdel Rahman Abdel Raouf Arafat al-Qudwa al-Husseini)

Yasser Arafat was a leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). Born in 1929, he spent his youth in Egypt, where as a student, he learned about Arab nationalist and anti-Zionist ideas. In 1948, he fought against the establishment of the state of Israel. In 1964, Arafat co-founded and led the PLO for decades. He is recognized internationally as a person who strived for a peaceful resolution between Israel and Palestine and worked hard to secure rights for fellow Palestinians.

Yitzhak Rabin

Yitzhak Rabin, born in 1922, served in two main roles: Chief of Staff in the Israeli Military and the Ambassador to the US. He served 27 years in the Israel Defence Forces after graduating with a very high mark from school. Rabin was later appointed to take the role of the Israeli Ambassador to the US to continue the alliance relationship with the US. As he took crucial roles in the Israeli military and consolidated the US and Israeli relationship, Israel and the country's association with the US would come first in any decision he makes.

Zaid Rifai

Zaid Rifai served as the Prime Minister of Jordan from 1984 to 1989. Born on December 6, 1936, in Jordan, Rifai was an influential political figure during a critical period in Jordanian history and served as the country's Prime Minister under the reign of King Hussein. Following the hijacking, Rifai maintained close contact with the United States military and has been an active participant in the Jordanian Cabinet that has convened in response to the crisis. He is a notable member in demanding action from the Americans and their military force. Being a Jordanian representative, Rifai should keep in mind that King Hussein and the Jordanian government perceive Palestinians and the PFLP as a great threat to the sovereignty of Jordan and have recently instigated a military offense operation against Palestinians in Jordan.

Possible Solutions

Comply with the PFLP's demands

Although the specificity of the PFLP's conditions are yet to be known, there is enough evidence to believe that they will soon be demanding the release of Marxist-Leninist prisoners in Israel, Germany, and Japan. Complying with their demands, if successful, will be the most direct and fast resolution to the issue that will also be able to ensure the safe return of all hostages. Yet, despite the fact that negotiating a release of prisoners has historically been a relatively easy task, delegates are to keep in mind the anti-communist nature of all three countries involved. With McCarthyism's rise in the 1950s and the anti-communist movements in Germany, Japan, and South America, countries or delegates may prefer an alternative to the conditions. Not only that, it is highly likely that Jordan and King Hussein's parliament will stand highly against making negotiations with the PFLP as they are in active conflict with the PLO and perceive the organization to be a threat to their King and sovereignty as a whole. The release of prisoners will also have major political implications in which the PFLP's violence will be rewarded with success. Representatives are also to address the aftermath of the negotiations, and how either the release or persecution of hostages will impact the Black September crisis as a whole.

Instigate a military operation

As the Jordanian military have already mobilized the ground around Dawson's Field, the possibility of a military intervention is not completely out of possibility as suggested by many delegates of this committee. However, a military operation would be a high-risk high-reward move—in the case of a success, countries may not have to comply with the PFLP's demands in order for the return of the hostages. Otherwise, it may end in the death of hundreds of innocent civilians. The possibility of an international or a bilateral operation may also be discussed, as the involvement of the U.S. military is currently urged by many.

Communicate with the hijackers and arrange an alternative

This cabinet consists of individuals that are highly experienced in criminal negotiation and international diplomacy. If countries are unwilling to meet the demands of the PFLP, an attempt at communication with the hijackers on-board may be an option in order to arrange perhaps more flexible conditions for the release of the hostages. However, with reports suggesting the presence of explosives and ammunition on the airlines, negotiators must operate with caution to prevent a tragedy on-air.

Terrorist negotiation

Although there has been no serious violence against the hostages in the hijacked planes as of now, the hijacking of the four planes could be defined as an act of international

terrorism. Out of the categories of terrorism, the hijackings could be defined as limited political terrorism in which terrorists act upon political motives that do not include the overthrow of a state.

Our cabinet consists of members of the PLO and PFLP, and also representatives of various countries that are highly experienced in criminal negotiation. However, negotiation cannot fully rely on the dialogue between PLO/PFLP members of this committee; it is the hijackers that are actively on-air are those that will be making all decisions regarding the course of the planes. It is highly recommended that communication between ground and air are established early on, and we do suggest that delegates at least briefly look into known methods of terrorist negotiation.

Questions to Consider

1. What are the PFLP, or in a larger context, the PLO's goals? What are their short-term demands, and how would the demands lead to their long-term goals?
2. What are the implications of this crisis in the context of the Black September and the Israel-Palestine conflict?
3. What are the common methods of negotiation used when mediating terrorist threats? To what extent can such methods be applicable to this scenario?
4. What is the status quo in the relationship between Jordan, Israel, and Palestine (or Palestinian liberation groups)? How would western countries represented in the committee, such as the US, UK, and Sweden participate in the resolution of this crisis?
5. To what extent would an armed intervention pose a threat to the lives of the hostages?

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