

Committee: Crisis Committee

Issue: Addressing the rapid expansion of global warfare and political tensions in the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor

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Committee Introduction

Welcome to the Crisis Committee of CSIAMUN XIX. This year the crisis committee will address the rapid expansion of global warfare and political tensions in the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The overall objective of the committee requires peace discussions on the next phase of the crisis at Pearl Harbor and dynamic deliberation from a realpolitik standpoint aligned with the hegemonic hierarchy of vested authority as a delegate. Each delegate shall embody a distinct historical figure, thereby not only representing a nation per se, but also personifying the unique influence and strategic imperatives. Unlike traditional committees, this committee operates under constant unpredictability, where sudden developments may emerge at any moment. Throughout the conference, crisis updates will be introduced, and delegates are expected to respond with strategic ability and versatility. Delegates may, at their discretion, undertake military and diplomatic measures in a manner consistent with private directives. Each delegate will be given a corresponding portfolio of characters, which will include background details, prior objectives and confidential goals. These portfolios must guide delegates' strategies, and success will be measured by their ability to accomplish individual objectives and their contribution to the overall resolution.

Agenda Introduction

The ensuing attack of Pearl Harbor has brought about the official entry of the United States into the conflict, transitioning regional battles into an interconnected global war. This expansion has disrupted the existing balance of power across both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters, forcing nations to rapidly adjust their strategic alignments. Amid rising military casualties, disrupted trade routes, and total economic mobilization across involved states, the necessity for immediate diplomatic and tactical reassessment has become paramount.

This agenda propels delegates to navigate these shifting conditions, seeking to either stabilize the international order or secure a strategic advantage for their respective coalitions. Because national security and geopolitical positioning are prioritized, the committee must balance the pursuit of a diplomatic resolution with the realities of total warfare. The decisions finalized within this conference will alter the lives of millions, reshaping the geopolitical landscape of the future.

History

Pearl Harbor Air Raid: The Catalyst of a Global All-Out War

The Japanese Empire's surprise attack on Pearl Harbor on the morning of December 7, 1941 was more than just a one-off incident that dealt a significant military blow to the American Pacific Fleet. This attack was an unprecedented catastrophe that fundamentally dismantled and reorganized the topography of international politics and security in the 20th century, and it was the decisive catalyst for combining the existing regional conflicts, which were separated into Europe and the Asia-Pacific region, into one large global all-out war. This background highlights the rapid expansion of the global war that began with the Pearl Harbor airstrike, the consequent political and human rights side effects, and the formation of a multilateral cooperation system developed by the international community in response to it in various diplomatic and historical contexts.

Isolationist America's Divide and Hawaii's Tragedy

From the late 1930s to the end of 1941, the world was divided into the Nazi-centered front in Europe led by Germany and Italy and the East Asian front centered on the Second Sino-Japanese War. The United States, which had the world's largest economy and unrivaled industrial production potential at the time, was extremely reluctant to intervene directly in World War II, rooted in its traditional policies of the Monroe Doctrine and strong isolationism. However, on December 7, 1941, when the Japanese Empire launched a surprise attack on a U.S. naval base in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, a precarious rift in international relations and the U.S. policy of neutrality were quickly broken. Many of the U.S. Pacific Fleet's flagship battleships were sunk or severely damaged, and more than 2,400 soldiers and civilians were killed in these airstrikes.

U.S. Congress's decision to participate in the war and a series of alliances

The Pearl Harbor airstrikes instantly united American society with anger and public participation in an all-out war. On Dec. 8, the day after the attack, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt called for a declaration of war against Japan, defining Dec. 7 as "Day of Disgrace," in a speech to Congress, and the U.S. Congress voted overwhelmingly with only one vote against it. Then, on Dec. 11, the Three Kingdoms of Nazi Germany and Italy declared war on the United States in accordance with the Treaty of the Alliance of the Three Kingdoms, and the United States immediately responded and voted to declare war. This completely established a unified global all-out war structure that encompasses the Western powers, Asia, the Atlantic, and the Pacific in just one week.

Japan's invasion of Asia-Pacific and the collapse of Allied naval forces

The tactical success of the Axis Powers after the Pearl Harbor raid led to an uncontrollable expansion of lines across Southeast Asia and the Pacific. The Japanese military attacked the U.S. military strongholds of the Philippines, Guam, and Wake Island almost simultaneously with the attack on Pearl Harbor, while invading the British colony of the Malay Peninsula and Hong Kong, as well as the Orlandan East India (now Indonesia), which is rich in key strategic resources such as oil and rubber. On Dec. 10, 1941, the Prince of Wales and Repulse, the pride of the British East Fleet, both sank in the waters of Malaysia after being struck by a Japanese land aircraft. This signaled the arrival of the era when naval capability would determine victory or defeat in the naval battle, and at the same time proved that the Allied Powers' defense system in the Asia-Pacific region had been completely dismantled.

The defeat of the ABDA command and the resource crisis in the Allies

The Allies quickly formed an ABDA command that united the United States, Britain, the Netherlands, and Australia and attempted to establish a common defense line, but due to lack of preparation and confusion in command, they lost one after another in the Battle of Java in early 1942. As a result, the Allies faced one of the worst resource and security crises in history, with the entire Southeast Asia and major Pacific islands under the control of the Axis Powers during the first half of 1942, and more than 90% of the world's natural rubber supply was cut off.

War security panic and forced expropriation of Japanese-Americans

As the war rapidly expanded on a global scale, the side effects of misuse of state power and serious human rights violations surfaced in the name of wartime security. The most prominent example was the forced relocation and internment of Japanese residents living on the West Coast of the United States. Immediately after the attack on Pearl Harbor, there was a severe fear and racial prejudice against espionage in American society. In response, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 in February 1942. The order left more than 120,000 Japanese-Americans (more than two-thirds of whom are U.S. citizens) who lived on the U.S. West Coast with their assets confiscated and forced into remote camps without due process, a tragic history of how democratic principles and rule of law can be violated in a state of wartime panic.

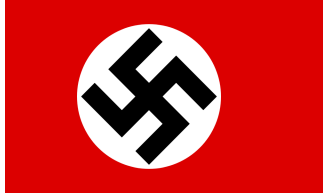
Paralysis of humanitarian norms and reorganization of power in Latin America

Furthermore, as the global all-out war intensified, international legal and humanitarian norms were severely paralyzed by indiscriminate bombardment of civilian residences, forced labor mobilization, and unlimited submarine operations on neutral merchant ships. As the war's impact spread across the globe, neutral countries' positions as buffer zones were severely reduced. In Latin America, the United States led the common defense of the Americas through the 1942 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Rio de Janeiro. Washington's strong diplomatic and economic pressure led the majority of Latin American countries to sever ties with the Axis Powers and align themselves with the Allies.

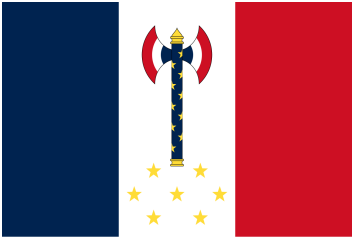
Diplomatic friction in European neutrality and the crippling of the League of Nations

Neutral countries in Europe, such as Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, and Portugal, also suffered from great diplomatic friction, great economic retaliation, and the threat of maneuvering politics from both warring blocs. This was followed by fierce battles to secure resources behind the scenes, such as the transport of iron ore from Sweden and the supply of tungsten from Spain. As the scope of the war expanded, the existing concept of neutrality was practically neutralized, and the world was completely divided into two huge blocks, diplomatically and economically. This unprecedented global crisis has made it clear that the existing League of Nations has completely failed and been powerless to maintain world peace and security.

List of directors

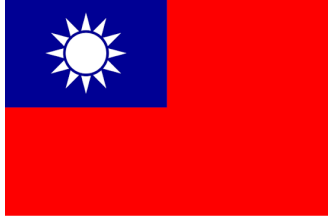
Name	Nationality	Term of Office
Adolf Hitler	Nazi Germany 	Adolf Hitler is the <i>Führer</i> of Nazi Germany and commander-in-chief of the German army. The empire and the throne of the <i>Führer</i> are at stake. Failure with Operation Barbarossa led to an absolute massacre for the German forces. National sentiment is sour for the Nazi party, and the urge for peace is increasing. One must secure both the authority and the nation from this crisis.
Tojo Hideki	Empire of Japan 	Tojo Hideki is the general of the Imperial Army and the prime minister of the Empire of Japan. The campaign has started, and the mainland of the empire is being firebombed. However, as the national ideology is driven by bushido, thus fighting to the last man standing. Surrender is not an option. One must preserve honor in defeat while preparing for the uncertain dawn of a post-war Japan.
F.D.R. (Franklin Delano Roosevelt)	United States of America 	Franklin Delano Roosevelt is the president of the United States and the country's highest civilian authority. As commander in chief, Roosevelt oversees the broader direction of the American war effort while exercising primary authority over diplomacy, federal administration, wartime economic policy, and relations with Allied governments. By 1943, victories at Stalingrad and in North Africa signal a turning tide, yet the war continues to demand enormous American resources and political commitment. Roosevelt must balance competing military priorities in Europe and the Pacific, coordinate strategy with Allied leaders, mobilize American industry and

		resources, and maintain domestic support for the war. With the 1944 presidential election approaching, he must also preserve political stability at home. His authority centers on national strategy and executive decision-making rather than the direct operational command of forces in the field.
Douglas MacArthur	United States of America 	Douglas MacArthur is one of America's most prominent military commanders and serves as Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in the Southwest Pacific Area. After being forced to withdraw from the Philippines in 1942, MacArthur vowed to return and has since directed Allied operations aimed at reversing Japanese expansion. By 1943, campaigns in New Guinea and the surrounding region are strengthening the Allied position, but Japan remains a formidable enemy. MacArthur exercises operational authority over forces assigned to his command, allowing him to plan campaigns, deploy available troops, coordinate regional air and naval support, and determine military priorities within the Southwest Pacific. He favors an aggressive advance toward the Philippines, viewing its liberation as both a strategic necessity and an American obligation. His task is to secure the forces and resources necessary to defeat Japan in his theater while navigating the broader strategic priorities established by Washington and the Allied leadership.

Winston Churchill	United Kingdom 	Winston Churchill is the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. By 1943, Britain had endured the Blitz, stood alone in 1940, and now fought alongside America and the Soviet Union. Churchill must balance the demands of Roosevelt and Stalin, preserving Britain's voice among giants while ensuring the survival of a fading empire. Yet it is sure, the sole purpose is to ensure the death of the evil empires from revival.
Benito Mussolini	Fascist Italy 	Benito Mussolini is the Duce of Fascist Italy. By 1943, the Italian empire crumbled as defeats in North Africa and the Allied troops' in Sicily shook the foundations of his rule. German troops flood Italy to keep him in power, but his grip weakens as King Victor Emmanuel and his own council plot his removal. At this state, one must acclaim authority against collapsing armies and turning people.
Philippe Pétain	France (Vichy) 	(Vichy France)Philippe Pétain is the Chief of State of Vichy France. By 1943, France lay under German occupation, its authoritarian Vichy regime only functioning as a nominal government. Pétain's reputation constantly deteriorates as he is commonly seen as a figurehead under Nazi control. His objective is to regain power while avoiding full annexation and maintaining maximum autonomy.

Charles de Gaulle	France (Free) 	(Free France) Charles de Gaulle is the leader of Free France. By 1943, France lay under German control, its Vichy government collaborating with the enemy, while de Gaulle commanded from exile in London and Algiers. Though dismissed by Roosevelt as not important and distrusted by Churchill, he stands as the only voice claiming to speak for a conquered nation. His task is to unite fractured resistance movements, restoring France to honor.
Hubertus van Mook	Netherlands 	Hubertus van Mook is a senior Dutch colonial administrator and a leading figure in the government of the Netherlands East Indies. Following the Japanese invasion and occupation of the Dutch East Indies in 1942, van Mook escaped to Australia and became deeply involved in Allied efforts to reclaim the territory. By 1943, the Dutch colonial government remains in exile while Japan controls most of the archipelago. Van Mook seeks Allied military support for the liberation of the East Indies and the restoration of Dutch authority. However, growing Indonesian nationalism complicates his vision of a restored postwar colonial order. His task is to secure the return of Dutch influence while preparing for the political challenges that will follow liberation.

Arnulfo Arias	Panama 	Arnulfo Arias is a Panamanian nationalist politician and former president whose political influence remains significant despite his removal from office in 1941. During his presidency, Arias pursued nationalist policies and resisted several American demands concerning the defense of the strategically vital Panama Canal, creating tensions with Washington as the global war expanded. His government was overthrown in October 1941, leaving him outside formal power as Panama moved closer to the United States. By 1943, the Panama Canal has become an essential strategic artery for the Allied war effort, increasing American influence over Panamanian affairs. Arias seeks to defend Panamanian sovereignty and restore his political position while challenging excessive foreign influence over his country.
Joseph Stalin	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics 	Joseph Stalin is the General Secretary of the Communist Party and the supreme leader of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. By 1943, the Red Army had endured the siege of Leningrad and the horrors of Stalingrad, barely achieving victory from devastation. His country is threatened sideways, with Hitler on the Western front and Trotsky on the East. Stalin holds absolute power, balancing terror and inspiration to keep the nation united. Yet he must also manage fragile alliances with the Allied forces.

Chiang Kai-shek	Republic of China 	Chiang Kai-shek is the Generalissimo of the Republic of China and the leader of the Nationalist government. By 1943, China experienced six full years of pure suffering in the form of the war against Japan; its cities were bombed, its people starved, and its armies bled. Though an ally of Roosevelt and Churchill, Chiang must balance both fighting the Japanese invader and the growing threat of Mao's communists within.
Francisco Franco	Kingdom of Spain 	Francisco Franco is the Caudillo of Spain. By 1943, his nation stood weary and divided, marked by the scars of brother against brother. Spain is currently and officially neutral in the global conflict, yet its sympathies tilt toward the Axis that once secured Franco's rise. Now, as the war shifts, Mussolini's Italy begins to crumble, and Allied strength grows by the month. Franco faces a perilous choice: continue courting Hitler and risk Spain's destruction, or pivot toward the Allies to preserve his dictatorship.
John Curtin	Australia 	John Curtin is the prime minister of Australia and a central Allied leader in the Pacific War. Japan's rapid advance across Southeast Asia and the fall of Singapore in 1942 shattered Australia's traditional reliance on Britain for its defense and brought the threat of war directly to the country. By 1943, Curtin has strengthened Australia's military partnership with the United States while Australian forces fight to halt Japanese expansion in New Guinea and the wider Pacific. At home, the demands of total war place enormous pressure on manpower, industry, and national resources. His task is to defend Australia from further Japanese advances, strengthen cooperation with the Allies, and ensure that Australian

		forces and resources are used in accordance with the country's own strategic interests.
Fulgencio Batista	Cuba 	Fulgencio Batista is the president of Cuba and a close ally of the United States. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Cuba declared war on Japan, Germany, and Italy, placing the country firmly on the Allied side. By 1943, Cuba plays an important strategic role in protecting Caribbean shipping routes and cooperating with American efforts against German U-boats. Batista seeks to strengthen Cuba's military and economic relationship with the United States while maintaining political stability at home. His task is to protect Cuba from Axis threats, expand its influence in the Caribbean, and ensure that cooperation with the Allies serves Cuba's national interests.
Rafael Ángel Calderón Guardia	Costa Rica 	Rafael Ángel Calderón Guardia is the president of Costa Rica and an important supporter of the Allied cause in Central America. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, his government declared war on the Axis powers and strengthened cooperation with the United States. By 1943, Calderón is pursuing major social reforms at home while facing growing political opposition and wartime economic pressures. His administration has also taken strong measures against German and Italian influence within Costa Rica. His task is to preserve domestic stability, support the Allied war effort, and protect Costa Rica's sovereignty while advancing his ambitious program of social reform.

Peter Fraser	New Zealand 	Peter Fraser is the prime minister of New Zealand and a committed leader of the Allied war effort. New Zealand has fought alongside Britain since the beginning of the European war, but Japan's expansion across the Pacific has brought the conflict much closer to home. By 1943, New Zealand forces are serving in both the Mediterranean and Pacific theaters, placing considerable pressure on the country's limited manpower and resources. Fraser maintains close ties with Britain while increasingly relying on cooperation with the United States for Pacific security. His task is to defend New Zealand, sustain its contribution to the Allied war effort, and ensure that the country's interests are represented in decisions shaping the future of the Pacific.
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Possible Solutions

The rapid and borderless expansion of hostilities following the attack on Pearl Harbor requires a coordinated response that no single belligerent can supply alone. Potential solutions must therefore prioritize the construction of unified command machinery, given that the League of Nations has demonstrated its incapacity and that the instruments presently available consist of the Arcadia Conference at Washington and the Declaration by United Nations of 1 January 1942. This includes establishing a Combined Chiefs of Staff to consolidate strategic planning in place of parallel national efforts, designating a single supreme commander for the Pacific theatre encompassing American, British, Dutch and Australian forces, and securing a binding undertaking that no signatory shall enter into separate armistice negotiations with any Axis power. Delegates should note that mechanisms belonging to a later era fall outside the scope of this debate.

Beyond the question of command, further action must be taken to arrest the geographic expansion of the conflict, in which strategy and supply cannot be separated. The committee must confront the question of theatre priority, as no coherent allocation of men or material is possible

until it is settled. Such coordination is crucial given the speed of Axis advances across Southeast Asia and North Africa, making it vital to secure the Persian Corridor, sustain Soviet supply, and forestall any junction of German and Japanese forces through the Middle East. Related measures include the expansion of Lend-Lease with reciprocal provision from Commonwealth states, a pooled shipping authority empowered to allocate merchant tonnage against the submarine campaign, a raw materials board with authority over rubber, tin, petroleum and tungsten following the loss of Malaya and the Netherlands East Indies, and preclusive purchasing directed at Portuguese wolfram and Turkish chromite.

Furthermore, the debate should reach out to fulfil the need to protect civilian and captive populations amid the widening war. This includes reaffirming the Geneva Convention of 1929 relative to the treatment of prisoners of war, with reciprocal inspection through the International Committee of the Red Cross and designated protecting powers, noting that the Convention was signed but never ratified by Japan. Discussions on refugee transit from occupied Europe and Asia, relief corridors to famine-threatened populations in occupied China, the condemnation of collective reprisals against civilians, and standards governing the treatment of enemy-alien residents within Allied states will be vital, alongside groundwork for a successor organisation to the League possessing genuine enforcement authority.

Ultimately, the committee must strike a crucial balance: prosecuting the war with the unity and speed the moment demands, while preserving the principles on which the Allied cause rests. Consensus on this agenda is neither achievable nor desirable. The principal fault lines are theatre priority, whether the Atlantic Charter's self-determination language extends to Asian and African territories, whether the Soviet Union will abandon its neutrality pact with Japan, and the influence China is to be accorded in Allied planning. Blocs formed around these divisions will produce a more substantive debate than any attempt to draft a document acceptable to the entire committee.

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