1951 House of Representatives

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Table of Contents

Position list 3

Letter from the chair 4

Vice chair letter 5

Topic A: Preventing the spread of Communism Abroad

Overview 6

Rise of the Soviet Union 7

US/Soviet Relations During WWII 8

Beginnings of the Cold war 10

Marshall Plan 11

Korean War 12

Committee Objective/ Questions to consider 13

Topic B: Preventing the Spread of Domestic Communism

Overview 14

Hollywood 15

Government and spies 16

The Rosenbergs 18

Committee Objective/ Questions to consider 19

Bibliography 20

Positions

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2. Robert L. Doughton
3. Sam Rayburn
4. Carl Vinson
5. Daniel A. Reed
6. John E. Rankin
7. Roy O. Woodruff
8. Clarence Cannon
9. Emanuel Celler
10. Robert Crosser
11. John Taber
12. John H. Kerr
13. Edward E. Cox
14. Charles Aubrey Eaton
15. Thomas A. Jenkins
16. Joseph William Martin Jr.
17. Edith Nourse Rogers
18. Clifford R. Hope
19. Richard Bowditch Wigglesworth
20. Merlin Hull
21. Noble Jones Gregory
22. Donald Lawrence O'Toole
23. Robert B. Chiperfield
24. Louis E. Graham
25. Karl M. LeCompte
26. L. Mendel Rivers
27. Percy Priest
28. Joseph O'Hara
29. James C. Auchincloss
30. Hugh Joseph Addonizio
31. Walter S. Baring Jr.
32. James S. Golden
33. Eugene McCarthy
34. John A. McGuire
35. James Devereux

Dear Delegates,

My name is Keira Connelly, and I'm so excited to be your chair for LYMUN XI! I am a senior at LT, and this is going to be my 4th year chairing a committee. In past years, I have chaired DISEC, UNESCO and The Constitutional Convention committees. I am currently Director of Specialized Committees this year and outside of MUN I am Co-president of Philosophy club, An Outreach Leader of Student Council, Irish Club Treasurer, LTHS Student Ambassador, an avid musician, lifeguard and a recreational scuba diver.

This committee is going to be based entirely around the topic of communism during the Cold War with you guys as the US congress. This committee will start in January of 1951 in order to make things run as smoothly as possible and to make it easier for research. This was a fascinating time in American history where we were in ideological warfare with the Soviet Union and its communist ideas. I expect you all to treat both topics with the respect and sophistication required and absolutely no bigotry or discrimination will be tolerated. This committee is a specialized committee, meaning that it will function as a regular GA but will have frequent crisis updates delegates will have to respond to (delegates will not have a crisis arc or write crisis notes.) I expect you all to speak your mind diplomatically, work well with each other along with stepping outside your comfort zone and trying something new in this committee.

Lastly, position papers are required to receive an award at LYMUN. You may turn them in to me ahead of time (my email) or turn them in on the day of the conference. I wish you luck in your preparations and I look forward to meeting you all in committee.

- Keira Connelly

Dear Delegates

My name is Bianca Berry, and I'm so excited to be your vice chair for LYMUN XI! This is my freshman year at Lyons Township and my first year participating in Model UN. Besides Model UN, in school I am a part of the math team, robotics club, and play for our school's tennis team! Outside of school, I intern at the University of Illinois Chicago in chemical engineering, volunteer at Brookfield Zoo, and learn coding as a hobby.

I'm genuinely thrilled to meet all of you and to hear your creative ideas. I encourage each delegate to work diplomatically, ensuring that every voice is heard. When speaking, bring passion and confidence to capture attention. I also urge delegates to explore new pathways for solutions and actively share their thoughts throughout the committee. As your vice chair, my goal is to foster a welcoming and supportive environment where you can learn, express your ideas, and contribute to a successful committee experience.

I look forward to meeting you all and having an excellent LYMUN XI! I wish you all the best of luck!!

- Bianca Berry

Topic 1: Preventing the Spread of Communism Abroad

Overview:

Communism is a political school of thought that was pioneered by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engles during the industrial revolution. The industrial revolution was a time of great economic expansion that had people suddenly moving to big cities to work in factories producing all types of goods. Historically, it was considered a period of great prosperity but it didn't benefit everyone equally. Many people who worked in these factories were barely paid a living wage and had children as young as 4 working in dangerous conditions. Marx and his colleague argued that the working class was suffering because of its dependence on the upper class and insisted that workers rise up and overthrow the system. Communism would abolish private property, grant universal suffrage, and work to meet people's needs instead of driving up profits. Although Karl Marx's ideas were radical and saw him banished from three different countries, the ideas took hold among European countries where the populace was frustrated with the fact that they weren't getting their fair share, most notably in Russia.



Rise of the Soviet Union

Many in the Kingdom of Russia were extremely frustrated with their system of government and the way it was running the country at the time. Russia had been an absolute monarchy for centuries and many were unsatisfied with the lack of political representation and the disastrous decisions that Tsar Nicholas II made in both World War I and the Russo-Japanese war. Along with the unpopular Tsar, Tsarina Alexandra made herself unpopular by relying on faith healer Gregory Rasputain who seemed to be helping with her son's Alexi's Hemophilia, which is a condition where your body doesn't produce platelets and hence prevents the blood from clotting. To the Russian people, anyone seemed like a better alternative to the leaders they had, so when a charismatic man named Vladamir Lenin came along with his own take on Marxist ideals and promising equality for all, the Russian people responded positively and the Bolsheviks quickly gained support and popularity. Tsar Nicholas was forced to abdicate, and a provisional government called the Duma was enacted, but later in February of 1917 the Duma was overthrown by Vladamir Lenin, and he instituted a communist government. When the Russian Civil War came to a close in December of 1922, it lead to Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan joining together to create the state that the world would come to know as the Soviet Union



US-Soviet Relations During WWII

World War Two was and is the most destructive and bloodiest war the world has ever known. It all began in 1939 when Nazi Germany invaded Poland; Hitler's plan was to conquer all of Europe and "cleanse it" of any "undesirable" people according to the Nazi ideology such as Jewish people, Slavic people, and Polish people, along with those who were disabled and have queer identities. Although Hitler had an extreme hatred of Slavic/ Russian people, he and his



generals decided that it would be too much of a risk to wage a two front war. On August 23, 1939, Hitler and Stalin signed the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact which stated that Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union would not attack each other and divide Poland among the two powers. The non-aggression pact stood until Nazi Germany decided to invade the Soviet Union with Operation Barbarossa, which is considered the biggest ground invasion in all of history. With the Russians being taken by surprise with this attack the germans gained ground quickly and Western allies began preparing for the defeat of the Soviet Union but that all changed at the battle of Stalingrad. Stalingrad was a city that Stalin held close to his heart and he couldn't bear it to fall into the hands of the Nazis. But, Hitler and Nazi leadership wanted to seize it as a blow to Stalin's ego because of the shared name. Ultimately, the 24th panzer division charged with invading Stalingrad ran out of supplies and had to give up the siege. The betrayal from the Nazis

led Stalin to join the war on the side of the Allies, joining Great Britain. Ultimately, after the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor, the United States also joined the war on the side of the Allies and ultimately two countries with completely opposing worldviews were on the same side. With the Soviet Union in the east and the American and British forces in the west Nazi Germany's downfall was imminent. On April 30, 1945, Hitler committed suicide in his underground bunker along with his wife of less than a day Eva Braun. With the Fuhrer dead, Nazi Germany



ultimately surrendered on May 7, 1945, and Germany was carved up into 4 separate zones each controlled by the Americans, British, French and Russians. The capital city of Berlin was also divided into eastern and western parts with the East controlled by the Soviets and the West controlled by Allied powers. The relationship between these allied nations started to deteriorate when the western countries realized that the USSR was essentially occupying the nations it freed from the Nazis and installing communist puppet governments while the other Allied countries were trying to aid in the installation of democracy in Germany. There was also a lot of bad blood between the former allies when it came to how the war was fought: Russian military leaders believed that there was a disproportionate amount of deaths among Soviet soldiers compared to the Americans and resented the fact that the Americans didn't treat the USSR as with importance on the

international stage. Although there was no direct fighting between the two countries, this period of heavy tensions became known as the Cold War.

Beginnings of the Cold War

With Europe divided into separate factions, relations between the Soviet Union and the United States began to sour. Although both countries still had diplomatic relations with each other, there was clear disdain on both sides to the point where communism was considered taboo



in the United States. The ideological warfare that ended up turning into actual warfare in proxy war has all originated from this resentment of each others' ideologies. The continent of Europe was divided, with American allies to the West and Soviet Union and its satellite states to the East. This phenomenon was demonstrated in Winston Churchill's famous speech at Westminster college in which he declared that an "iron curtain" had descended across the center of Europe. In 1947, President Harry S Truman released the Truman Doctrine which was a foreign policy pledge stating that Americans would support all countries against authoritarian threats. The pledge was made with the primary goal of countering the growth of the Soviet bloc in the post war years. Relations between the two sides of the curtain deteriorated so rapidly that in April of 1949 the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or NATO was founded in order to protect the western nations from attack by the Soviet Union. Although there were many countries who joined in later years, the founding members were Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Although not created until 1955, the Warsaw Pact which consisted of the Soviet Union, Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East

Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Romania was a direct response to West Germany joining NATO and promised economic and military cooperation between the Soviet Union and its satellite states.

The Marshall Plan

On April 3, 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed the Economic Recovery Act of 1948. This act became known as the Marshall Plan named for Secretary of State George Marshall, who proposed that the United States should provide assistance economically to restore the infrastructure of Europe on a variety of different economic fronts. George Marshall believed that giving money to countries that installed full democracies would boost not only the economies of the countries that accepted, but would encourage countries that allied themselves with the Soviet Union to distance themselves from their communist ideals and accept the aid. The Marshall plan was originally pitched to Congress as a 4 year plan to reconstruct damaged cities and get rid of trade barriers that existed between the United States and Europe. In spite of the fact that it had bipartisan support, there were critics on the Republican side that argued that the plan was a "socialist blue-print" and wasted money on other countries instead of building up American defenses.



Although the plan didn't convince countries already under communist influence to stray, the 13.3 billion dollars worth of aid sent into Western Allied countries boosted their economies. The Marshall Plan allowed a resurgence in European manufacturing and brought increased investment to the region from private entities.

The revitalization of the post war nations increased political tensions with the Soviet Union, but is often credited as being what maintained American and democratic influences in the region. Today, the Marshall Plan is looked back fondly upon by many historians and policymakers as a pivotal move in American foreign policy.

Korean War

Germany wasn't the only country that was divided into pieces after the conclusion of the second world war: many countries were divided into both communist and anti-communist sectors, the most notorious of those being the Korean Peninsula and Vietnam.

The Korean conflict began in June of 1950 when North Korea, under the leadership of Kim Il-Sung, invaded the Southern half of the peninsula. South Korea, which was under US protection, was completely ambushed and was caught off guard by the sudden attack. Without seeking Congressional approval, President Truman ordered general Douglass McArthur to use all available forces to stop the invasion, but when Truman received UN approval, the combined forces were able to maintain control of a small portion of the South Korean state. As the North Koreans outran their supplies, MacArthur's attack at Inchon devastated the North Korean forces causing the army to retreat. At this point the American and UN armies were very confident that they were going to end this conflict decisively and intended to take back the entire peninsula and reunite it under an anti-communist government.



In 1950, China intervened on behalf of the North as they were concerned the army was getting too close to the Korean-Chinese border. Although American forces were superior on paper, China's leader Mao Zedong had more manpower and all of his forces were directly

stationed across the river from North Korean territory so they were able to push through and gain ground very quickly. The fighting was contained close to the original 38th parallel, and in 1953 an armistice was signed which ended the fighting. The Korean War is still in its beginning stages at the start of this committee, so the bills passed could directly affect the war and potentially change the outcome.

Committee Objective

Whether it be in the grand cities of Europe or the war fields of Asia, the consequences of the communist ideology can and will be detrimental to American interests abroad. If the committee decides on topic A, you as delegates can choose what aspect and region you want to focus on when it comes to containment. It is vital that your solutions are both practical enough to be implemented but robust enough to affect real change on the matter. Also, remember that the Congress isn't a UN body, which means you as Representatives have the power to follow through with your actions instead of suggesting that the body do something.



Questions to Consider

What party does your position belong to?

Is your position a war veteran?

Would your constituents be aided or harmed by increasing funds sent abroad?

Is your position more in favor of trade or an isolationist approach?

Should Congress be sending money and resources to the United Nations?

Who would we call upon to help us in our foreign endeavors?

Is it more important to focus on the European or Asian front of the Cold War?

Should we be recruiting more foreign spies?

Topic 2: Preventing the Spread of Domestic Communism

Overview:

As was stated before, the Soviet Union and the United States of America didn't get along after World War II. This not only led to increased tensions on the global stage but also a massive amount of distrust domestically on a variety of fronts. Both the United States and the USSR were constantly sending in spies to attempt to gain a foothold in either governmental or nongovernmental avenues. Although there were definitely spies in many different places throughout the United States, the increased tensions ended up meaning that people who weren't spies were being accused of espionage and faced repercussions when there was no hard evidence to support any wrongdoing.



One of the most notorious accusers during this time was Joseph McCarthey and The House Committee on Unamerican Activities or HUAC. HUAC was created in 1938 before the Second World War had even started in order to investigate suspected communist ties to individuals and corporations. Although most of the time there was no concrete evidence of

collaboration, an accusation alone was able to ruin the lives of the accused and lead to people losing their jobs, families, friends, and freedom. Throughout the McCarthey's tenure in Congress, he told the public that he had a list of the names of communist spies, which ultimately turned out to be a lie.

Hollywood

Members of Congress began to grow increasingly worried about the state of Hollywood and the film industry. All types of media have been used throughout history to influence the public whether explicit or implicit, which is why many in the United States wanted to make sure there wasn't media being made that sent subliminal messages in support of the Soviet Union. The Motion Picture Production Code, more commonly known as the Hayes Codes, played a major part in the censorship of Hollywood films and other media forms throughout this time. The Hays Code banned a variety of themes deemed scandalous and contrary to American values from popular television, these were included but not limited to nudity, scenes of passion, lustful kissing, mentions of venereal diseases, profanity, crime portrayed positively, disrespect toward religion or the law, sexual perversion (code for homosexuality), and miscegenation (interracial relationships)—among other subjects.



Of course any mention of communist thought was strictly prohibited on screen, but actors were also not allowed to express any pro-communist sentiments outside of the studio either. Actors with any connection to suspected communists and those who expressed anti-capitalists sympathies were often blacklisted from Hollywood and some were dragged in

front of HUAC to speak about their beliefs. The most notorious example is the Hollywood 10, a group of directors, producers and screenwriters who were asked to testify and then proceeded not to say anything. Though they were all sent to prison for contempt of Congress, their story made headlines and led some to believe that HUAC and the US government were infringing on the right to free speech and expression.

Government and Spies

The state of the government during this time was also in a state of disarray. The Soviet Union was trying to send in spies to infiltrate governmental organizations, mainly the FBI, CIA, State Department, and the Department of Defense, in order to gain knowledge on the plans of the United States in relation to the Soviet Union.

Espionage on this scale directly evolved from the plans to get atomic bomb secrets from the United states. After Germany was defeated in the second world war, both countries were working hard to create this weapon but, because of the air of distrust between the two nations, secrets were not shared so each side recruited scientists and other government officials to find out secrets about the atomic bomb.



Espionage was a major part of the Cold War, with boths sides willing to sacrifice anyone and everyone to gain intel on the others' plans. A variety of spy rings existed in both the United States and England that were started by the KGB in order to gain intelligence, most notably the Cambridge 5, students at the University of Cambridge who after graduation obtained positions in the UK government who then went on to share government secrets with the Soviets along

with a variety of other intelligence. The Silvermaster spy ring was also well known, which consisted of the assistant secretary of the treasury Harry Dexter White and his conspirators who used their government positions in order to secure Soviet spies lower level positions where they could collect intel.

Although there were certainly those in the United States government who were spies and intended to do great harm to the nation, the witch hunts that occurred during this time often never affected actual spies and actually targeted many innocent people. Many of the people who were fired during this time period had very little concrete evidence against them and were often fired for slight affiliations with the communist party. Many people who were charged during this time were convicted without any evidence. Along with those that had communist ties, government employees who were members of the LGBTQ+ community were targeted as well because the government deemed that they were more susceptible to blackmail by the Soviets because their identities weren't accepted during that time period. Overall, many innocent people were fired, blacklisted, and convicted because of these reasons, so many in the public were dissatisfied by the government's attempt to rid there ranks of communists.

The Rosenbergs

One of the most famous examples of people being convicted of espionage in the US were Julius and Ethel Rosenburg. The husband and wife duo had become members of the communist party in 1942, but dropped out in 1943. Julius had worked on the Manhattan project as an engineer but was discharged from the army when his former membership came to light.



Although there was extremely circumstantial evidence that Julius had committed some form

of espionage against the United States, there was no evidence that Ethel had been involved in her husband's works. The couple was brought to trial on March 6th 1951, and the trial judge and prosecution were extremely biased against the couple and engaged in evidence fabrication and blackmailed Ethel's brother in order to secure convictions of them both. Although there was a worldwide plea for mercy, they were both executed by electric chair in Sing Sing prison in 1953. No other conspirators in this spy ring were given a death sentence, even those who had more substantial involvement. When the Soviet Union fell in 1991, it was revealed that Julius was in fact a spy for the Soviet Union but his wife's involvement was inconclusive and the Obama administration exonerated her in 2015. Overall, this was an extreme miscarriage of justice that left the couple without their lives and their children without parents. The execution of the Rosenbergs renewed the calls for amnesty and further investigation of people accused of espionage.

Committee Objective

Although the Soviet Union is an obvious threat to America, the ways in which Congress has



dealt with domestic communism have been looked down upon by the public. If the committee decides on topic B, you as delegates can choose what aspect you would like to focus on, whether it be Hollywood, the government, or education on what the HUAC committee is doing. Again, it is vital that your solutions are both practical

enough to be implemented but robust enough to affect real change on the matter. Remember that the Congress isn't a UN body, which means you as representatives have the power to follow through with your actions instead of suggesting that the body do something.

Questions to Consider

How long has your position been in Congress?

What is the sentiment of your position on congressional dealings relating to communism?

Is your position a member of HUAC?

How can we stifle communist growth in the United States without infringing on the right to free speech?

What should the punishment be for spies?

Should standards for Hollywood be more strict?

How can you combat Soviet propaganda?

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