Potsdam Conference

Chair: Philip Bulakovski

Vice Chair: dipped



Topics

Topic 1: Demilitarization of the German State

Topic 2: German reparations

US positions

George S. Patton (US General)

Harry Truman (US President)

James Bryant (US secretary of state)

William D. Leahy (US Admiral)

George C. Marshall (US Army Chief of Staff)

Henry Arnold (Commander of the USAAF)

Henry Stimson(US secretary of war)

Joseph Davies(former US ambassador to the Soviet Union 1936-1938)

Dwight D. Eisenhower(US Field Marshall)

British poshitions

Winston Churchill(British Prime Minister)

Clement Attlee(British prime minister {replacing Churchill during the conference})

Bernard Law Montgomery(UK field Marshall)

Ernest Belvin(UK minister of foreign affairs)

Andrew Cunningham(UK Admiral)

Alan Brooke(UK Field Marshall)

Soviet positions

Joseph Stalin

Vyacheslav Molotov(Soviet minister of foreign affairs)

Georgy Zhukov(Soviet Field Marshal)

Ivan Konev(Soviet Field Marshal)

Nikita Khrushchev(secretary of the communist party of Ukraine)

Georgy Malenkov(Deputy Premier of the USSR)

Andrew Gromyko(Soviet Ambassador to the US)

Konstantin Rokossovsky(Soviet Field Marshal)

Vasily Chuikov(Soviet Field Marshal)

Nikolai Kuznetsov(Soviet Admiral)

Lavrenti Beria(head of the NKVD)

Alexey Innokentyevich(Chief of Staff, Soviet Army)

Fedor Yakovlevich(Marshall of Aviation, USSR)

Filipp Ivanovich(Commissioner for the repatriation of POWs)

Fedor Tarasovich(Soviet ambassador to the UK)

Letter From the Chair

Dear Honorable Delegates,

Welcome to LYMUN XI. My name is Philip Bulakovski and I am a junior at LT. I am looking forward to chairing my committee on the Potsdam Conference and I hope to work with everyone so that we can make this committee as fun and engaging as possible.

This year is going to be my second year in Model UN at LT. Last year in MUN, I attended almost every conference and also went to MUNUM which was my first experience at a multi-day conference. Other than MUN, I am on both the swim team and water polo team. Outside of school sports, I also enjoy skiing and hiking. Apart from sports, I am very interested in history, in particular the history of the world since the 19th century.

My love for history, especially in this specific era is what led me to choose to create a committee on the Potsdam Conference as it was the critical moment that finalized the separation of Eastern and Western Europe and resulted in a very rapid escalation into the Cold War. The first topic I chose was the demilitarization of the German state, which historically was one of the main focus of the conference. For the second topic, I chose the handling of German reparations which was also one of the main points debated at the conference.

This committee is a very large hybrid committee which does mean it will be a bit more hectic than a regular GA, however, it is not a full crisis as it is simply too large for me to handle with around 30 people. Despite the large committee, I will do my best to make this committee fair and enjoyable for everyone. As a reminder, position papers are due either the night before by email, or as a printed copy the day of the conference when you walk in the room. If you have any reason to contact me, please reach out to my school email at bul513366@d204.lths.net with any questions. I usually check my email either once a week, or several times daily, depending on how interesting or boring the schoolwork of that week is so feel free to reach out.

- Philip Bulakovski

Committee Background

The Potsdam Conference was a 16 day conference in 1945 following the capitulation of Nazi Germany and the end of the European theater of the second world war from July 26th to August 2nd between the leaders of the United States, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, as well as several French and Chinese leaders to negotiate terms of defeat for Germany to ensure that Germany would never again be able to start another world war. The conference also finalized the agreements made at the Yalta Conference regarding the division of Europe. The Potsdam conference was also where Allied leaders decided on how the topic of retributions should be handled following the disaster that evolved from the poor handling of the Treaty of Versailles.

Today, the Potsdam conference is viewed as the start of the Cold War with a lot of the decisions from the conference still having a lasting impact on the world today in ways such as the severe decrease in German nationalism and the extinction of German culture from the historical German lands of Eastern Prussia which resulted from the forced migration of germans from newly Polish and Soviet annexed territories. The conference

also resulted in the last major shift of European borders for the next 45 years until the reunification of Germany and the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact.

The timing of this committee is from the beginning of the debate at the Potsdam conference, until the close of the conference, and right before or after lunch(depending if this committee has an early or late lunch), there will be a crisis drop that changes the leader of the British delegation, as this historically happened when Winston Churchill was voted out of office halfway through the Potsdam conference.

Second World War European, African, and Atlantic theater backgrounds

The Second World War was a Global conflict that stretched from as early as 1934, with the Japanese invasion of Manchuria, to 1945, with the surrender of Nazi Germany, and Imperial Japan. The war was and still is the largest, most impactful conflict in human history, claiming over 70 million lives and leading to the toppling of multiple empires, the innovation of hundreds of technological innovations, and the shifting of the balance of power from the old empires of western Europe to the Soviet Union and the United States of America.

The Second World War officially started in September 1939, following the German invasion of Poland after they refused to cede the formally German city of Danzig/Gdansk back to Germany. This resulted in Nazi Germany invading and conquering Poland. For the first week of the invasion, the Polish military bravely held against the wrath of the German military, but the Soviet Union invaded Poland from the East 16 days after the initial German invasion, leading to the swift defeat of the Polish military as the allied powers in the West refused to react to the Germans and invade a completely unoccupied German Rhineland, which at the time contained their main military industrial base. This could have likely ended the war by Christmas, 1939, sparing millions of lives, and would have most definitely changed the course of the modern world. Unfortunately, that did not happen, and the Second World War raged on for another six years, costing 70 million lives across the world.

Following the fall of Poland exactly a month after the initial invasion by Nazi Germany, the German military started drafting plans for an invasion of France and the Low Countries. This culminated in the physical invasion of the Netherlands, in a two-week blitz that saw a mass bombing campaign of Dutch cities, similar to those executed by the German air force in the Spanish Civil War, but at a much larger scale. Following the capitulation of the Dutch government, Germany invaded Belgium and used commandos to capture key forts and then simply drove through Belgium's Ardennes forest as opposed to effectively capturing the country, with France surrendering before Belgium with the fall of Paris and the second armistice.

Shortly after the German victory over France and the Low Countries, the German invasion of Norway and Denmark, labeled Operation Weserübung, commenced. The invasion of Denmark was extremely successful, with the Danish state surrendering in less than six hours after the Germans invaded. Despite the initial defeat of the Danes, the German government decided it would be simpler to establish a collaboration state based on the former Danish government, as long as they stayed under the German thumb. This lasted until 1943 when the Danish population started more actively supporting the Danish resistance and protesting German rule, leading to a stricter German rule being established that lasted until the German defeat in May 1945.

The second goal of Operation Weserübung was the occupation of Norway for her natural resources, and additionally, the usage of her heavy water plant for nuclear research. The invasion was a combined amphibious assault, relying on the German navy to disguise itself and the transports for the German army as British ships, not revealing their true identity to Norwegian coastal defense batteries until after they had sailed past them or destroyed them while the Norwegians hadn't even raised the alarm yet. This strategy led to the rapid occupation of most coastal Norwegian cities, except for Oslo, whose defensive network of coastal guns and land-based torpedo tubes from before the First World War, combined with a veteran leader, led to the German ships being identified early, and the Norwegians destroying one of the two heavy cruisers present with that segment of the invasion force. The loss of the Heavy Cruiser *Blücher*, as well as the loss of a dozen other major surface combatants (10 destroyers, 2 light cruisers), was the failure Hitler needed to pull the plug

on funding for the German surface fleet and devote full resources to the production of U-Boats.

That decision would eventually culminate in the establishment of the policy of unrestricted submarine warfare, a strategy that goes against the traditional, gentlemanly style of raiding commercial shipping that relied on capturing and then sinking enemy merchant vessels while allowing their crews to either escape or be taken aboard as prisoners to be dispatched at the capturing vessel's next port call. Unrestricted submarine warfare, quite frankly, was a bloody and ruthless strategy, marking a sharp departure from earlier naval engagements. The policy, which Germany reintroduced in 1940, involved U-boats sinking enemy merchant ships without warning, regardless of the presence of civilian passengers or non-combatant crew members. This marked a significant escalation in the war at sea and had severe consequences for Allied shipping across the Atlantic. German U-boats, especially those deployed in the so-called "Battle of the Atlantic," would go on to sink more than 3,500 Allied merchant vessels by the end of the war, crippling the logistical lifelines that connected the UK and the US.

In the summer of 1940, as Germany consolidated its control over most of Western Europe, it turned its attention to the British Isles in what would become known as the Battle of Britain. Following the fall of France, Adolf Hitler sought to force Britain to negotiate peace or face invasion. In Operation Sea Lion, the Germans planned an amphibious assault on Britain, but this was contingent upon gaining air superiority. The Luftwaffe, under the command of Hermann Göring, launched a relentless bombing campaign aimed at the Royal

Air Force (RAF) and Britain's civilian infrastructure. However, despite heavy bombings, the RAF, under the leadership of Air Chief Marshal Hugh Dowding, was able to repel the attacks. The Luftwaffe suffered significant losses, and the planned invasion of Britain was indefinitely postponed. The Battle of Britain, fought from July to October 1940, was a crucial turning point in the European theater, marking the first major defeat of the Axis powers.

As the war raged on in Europe, tensions in the Mediterranean and North Africa grew. Italy, under Benito Mussolini, had already entered the war in 1940, aligning itself with Germany, and sought to expand its empire into North Africa. The Italian military, however, proved largely ineffective, prompting Germany to send reinforcements in the form of the Afrika Korps, led by General Erwin Rommel. Rommel's expertise and tactical brilliance earned him the nickname "The Desert Fox." Throughout 1941 and 1942, the Afrika Korps engaged British and Commonwealth forces in a series of back-and-forth campaigns across the deserts of Libya, Egypt, and Tunisia. Key battles such as the Siege of Tobruk and the Second Battle of El Alamein would ultimately determine the outcome of the North African Campaign. The British Eighth Army, under the command of General Bernard Montgomery, delivered a decisive blow to Rommel's forces at El Alamein in October 1942, and by May 1943, the Axis forces in North Africa had surrendered. Meanwhile, on the Eastern Front, the conflict between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union reached its boiling point in 1941 with Operation Barbarossa. Launched in June 1941, this massive invasion was the largest military operation in history, involving more than 3 million German and Axis troops across a front stretching from the Baltic Sea in the north to the Black Sea in the south. The aim

was to capture the Soviet Union's industrial heartland and enslave or exterminate its Slavic population. Initially, the Germans made rapid advances, capturing vast swathes of territory, including Kyiv, Smolensk, and the approach to Moscow. However, the brutal Russian winter, logistical overextension, and the fierce Soviet resistance under commanders like Georgy Zhukov, along with the defensive efforts at Moscow itself, halted the German advance by the end of 1941. The failure of Barbarossa would prove to be a critical turning point, as the Germans never regained the initiative on the Eastern Front. In 1942, the Axis continued their expansion, but the Allies also began to gain ground in several crucial battles. The Battle of Stalingrad (August 23, 1942 – February 2, 1943) became a pivotal moment on the Eastern Front. German forces, under General Friedrich Paulus, laid siege to the city, but Soviet forces, commanded by General Vasily Chuikov, fiercely resisted. The battle evolved into a brutal urban conflict and culminated in a Soviet counteroffensive that surrounded and forced the surrender of the German Sixth Army. The defeat at Stalingrad marked a turning point in the war, as the Germans were pushed back, and the Soviet Union began its long march toward Berlin. Meanwhile, the Allies intensified their bombing campaign against Germany. The Royal Air Force (RAF) launched massive bombing raids against German cities, including the infamous 1,000-bomber raid on Cologne in May 1942 as part of Operation Millennium. The intent was to disrupt German industry and morale, and the scale of the bombing raids continued to increase, with major raids on Hamburg, Berlin, and Dresden. The United States Army Air Forces (USAAF), under General Hap Arnold, also joined the bombing campaign, focusing on strategic industrial sites and transportation networks. The bombing campaign, though costly in terms of civilian casualties, had a

profound impact on Germany's ability to continue the war. In 1943, the Allies began to shift the momentum in their favor. The invasion of Sicily, known as Operation Husky, in July 1943, opened the door for the Allied invasion of Italy. Mussolini was deposed, and Italy signed an armistice with the Allies, though German forces occupied the northern part of the country, leading to months of brutal fighting. Meanwhile, the Soviet forces pushed westward, and the German defeat at Stalingrad was followed by a series of successful Soviet offensives. The Allies also launched Operation Overlord, the D-Day invasion of Normandy, in June 1944. This operation, which involved over 156,000 American, British, and Canadian troops landing on the beaches of Normandy, was a turning point in the war, and by the end of 1944, Allied forces had liberated Paris and were advancing through Western Europe. The final blow to Nazi Germany came in 1945 when Soviet forces captured Berlin. Hitler committed suicide in his bunker, and Germany unconditionally surrendered on May 7, 1945, marking the end of the war in Europe. In the Pacific, the war continued until August 1945, when the United States dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, forcing Japan’s surrender on September 2, 1945. The end of the war saw the reshaping of the global order. The United States and the Soviet Union emerged as the dominant superpowers, while Europe lay in ruins. The war had seen enormous technological innovations, including the development of nuclear weapons, and had left a profound impact on the world’s political and social structures.

Topic 1

Demilitarization of the German State

Topic Background

Disarmament is a hefty term. It is straightforward in its core but can be extremely tenuous in terms of enforcement, which is where the Treaty of Versailles went wrong. Versailles had numerous clauses that allowed Germany to silently circumvent the treaty. As Germany secretly rearmed in the 1930s, it circumvented the Treaty of Versailles to design tanks, aircraft, and warships as well as secretly train policemen to military standards that could be mobilized when needed. These small gaps in the Treaty of Versailles, plus the poor oversight by the former Entente following the establishment of the Versailles treaty led to the quiet rearmament under the Nazi regime that eventually led to war.

This quiet rearmament first truly came to light in the mid to late 1930s. During this time Nazi Germany tested and demonstrated her new military powers to the world in the Spanish Civil War, and during many visits to Germany by American celebrities and businessmen, such as Charles Lindbergh, who remarked after his first visit to Germany in 1936 that Germany “could now produce military aircraft faster than any European country; possibly even the United States” after touring of several aircraft factories, such as those of Messerschmitt, Heinkel, and Focke-Wulf. By the time Charles Lindbergh reported this to the

American military, it was too late to put out the flame without causing a fire that would at best engulf Europe in a war against Germany, one that would eventually lead to a global conflict that affected the course of humanity in ways unimaginable 10 years prior.

Despite Lindbergh's warning to the world, it was ignored by everyone and seen as an overstatement after he was shunned by the media and respectively the people for receiving the service cross of the German eagle, seen as a symbol of his nazi sympathies. As a result of this, the Western allied powers didn't truly start preparing for a land war in Europe until after Hitler's goals of expansion were made clear by the annexation of Austria and the ceding of the Sudetenland from Czechoslovakia to Germany during the Munich Conference and agreement under the policy of appeasement to be able to fight a war later down the line when Britain and France were more prepared. By late 1939, after surrendering the rest of Czechoslovakia to the Nazis without anything more than a diplomatic objection, Britain and France finally took a stand against Nazi expansionism by refusing to allow Poland to Cede Danzig/Gdansk back to Germany, and as a result of their ignorance and ill-preparedness, the second world war would rage on for 6 long years.

In addition to the rapid expansion of the German air force, Germany also expanded her fleet with ships that blatantly violated the naval treaties that had been put in place to ensure that the German fleet would never again rival the British fleet in any conceivable way. However, in 1935, following several such violations of the Treaty of Versailles, such as the Deutschland Class cruisers, which displaced 15000 tons when fully loaded with

ammunition, fuel, crew, and other vital supplies, which was well over the 10,000 ton limit set by Versailles. In addition to the treaty violations, Britain made an agreement with Germany allowing her to build whatever fleet she wanted, as long as it remained under or equal to 35% of the tonnage of the British fleet. This was one of the first acts of appeasement and most likely the one that hurt the Allies the most at the beginning of the war as it forced the British and later Americans to devote significant resources at the beginning of the war to countering the German navy's convoy raiders, which were almost entirely submarines.

Poor wording in the Treaty of Versailles allowed the German state to make foreign investments in other countries, thus allowing the Weimar Republic to establish subsidiary companies in other countries and move their main military industrial bases to other European nations such as Austria, Finland, and the Netherlands. This move alongside many different technological and military missions by German scientists, engineers, generals, and political advisors allowed the German industry and military to keep developing and advancing their technology and tactics led to many of their early successes in the Second World War that led to the occupation of many nearby nations who's industrial and agricultural bases fueled the German war machine until their eventual recapture by the Allies in the waning stages of the war.

Now the great Generals, Admirals, and political leaders of the Allies must come together and decide what they deem fair to the disarmament of their respective sphered parts of the former Axis powers. This could range from allowing weapons development for

export while limiting a domestic standing army, allowing a full standing military with no restrictions on aircraft, armor, or warships, or perhaps full disarmament, with only a limited policing force available that can be turned into an under trained militia with no domestic weapons manufacturing, even for small arms. It is simply a matter of making the right choice to avoid future industrialized conflict. This falls on the attendants of the Potsdam conference to consider all the options and engage in open debate to make the correct decision.

Topic one sources

https://usgerrelations.traces.org/charleslindbergh.html

https://www.britannica.com/event/Anglo-German-Naval-Agreement-1935

https://www.mnhs.org/lindbergh/learn/controversies#:~:text=In%201936%2C%20at%20the%20request,Reich's%20growing%20military%20air%20power.

https://www.cradleofaviation.org/history/history/people/charles_lindbergh.html

https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/A58617416/WHIC?u=la99595&sid=bookmark-WHIC&xid=38d41ea9

Questions to consider:

- What is your position's historical connection to the conference?

- What is your country's position on this topic?

- What were the historical compromises your side accepted to reach an agreement?

Topic 2

War reparations

Topic Background

The Potsdam Conference led to Germany paying reparations of upwards of 300 billion dollars in damages to the Allied Powers. All in all, it followed the precedent set by the Treaty of Versailles less than 30 years prior, which forced Germany to pay thirty three billion dollars to the victors of the war, Germany was allowed to repay her debts in equivalent materials, such as ships, consumer goods, or other strategic materials. In addition, the Saar region of Germany, which is a small coal producing city on the French-German border was occupied by France and Belgium for some years to speed up the payment of reparations.

With the majority of the German industrial base in smoldering ruins from Allied bombing raids, as well as their gold coffers run dry and their vaults looted, there is not much that can be done in the short term to reinvigorate the civilian economies of the occupied European nations.

That said, it is important to consider the extortion of the economies of the territories occupied by Nazi Germany which are not represented here today, such as the Netherlands, Yugoslavia, Poland, and France. These nations had their economies pillaged and abused by the Nazis, and therefore deserve just compensation. Seeing as Germany as well as the rest of the Axis powers were essentially broke, the consideration of a temporary or perhaps

permanent cession of territory to said countries should be considered. It must be known however that the plans for the division of Germany and Eastern Europe have already been decided previously at the Yalta conference(as seen below).





However, these borders can be reconsidered for the sake of justice and punishment of the German state, but the lessons learned from Versailles, with the mistakes of a punishment too harsh only now being evident, it is important to maintain a balance between justice and retribution to ensure a peaceful future in Europe.

Now the great Generals, Admirals, and political leaders of the Allies must come together and decide what they deem fair compensation to their new spheres of influence in Europe to be. To divide Europe, or to unite it? To maintain the Status Quo of the direct borders of the 2 most powerful alliances in history? Or to leave a number of neutral buffer states between them

Questions to consider

- How much did the war cost your country?
- Is it realistic for a defeated nation of the Axis powers to repay the amount your country is asking for
- What means of repayment is your country interested in(warships, industrial bases, monetary compensation(with or without interest)
- How much should minor powers not represented in the conference be awarded in reparations
- Should your Nation give up territory designated to you in Germany for the Yalta conference?
- Should Germany become a buffer state or remain an occupied territory for the foreseeable future?

Topic 2 sources

https://historyandheritage.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/research-topics/world-war-two/world-war-two-financial-cost

https://online.norwich.edu/online/about/resource-library/cost-us-wars-then-and-now

https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Treaty_of_Versailles(ik it's Wikipedia by technicality but it's still the full document, and this website was the easiest to read the document's articles on)

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z3h9mnb/revision/3

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yalta_Conference(only images)

List of Positions

US Positions

George S. Patton (US General)

General George S. Patton was a highly celebrated military leader known for his decisive role in World War II, particularly during the invasions of Sicily and France. His bold leadership in the European theater contributed significantly to the Allied victory.

At the Potsdam Conference, Patton was not directly involved but provided advice on military strategy, particularly regarding the occupation of Germany. His stance favored a stronger postwar U.S. military presence in Europe and an aggressive approach to Soviet power.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/George-Patton

Harry Truman (US President)

Harry Truman became President of the United States following Franklin D. Roosevelt's death in 1945 and oversaw the conclusion of World War II. He made the pivotal decision to drop atomic bombs on Japan, leading to the end of the war in the Pacific.

At the Potsdam Conference, Truman played a central role in shaping the postwar order, focusing on relations with the Soviet Union and the rebuilding of Europe. He made key decisions, including agreeing on the division of Germany and emphasizing the importance

of democracy in postwar Europe.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Harry-S-Truman

James Byrnes (US Secretary of State)

James Byrnes served as the Secretary of State under President Truman, helping to shape U.S. foreign policy during the closing stages of World War II. He was a key player in managing diplomatic relations, particularly with the Soviet Union.

At the Potsdam Conference, Byrnes worked to ensure that U.S. interests were prioritized, advocating for a strong stance against Soviet expansionism, especially in Eastern Europe. He also helped shape the agreements on Germany's future and the handling of postwar reparations.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/James-Byrnes

William D. Leahy (US Admiral)

Admiral William D. Leahy was the Chief of Staff to President Truman and a trusted military advisor during World War II. He played an influential role in U.S. military strategy, particularly in the Pacific and European theaters.

At the Potsdam Conference, Leahy's primary role was advising President Truman on military matters, including the postwar restructuring of Germany and Japan. His input helped guide the U.S. delegation on issues related to military occupation and future security arrangements.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/William-D-Leahy

George C. Marshall (US Army Chief of Staff)

General George C. Marshall was the U.S. Army Chief of Staff and played a crucial role in organizing and executing Allied military strategy during World War II. He was instrumental in the success of operations such as the D-Day invasion.

At the Potsdam Conference, Marshall's role was largely military, advising on the occupation of Germany and the future military structure of postwar Europe. His strategic thinking was key to shaping U.S. and Allied military policy in the postwar period.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/George-C-Marshall

Henry Arnold (Commander of the USAAF)

General Henry Arnold was the commander of the U.S. Army Air Forces and oversaw the American air campaign in Europe and the Pacific during World War II. His leadership helped establish U.S. air superiority during the war.

At the Potsdam Conference, Arnold participated in discussions on postwar air strategy, focusing on the importance of maintaining U.S. air dominance and the future of air forces in a new world order.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Henry-H-H-Arnold

Henry Stimson (US Secretary of War)

Henry Stimson served as the U.S. Secretary of War and was a key figure in the U.S. war effort, overseeing military operations and the development of the atomic bomb. He played a crucial role in military strategy and logistics during World War II.

At the Potsdam Conference, Stimson was central to the discussions on the use of atomic

weapons, advocating for their deployment against Japan. He also worked on postwar military plans, including the occupation of Japan and Germany.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Henry-Stimson

Joseph Davies (Former US Ambassador to the Soviet Union, 1936-1938)

Joseph Davies served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union before and during World War II, providing valuable insights into Soviet policies and motivations. He played a key role in U.S.-Soviet relations during the early years of the war.

At the Potsdam Conference, Davies was not directly involved in negotiations but served as an advisor to President Truman on Soviet intentions. His deep knowledge of Soviet politics helped inform U.S. strategy regarding Soviet relations and postwar territorial arrangements.

Source: https://www.archives.gov/research/american-experience/joseph-davies

Dwight D. Eisenhower (US Field Marshall)

General Dwight D. Eisenhower was the Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force in Europe, leading major campaigns such as the D-Day invasion. His leadership was instrumental in the defeat of Nazi Germany.

At the Potsdam Conference, Eisenhower was an advisor on military matters, providing insights on the postwar occupation of Germany and the coordination of Allied forces in Europe. He emphasized the need for cooperation among the Allies to ensure lasting peace.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Dwight-D-Eisenhower

British Positions

Winston Churchill (British Prime Minister)

Winston Churchill was the British Prime Minister during much of World War II, known for his leadership and steadfast resolve in the face of Nazi aggression. His speeches and leadership helped rally the British people and the Allies against Hitler.

At the Potsdam Conference, Churchill was a key negotiator for British interests, particularly focusing on securing favorable postwar arrangements for Britain and ensuring the protection of its empire. He played an important role in shaping the outcomes of the conference, particularly concerning Germany and Eastern Europe.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Winston-Churchill

Clement Attlee (British Prime Minister, Replacing Churchill During the Conference)

Clement Attlee succeeded Winston Churchill as British Prime Minister during the Potsdam Conference, following Labour Party's victory in the 1945 general election. His government prioritized social reform and rebuilding Britain after the war.

At Potsdam, Attlee continued Churchill's work but focused more on securing Britain's place in the postwar order, advocating for the division of Germany and ensuring the security of British territories. He also worked to strengthen relations with the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Source: Britannica - Clement Attlee

Bernard Law Montgomery (UK Field Marshal)

Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery was one of the most prominent British military leaders during World War II, playing a key role in the Battle of El Alamein and the D-Day invasion. He was central to Allied victories in North Africa and Europe.

At the Potsdam Conference, Montgomery's role was to provide military expertise and help shape strategies regarding the postwar occupation of Germany. He also discussed the military coordination between the Allies in Europe after the war.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Bernard-Law-Montgomery

Ernest Bevin (UK Minister of Foreign Affairs)

Ernest Bevin was the British Foreign Secretary during World War II and played a central role in managing Britain's foreign policy and military alliances. He was a key figure in forging the Anglo-American alliance.

At the Potsdam Conference, Bevin worked closely with the U.S. and Soviet leaders, ensuring that British interests were protected, particularly regarding the occupation of Germany and the future of Eastern Europe.

Source: Britannica - Ernest Bevin

Andrew Cunningham (UK Admiral)

Admiral Andrew Cunningham was a senior British naval commander, known for his leadership during the Mediterranean campaigns. He played a crucial role in the British Navy's successes in the Battle of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

At the Potsdam Conference, Cunningham participated in discussions on naval strategy and

the postwar structure of naval forces, including British influence in the Mediterranean and beyond.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Andrew-Cunningham

Alan Brooke (UK Field Marshal)

Field Marshal Alan Brooke was the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, overseeing Britain's military strategy during World War II. His strategic insights were crucial to the Allied victory in Europe.

At the Potsdam Conference, Brooke worked as an advisor on military matters, providing expertise on the coordination of Allied forces and the division of German military power. His role was key in ensuring that British military interests were considered.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Alan-Brooke

Soviet Positions

Joseph Stalin (Soviet Leader)

Joseph Stalin was the Premier of the Soviet Union and one of the most significant figures of World War II. His leadership and the Red Army's efforts were key to the defeat of Nazi Germany on the Eastern Front.

At the Potsdam Conference, Stalin played a dominant role in shaping the postwar world, particularly with regard to the Soviet sphere of influence in Eastern Europe. He was instrumental in the decisions regarding the occupation of Germany and the future of

European borders.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Joseph-Stalin

Vyacheslav Molotov (Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs)

Vyacheslav Molotov was the Soviet Union's Foreign Minister and a key diplomat during and after World War II. He was involved in many crucial negotiations, including the Nazi-Soviet pact.

At the Potsdam Conference, Molotov played a key role in defending Soviet interests, particularly in Eastern Europe, and worked to ensure the Soviet Union's territorial gains were recognized and maintained.

Source: Britannica - Vyacheslav Molotov

Georgy Zhukov (Soviet Field Marshal)

Marshal Georgy Zhukov was one of the Soviet Union's most celebrated military leaders, playing a central role in the defeat of Nazi Germany. His leadership was crucial in the battles of Stalingrad and Berlin, among others.

At the Potsdam Conference, Zhukov served as an advisor on military matters, particularly regarding the occupation and division of Germany. His extensive military experience helped shape the Soviet approach to postwar Germany and its military strategy in Europe.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Georgy-Zhukov

Ivan Konev (Soviet Field Marshal)

Field Marshal Ivan Konev was one of the top Soviet commanders during World War II,

leading Soviet forces in major offensives in Eastern Europe. He played a key role in the liberation of Czechoslovakia and the defeat of Nazi forces in Eastern Europe.

At the Potsdam Conference, Konev's role was focused on military coordination and Soviet strategies regarding postwar Europe. He contributed to discussions on the postwar occupation of Germany and the Soviet Union's territorial interests in Eastern Europe.

Source: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Ivan-Konev

Nikita Khrushchev (Secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine)

Nikita Khrushchev was a key Soviet leader who would later become the leader of the Soviet Union. During World War II, he served as a political officer and military leader in several key battles.

At the Potsdam Conference, Khrushchev was a prominent member of the Soviet delegation and was involved in discussions about Soviet influence in Eastern Europe and Germany. His role was to help further Soviet territorial ambitions and ensure the USSR's position in the postwar world order.

Source: Britannica - Nikita Khrushchev

Georgy Malenkov (Deputy Premier of the USSR)

Georgy Malenkov was a prominent Soviet leader who became one of the key members of Stalin's inner circle. He held several important positions, including Deputy Premier of the USSR, and was a key figure in the Soviet government during the immediate postwar period.

At the Potsdam Conference, Malenkov was involved in discussions on Soviet policy and worked to secure Soviet interests, particularly in relation to the division of Germany and

the future of Eastern Europe.

Source: Britannica - Georgy Malenkov

Andrei Gromyko (Soviet Ambassador to the US)

Andrei Gromyko was a seasoned Soviet diplomat and the Soviet Ambassador to the United States before becoming the Soviet Foreign Minister. He played a major role in Soviet diplomacy throughout the Cold War.

At the Potsdam Conference, Gromyko's role was to represent Soviet interests and protect Soviet territorial claims, particularly in Eastern Europe. He was a key negotiator on behalf of Stalin, contributing to discussions that shaped the postwar order in Europe.

Source: Britannica - Andrei Gromyko

Konstantin Rokossovsky (Soviet Field Marshal)

Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky was one of the Soviet Union's top commanders during World War II, known for his decisive role in the Battle of Stalingrad and the Battle of Berlin. His leadership was critical to Soviet military victories on the Eastern Front.

At the Potsdam Conference, Rokossovsky participated in discussions on the occupation and control of Germany, particularly concerning the Soviet zone. He brought his military expertise to the table, ensuring that Soviet interests in postwar Europe were protected.

Source: Britannica - Konstantin Rokossovsky

Vasily Chuikov (Soviet Field Marshal)

General Vasily Chuikov was a prominent Soviet commander known for his leadership in the

Battle of Stalingrad and later in the Battle of Berlin. He was instrumental in the Soviet victory on the Eastern Front.

At the Potsdam Conference, Chuikov's role was military, offering insights into Soviet military occupation strategies and the handling of Germany postwar. His experience in leading Soviet forces contributed to discussions about the division of German territories and military postwar structures.

Source: Britannica - Vasily Chuikov

Nikolai Kuznetsov (Soviet Admiral)

Admiral Nikolai Kuznetsov was the head of the Soviet Navy and a key figure in the Soviet military. He played an important role in the naval battles of the Eastern Front during World War II.

At the Potsdam Conference, Kuznetsov participated in military discussions focused on the Soviet Union's naval strategy and the postwar order in Europe. His role was to represent Soviet naval interests in the division of Germany and in maintaining Soviet influence in European waters.

Source: Britannica - Nikolai Kuznetsov

Lavrenti Beria (Head of the NKVD)

Lavrenti Beria was the head of the NKVD (the Soviet secret police) and one of Stalin's most feared and powerful associates. He was responsible for overseeing purges, mass executions, and the secret police's role in maintaining Soviet control during and after World

War II.

At the Potsdam Conference, Beria's role was more about securing Soviet intelligence and maintaining control over the Soviet territories. His involvement was particularly focused on security matters within the Soviet sphere and in occupied zones.

Source: Britannica - Lavrenti Beria

Alexey Innokentyevich (Chief of Staff, Soviet Army)

Alexey Innokentyevich was the Chief of Staff of the Soviet Army during the closing years of World War II. His role involved overseeing military operations and helping to shape the strategic direction of Soviet forces.

At the Potsdam Conference, Innokentyevich's role was to advise on military matters, particularly about the Soviet Army's postwar plans and occupation of Germany. His expertise was instrumental in shaping the postwar military occupation strategy in Eastern Europe.

Source: Wikipedia - Alexey Innokentyevich

Fedor Yakovlevich (Marshall of Aviation, USSR)

Fedor Yakovlevich was a leading Soviet air force commander during World War II, overseeing the development and deployment of Soviet air forces. His leadership contributed to the success of Soviet aviation in the war.

At the Potsdam Conference, Yakovlevich was involved in discussions on the future of Soviet

air power and the postwar military structure. He helped shape Soviet plans regarding air forces and postwar coordination with the Allied powers.

Source: Britannica - Fedor Yakovlevich

Filipp Ivanovich (Commissioner for the Repatriation of POWs)

Filipp Ivanovich was the Soviet Commissioner for the Repatriation of Prisoners of War (POWs), overseeing the return of Soviet prisoners captured during the war.

At the Potsdam Conference, his role was to help negotiate the terms of repatriation for Soviet POWs and displaced persons, which was a critical issue in the postwar settlement. His work focused on the return of Soviet citizens and maintaining control over those who had been held by Axis powers.

Source: Wikipedia - Filipp Ivanovich

Fedor Tarasovich (Soviet Ambassador to the UK)

Fedor Tarasovich served as the Soviet Ambassador to the United Kingdom during World War II. He was responsible for managing Soviet relations with the British government and coordinating military and political strategies between the two nations.

At the Potsdam Conference, Tarasovich's role was to ensure Soviet interests were represented in discussions with the British and American delegations. His diplomatic experience helped maintain a cooperative atmosphere despite the growing tensions between the Allies.

Source: Britannica - Fedor Tarasovich

Additional sources

Sources for both:

https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1945Berlinv02/index

https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1945Berlinv02/persons-mentioned

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https://history.state.gov/milestones/1937-1945/potsdam-conf#:~:text=The%20Big%20Three%E2%80%94Soviet%20leader,end%20of%20World%20War%20II.

Allies:

https://www.trumanlibrary.gov/photograph-records/63-1457-30

https://berlinexperiences.com/the-potsdam-conference-july-20th-1945-peace-in-italy/

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https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/joint-report-with-allied-leaders-the-potsdam-conference

https://www.trumanlibrary.gov/photograph-records/63-1456-54

Soviets:

https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1945Berlinv01/d429

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Committee hybrid crisis notes rules

In committee crisis/hybrid notes

- Same formatting as crisis notes, except all must be directly at the committee level, say you are at the Potsdam conference, conferring with delegates at the Potsdam conference, or with people from all factions there.

- The goal is to inspire controller chaos in a hybrid committee, not a crisis committee where you can start with a peaceful nation with no outside or internal threats and somehow end up in a civil war that has engulfed the entire world in conflict, but to slander your opponents and opposition to clear a way for you to gain rank and become a leader in your block.
- To keep the committee somewhat in check, assassinations are prohibited from keeping all delegates from shooting each other once the committee starts, unless, a member of one faction(UK, USA, or Soviet) defects to the other side, in which case,
- One crisis note at a time, if multiple are submitted or if multiple are written on one note, all will be discarded.
- Here are some examples of such notes

1. Soviet field Marshal Rokossovsky poisons Zhukov's food with a disease to prevent him from rebutting Rokossovsky's opinion in the following mod while he is recovering, giving Rokossovsky more influence in the committee.
2. American General Eisenhower bribes President Truman to replace standing Army Chief of Staff, George C. Marshall with himself.
3. British Field Marshal Alan Brooke secretly defects to the Soviet side and becomes a spy for the Soviet block, providing them information about potential threats towards soviet leaders in exchange for influence in soviet decision making through notes rather than physical presence.

- checks and balances

You are not meant to be running a whole crisis arc through these notes, these are meant to be notes that are to be used to make the committee more fun or add joy as my English teacher loves to say. They are not meant to be complicated notes that allow you to sabotage crucial operations and vital logistical routes, they are meant to be “spying” on your opposition, in committee undermining people on your side who are constantly disagreeing with you, and generally helping you advance YOUR POSITION AND OPINION, in committee. That being said I will not allow unjustified assassinations (justified would be following a reveal of someone on your side of committee spying on your block for some personal gain from the opposing side[A duel may also be appropriate]).

- Dueling

I want to add this concept as an alternative to a right of reply, or if a delegate keeps being disrespectful to another delegate, such as talking over them in unmods, not paying any attention while they are speaking in mods, or perhaps intentionally keeping them off papers of refusing to allow them to partake in the writing of papers that all of one block or both blocks should be involved in. This seems to me like a fun, period appropriate solution for such personal disagreements.

*If a fistfight or duel (I will bring 2 water guns and towels) breaks out as a result of this, it must be for a legitimate reason, and have a predetermined reward for the winner and a predetermined punishment for the loser. I will not claim responsibility for any bodily harm experienced during this committee and a “political reprimand” will be given to both parties involved in the fight, temporarily barring them from speaking in committee for the next motions, this can also be brought up at a future point in committee to draw a motion of no-confidence and remove someone of a position.

*If both parties are arguing but both sides do not consent to a duel or brawl(I will bring 2 water guns and towels) a single round of rock paper scissors will be played to simulate such an event.