

# COLD WAR CRISIS CABINET

SALVADOR MODEL UNITED NATIONS XIV



**Co-CHAIR:** PEDRO BOMFIM

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**Observation:** This is a crisis committee and therefore is only composed of one topic.



# LETTER TO DELEGATES

Dear Delegates,

We are honored and excited to chair the Cold War Crisis Cabinet in this year's SALMUN and are thrilled to have each and every one of you as our delegates. This committee is very unique and different from what you have previously experienced in MUN and therefore requires a high level of debate, quick and intelligent decision making and refined persuasive skills.

One of the unique features about this committee is that we only have one topic, thus, all our crisis will be based off of this topic. We chose this topic for our committee because we believe that not only will it make for extremely interesting debate, but also there is a lot of room for interpretation in this topic which will allow for each country to present a different point of view. Furthermore, we wanted to bring more attention to this topic that we felt had previously been underappreciated within the grand scheme of the Cold War. The Cold War took place from 1946 to 1991 and was a mostly ideological conflict between the USSR and the United States. Although the war never escalated into direct conflict between the two superpowers, various proxy wars occurred, not to mention the numerous conflicts of interest and influence, bringing them to the brink of nuclear war.

We will create a whatsapp group with all the delegates so that we can communicate important deadlines and updates regarding the conference. It will also provide a way for you to share any doubts you may have with us and we will try our best to answer your questions. In addition we would like to remind you that in order to be eligible for awards your delegation must submit the position paper on time using google **classroom/facebook**. Also we expect delegates to extend their research beyond what's in the study guide so that you can bring new relevant ideas to the debate.

Lastly, we want to emphasize that we expect to see a high level of debate throughout the entire conference as well as determination to come up with time effective decisions to the crisis presented throughout the debate. Feel free to message us at any time, through WhatsApp, E-Mail, personally or through **Facebook/Google Classroom**, whichever way you prefer.

Sincerely,

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## COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

World leaders have agreed to gather at Cold War Crisis Cabinet to discuss the issue of the employment of nations' secret services department during the Cold War. However, the meeting is set for March 25, 1978, and tensions are sky-high. Because of this, although the topic being debated pertains to the use of secret services, the participants must be alert at all times, for it is very possible that other situations arise during sessions, that will have to be resolved by the council. The committee will be in regular crisis committee format.

In an era of intense competition between the Eastern and Western blocs for dominance in everything, this cabinet represents the hope that world leaders will be able to end this era peacefully, or at least without an extremely high level of violence. For this, all the delegates present in the cabinet must utilize their diplomatic skills in order to reach a solution that, hopefully is acceptable for both sides. Although the committee's main topic of focus is espionage and its use and employment in global affairs, we are not limited to that in any way and the committee will flow as the debate does, following it in whichever direction it goes. However, it is important to maintain at least some focus on the topic throughout.

The thing is, this is a crisis cabinet, and, unlike in a regular MUN committee, resolutions will not be debated. Instead, delegates will be evaluating and amending directives. These can be best described as mini-resolutions, crafted in a short period of time, based on whatever information is available at the moment. The only other major difference from a regular committee are Independent Actions. These are actions that can be taken by delegates by sending an email to the crisis director. The crisis director will then utilize those to produce a crisis that corresponds and the procedure will repeat itself. Furthermore, no one knows who took an Independent Action, except for the person who did. The only way to know about them is if you get them sent to you, which will only occur. There are endless possibilities for the debate, but most of it hinges on the delegates.



*The Warsaw Pact*

<https://home.bt.com/news/on-this-day/may-14-1955-cold-war-deepens-as-communist-states-sign-warsaw-pact-11363981007523>

**Topic:** Discussing the Employment of Secret Services in Global Affairs

**Date of Conference: March 25, 1978**

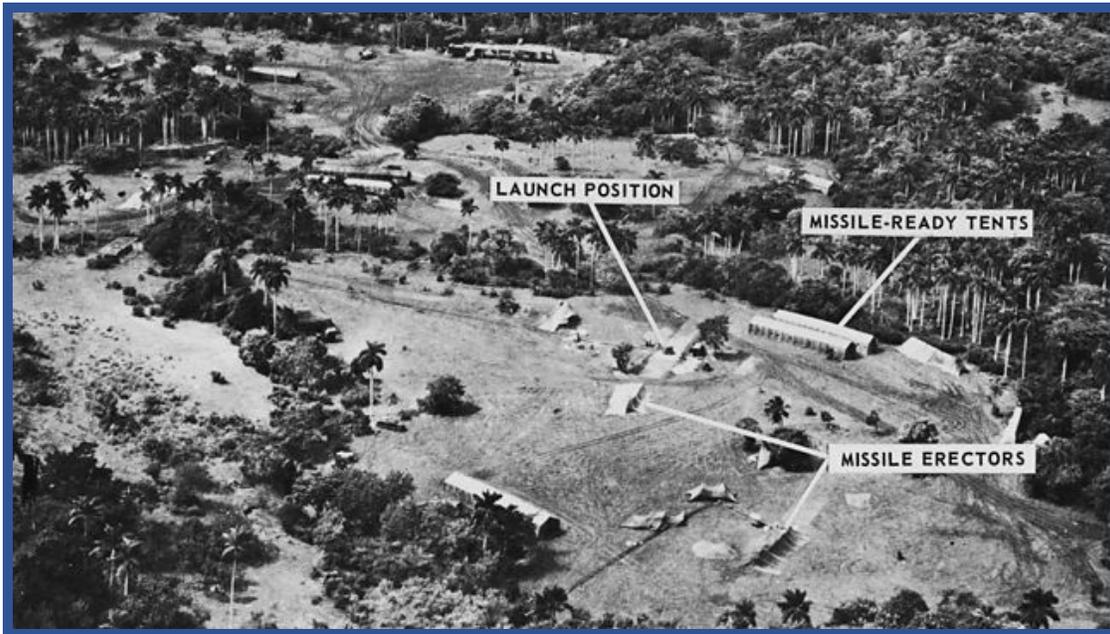
# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

## The “War”

The Cold War began as the USSR and the United States began to diverge after fighting as allies in World War Two against Nazi Germany. This alliance however soon began to crumble after the war when the countries diverging ideologies began to create tension between them. The USSR fought to establish communism in Western Europe throughout countries such as Czechoslovakia, Albania and Romania. On the other hand, the United States fought to prevent the communist movement from spreading in Western Europe in countries such as France, Italy and Greece and began to establish measures in order to do so such as the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan both of which were established in 1947. Conflict between both countries however in 1948 when the USSR and its allies cut off road and rail traffic to the city of Berlin which was under the control of the United States, France and England. As a response to the US and its allies sent an airlift that besieged the city for 231 until the blockade was lifted.

Following those events in 1949 the US joined NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) which lead the USSR to create the Warsaw pact with other communist countries in 1955. From this point forward the cold war became a symbolic battle between two superpowers which never actually came into direct conflict. However although the USSR and the US did not directly attack each other the cold war did lead to a number of proxy wars and territorial disputes. Such as the conquering of China by the communists in 1949 and the Korean War in 1950, during which North Korea invaded South Korea, which the United States sent troops and military aid to. On the other hand China, a communist allied country fought in favor of North Korea. Another Example is the Vietnam War. After the French colonial regime came to an end in Vietnam in 1954 the United States occupied South Vietnam to prevent the country from falling into a communist regime. Both US presidents John F Kennedy and Eisenhower continue to provide support for South Korea during their government and sent 700 military personnel and provided military and economic aid.

Another event that marked the period of the Cold War was the arms race between the USSR and the United States. The arms race was essentially a fight for power and military supremacy. It began when the USSR ordered the construction of the Berlin Wall which would divide Eastern and Western Germany to stop East Germans from crossing into West Germany( the wall of Berlin was later brought down at the end of the Cold War). In response the American president at the time John F Kennedy ordered an increased the UNited States intercontinental ballistic forces as well as increased their air power. Additionally, in response to the USSR re-starting their nuclear missile testing the US later did the same.



*Missile Location Map*

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b039kv61>

The Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 was one of the other major events that occurred during the period of the Cold War. In 1962 the Soviet President Khrushchev made a secret agreement with Cuban president to implement nuclear missiles in Cuba as a form of protection from the US. When American spies learned about the secret pact, the US Naval bases were quick to respond and formed a blockade around the island to prevent the missiles from being fired. Scared this may lead a nuclear missile war and mutual destruct agreed to remove the missiles however in return the US agreed to never invade Cuba again.

The Vietnam War was also one of the major proxy wars that took place during this time. After Vietnam fell from the control of France, the country was divided into North and South Vietnam as each had their own ideology, therefore allowing North Vietnam to become entirely communist. The North therefore became allied with the Soviet Union and China and the South became allied with the United States as they more closely resembled their ideals. The Soviet Union and the US each provided their corresponding allies with military aid. Although in 1973 when the cost and casualties from the conflict became too much for the United States they withdrew support for the South which allowed North Vietnam to fully conquer the Southern territory by 1975. The conflict led to an estimated number of 2 million casualties and established Vietnam as a military power however left the country with several issues.

## Secret Service in the Cold War

Throughout history, secret services, particularly espionage, were utilized for a plethora of reasons, even if it wasn't named or referred to in the same way that it was later. During World War II, technological advancement was spurred forward, resulting in many new tools at the disposal of all nations, and especially the superpowers: the USA and the USSR. However, there were also many other nations that possessed the resources required to have a secret service branch of the government and some of them, such as the United Kingdom, took advantage of that.



*Confidential Message Being Typed*

<https://sites.google.com/site/coldwarinespionage/>

The United States of America had the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) had the *Komitet gosudarstvennoy bezopasnosti* (KGB), which translates to the Committee for State Security. The United Kingdom had the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6). Many nations employed secret service agencies, and through them, utilized espionage to collect information from other nations. Some were extremely successful, and others were stopped in their tracks, to say the least. Still, the best spying operations are the ones the public's never heard of.

The spies who infiltrated enemy nations were extremely valuable to their true nations, but they put themselves in extreme danger. When caught, spies were either tortured or executed, and sometimes even gave away valuable information about their nation. They rarely went alone, generally grouped into what were called spy rings. Although it was dangerous, spies rarely gave up information on the whereabouts or intentions of their partners, and that was an overall



beneficial practice. One of the most famous spy rings was composed of Soviet spies attempting to steal information from the American's Manhattan Project, during and after World War II, even into the Cold War, after the end of the Manhattan Project, as Americans continued their nuclear operations.

A diverse array of technology was utilized to boost espionage activities during the Cold War. Everything from spy cameras in clothes, to pistols that would silently kill in one shot, to an umbrella that shot poisonous darts. There were also larger surveillance devices, such as satellites and aircraft, that were used extensively throughout the Cold War. Aircraft and their pilots were especially at risk, as some, such as the U2, were shot down.



## POSITION OF MAJOR COUNTRIES

### United States of America

The United States of America thoroughly utilized espionage throughout the Cold War to their advantage. However, they were also victims of many espionage operations. Outside of the CIA, the United States of America also had the National Security Agency (NSA) and the which got its information mostly from intercepting radio signals and decoding enemy codes, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

### USSR

The USSR's main form of countering the USA's secret service efforts was the KGB. The USSR was probably the nation that sent out the most spies during the Cold War, and it was also a nation that harshly punished enemy spies if they were rooted out from within their territory. Another agency, *Glavnoye Razvedyvatel'noye Upravleniye* (GRU) gathered information for the Soviet military.

### United Kingdom

The UK also had many espionage operations going on during the Cold War, although even more was happening during World War II. The MI6 was a world leader in espionage based endeavors for a long time, mostly due to the work they did in World War II. Their most famous group of spies, the Cambridge Five, actually passed information to the Soviet Union until around 1950. None of them were prosecuted for spying.

## TIMELINE OF EVENTS

### 1946

Iron Curtain - the imaginary border division of Eastern and Western Europe established after WWII. It represented the division between the Soviet Union and its allies and the West.

### 1949

NATO - the North Atlantic Treaty Organization was the first American military alliance and was formed by countries such as France and Italy as well as several other nations. NATO represented a military alliance against the Soviet Union and its allies.

### 1950 - 1953

Korean War - the Korean War began when North Korea invaded South Korea as the north and the south have diverging ideologies. The United States showed support towards South Korea by providing military aid and China, a soviet allied country, aided North Korea.

### 1961

Berlin Wall - the Berlin Wall was constructed in 1961 as an order from the Soviet president to divide Germany into East and West and prevent people from going from Eastern Germany which was controlled by the soviets to Western Germany. It later was brought down in 1991 after the end of the Cold War.

### 1962

Cuban Missile Crisis - the Cuban Missile crisis occurred when the USSR made a secret pact with the Cuban government to put nuclear missiles on the island. After American spies spotted the missiles the US navy created a blockade around the island which eventually led to the removal of the missiles as an agreement between both countries in order to prevent a nuclear war.

### 1965 - 1975

Vietnam War - the Vietnam War was a fight between Northern Vietnam and Southern Vietnam which was allied to the US.

## DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

**Truman Pact:** doctrine established by American president Truman to counteract soviet expansion.

**Marshall Plan:** a program established by the United States to help Western Europe recover from WWII as well as prevent the spread of communist ideals.

**Espionage:** The practice of spying or of using spies, typically by governments to obtain political and military information.

## GUIDING QUESTIONS

- ❖ Should espionage be outlawed worldwide?
- ❖ What should be punishment for caught spies? Should this be regulated?
- ❖ What forms of espionage is the regulation of most important?



## FURTHER RESEARCH

- ❖ <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/47122488>
- ❖ <https://www.jstor.org/stable/24911815>
- ❖ <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/still-unexplained-cold-war-fbi-cia-180956969/>
- ❖ <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-49692534>
- ❖ <http://www.learningcurve.gov.uk/index/usa1945.htm>
- ❖ [https://www.wilsoncenter.org/program/cold-war-international-history-project?fuseaction=topics.home&topic\\_id=140](https://www.wilsoncenter.org/program/cold-war-international-history-project?fuseaction=topics.home&topic_id=140)

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