Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Model United Nations Conference XI
February 8-10, 2019
Boston, Massachusetts
The Cold War - 1962

Chairs

President John F Kennedy’s Cabinet: Justin Yu, Christopher Kiel
Premier Nikita Khrushchev’s Politburo: Sophia Fang, Katie O’Neill

Crisis Director

Chris Copeland
Letter from the Chairs:

Hello delegates!

My name is Christopher Kiel and I will be playing Lyndon B. Johnson in John F. Kennedy’s Presidential Cabinet. I’m a freshman from New Jersey who is planning on studying materials science. Outside of class I am on the varsity men’s foil squad and participate in the solar electric vehicle team. Feel free to ask me about anything relating to MIT, or life in general. I participated in Model UN all four years of high school, with my best experiences coming from joint crisis committees. It is for this reason that I am so excited to be able to chair this committee and help you all find possible solutions to the problem. I look forward to getting to know all of you while we rewrite history!

My name is Sophia Fang and I will be playing Nikita Khrushchev in the USSR’s Politburo. I’m a freshman from Amherst, Massachusetts who is interested in studying physics and/or architecture, with a possible minor in Japanese. Outside of class, I am involved in Chamber Music Society and a UROP with the Design Fabrication Group in the IDC. MUN has definitely been a highlight of my high school experience - so glad you guys are involved! Some committees I’ve done include Future DISEC, IMO, SOCHUM, and UNEP (where we spent a great deal of our time debating the cuteness of pangolins). This is my first time chairing a historical committee, so looking forward to learning a lot as well! I’m very excited to get to know you all this weekend!

I’m so excited for the conference! I’m Justin Yu and I will be assuming the role of John Fitzgerald Kennedy in my Presidential Cabinet of the United States. Currently, I’m a freshman from Boston, MA planning on studying Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, with a minor in Linguistics
and Philosophy. If you have any questions about MIT or CS or life in general come talk to me! I helped found the MUN team at my school and served as president for two years. I also helped found my school's first high school MUN conference, and during this time, I had the amazing opportunity of chairing a joint crisis committee. Needless to say, I had a blast! Bribery, assassinations, defections, kidnappings, fabricating sex scandals to frame politicians -- everything’s on the table in a JCC. I want you guys to be as creative as possible at MITMUNC! Be prepared for an intense, fast-paced committee, but most of all be prepared to have a lot of fun!

My name is Katie O’Nell, and I'll be assuming the role of Alexei Kosygin in Nikita Khrushchev’s Politburo! If this is your first conference with MIT, or your first conference ever, an extra special welcome! Model UN is an incredibly rewarding experience, and I think you’ll find the combination of wide scope and nuance particularly interesting. I’m a senior studying Brain and Cognitive Sciences with a minor in Computer Science and a concentration in Secondary Education, so if you’re interested in any of those things or just MIT in general, feel free to ask me about them at lunch or after the conference.

Please email mitmunc-historical@mit.edu with your position papers when you are finished, and see you in February!
Letter From the Crisis Director:

Hi everyone! My name is Chris Copeland, I’m an MIT junior studying biology, and am currently starting the process of applying to medical schools! This year, I'll be serving as your crisis director for this joint crisis committee (JCC)! Having been pretty involved in Model UN for four years of high school, I was really drawn to pursuing MUN here at MIT, and I’ve been a Secretariat member for two out of three years (serving as Chief Operating Officer my freshman year, and now serving as Joint Crisis Director and Travel Team Captain), and I organized and chaired for MITMUNC’s first joint crisis committee last year! I’m really looking forward to seeing all the cool ideas you come up with over the course of MITMUNC XI, and we'll see if the Cold War heats up!

As for an introduction to this JCC, we’ll be modeling the two dichotomous sides of the Cold War: the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and beginning our first committee session in October of 1962. Committee will be run by default in continuous moderated caucus (so no speaker’s list!), and you’ll be able to motion for just about anything you would be able to in a “normal” committee. Instead of drafting large resolutions over the course of the conference, you’ll be drafting directives, which are essentially a few operative clauses that are directed at solving a specific goal, like addressing a nuclear missile flying towards one of your major cities. In addition to these committee-wide documents, each delegate’s assignment will have a unique portfolio power that can be used via individual crisis notes that could have big consequences in the outcome of the Cold War. You can present the outcomes of these notes to your peers, or keep them private and scheme your way towards individual success!
All of us on the MITMUNC Secretariat are really excited for this simulation, and we can’t wait to see you all in February! Good luck with your preparations, and feel free to reach out to me or any of your chairs if you have any questions about committee!

Best to you and yours, see you soon!

Chris Copeland, MITMUNC XI Crisis Director
ccope@mit.edu
Statement of the Problem

October 16, 1962. It has been two days since a US spy plane spotted Russian nuclear warheads being placed in a Cuban military base. The Russians say that they are for the defense of Cuba which has now become a part of the soviet bloc. Russian pride is at risk should they allow their comrades to be invaded now. However, for the American it is the first time that they are forced to live with an armed enemy at their border. Chaos spreads amongst the US citizens who are now fearing for their lives.

President Kennedy is currently sending naval forces in order to blockade the island and pressure the Russian forces encamped there. Yet the Russians are also sending reinforcements on a fleet of their own ships. Amongst the American government there is talk of invading the small communist nation to remove the grave threat to national security. However, they are wary because of their last failed attempt to forcibly enter the nation during the previous year. Additionally, the Americans are preparing their own stock of nuclear missiles to be ready to respond should Russia strike first.

Current events have brought the growing tensions between two superpowers to a head. Troops connected to both NATO and the warsaw pact are gathering, ready to move and support their allies. Nations around the world tremble in fear at the thought of an impending third world war - a nuclear war.

The only absolute of the future is that it is uncertain. Can a peaceful resolution be realized? Which nation will establish their dominance? The time to decide is now.
History of the Problem

Tension between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States has existed since the October Revolution, which overthrew the new Provisional Government and resulted in the rise of Communist power in Russia. This led to Russian withdrawal from the First World War, which resultantly increased the pressure that the Germans could put on their Western front against the Allies, including American forces at the time. The disdain for Russian removal from the war was coupled with American fear of the anti-capitalist movement rising in Russia at the time. Tense relations developed, as the United States provided aid to anti-Communist groups within Russia, like the White Army in the Russian Civil War, and they even refused to recognize the Soviet Union as a nation until 1933.

While the two nations cooperated during the Second World War, and diplomatically sorted out the aftermath of the war at Tehran in 1943 and at Yalta and Potsdam in 1945, tensions remained high. Yalta and Potsdam resulted in an expanded Soviet sphere of influence into Eastern Europe, and was met by the Truman Doctrine of 1947, which aimed American foreign policy against this expansion of Soviet and Communist influence in Europe and around the world, with vows to get involved militarily to aid any democratic nation under threat from an authoritarian force. (https://history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952/truman-doctrine) The declaration of the Truman Doctrine is typically regarded as the beginning of the Cold War.

The Cold War has been going on for about fifteen years, sporadically heating up in pockets around the world before going back into a dormancy of political coldness. The world is being split in two between Western and Communist blocs, with NATO being the most forefront collection of
Western powers, and the Warsaw Pact being the same for Communism. Tension erupted in war in Korea, which had been split into portions under American or Soviet influence, in the year 1950. Regular fighting continued until 1953, though a peace treaty was never signed and the situation is still rather volatile over on the Korean Peninsula. Additionally, since the world is even still experiencing the hiccups caused by decolonization, the French ended a war with new state Vietnam, eventually resulting in the formation of North Vietnam, controlled by Communist Ho Chi Minh, and South Vietnam, controlled by United States-backed Ngo Dinh Diem.

Among the most fresh of physical conflicts is the Bay of Pigs Invasion. Staged by the United States against Castro’s Cuba, a Soviet-supported regime, the invasion ultimately failed to uproot the Cuban Communist government. As a result, the United States has a thoroughly-protected Communist regime to their south, much too close for comfort.

In addition to military operations between the two powers, the past few decades has seen vast advancements made in scientific and technological understanding. As of now, the Soviet Union has been beating the United States in the aptly-named “Space Race.” The race to utilize new developments in rocketry to propel man to the sky and beyond has resulted in massive advances in new technology for this purpose. So far, the Soviet Union has put both animals and men into orbit before the United States could, which is rather fear-inducing given the vast advantages that control over the Earth’s planetary orbit and space beyond could provide to either nation.
Past Actions - United States of America

In the decade following the end of World War II, the United States government has responded to the looming threat of the USSR by swiftly committing more and more resources to national security, intelligence, and foreign aid and outreach programs. One example of this shift in focus is the establishment and expansion of the Central Intelligence Agency. After World War II, the government’s intelligence arm, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), was disbanded by Truman, who did not believe its existence was necessary any longer. However, it soon became apparent that the rapidly growing power of the USSR would be an existential threat to the United State’s newly established influence around the world. Open confrontation was out of the question for both nations, having just ended a traumatic world war, and so a means of quietly executing US interests abroad became increasingly necessary. Just two years after the dissolution of the OSS, Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947, establishing the Central Intelligence Agency as the primary body responsible for foreign espionage, intelligence, and strategy.

The CIA and the US intelligence apparatus commanded arguably the most important frontier of the Cold War: espionage. In the decade after its founding, the CIA grew in importance from tackling simple data collection and analysis to full-blown underground coup operations. The CIA spearheaded covert initiatives across the word, most notably, in Eastern Europe, East Asia, the Middle East, and Central America. For example, the CIA were the primary agents of revolution in the 1953 Iranian Coup, where they paid protestors and street gangs to incite an overthrow of the left-leaning President Mosaddegh. The CIA were also heavily involved in one of the most notable incidents during the early Cold War, the Bay of Pigs Invasion. Approved in 1960, the plan called for the CIA to set up army camps across Guatemala in order to train a 1400-man Cuban rebel force
with the purpose of invading Cuba and overthrowing Castro’s government. After a year of training, Kennedy put the invasion plan into action. Starting in April 1961, the invasion was an utter failure, causing the imprisonment of all the Cuban rebels and forcing the United States to pay the Cuban government $53 million in reparations. This event also incited hate for the United States within Cuba, and placed the country solidly on the side of the USSR, leading to the future Cuban Missile Crisis conflict. The US’ covert operations around the world have had tremendously consequential results, but have also furthered the divide between the two sides of the Cold War. For example, in May of 1960, the Soviet Union shot down an American U-2 reconnaissance plane operated by the CIA that was spying in Soviet airspace despite the two nations having an agreement banning such flights. This event caused the breakdown of a summit conference between the Soviet Union and the Western Powers, and freezing of relations between the two superpowers.

On the public side, the United States enacted a slew of foreign policies designed to spread “Western” influence and culture, and pull countries further from the USSR. First was the Truman Doctrine. Declared in the same year the CIA was founded, the Truman doctrine stated that the United States would provide aid for any democratic country threatened by an authoritarian power, both internal and external. Following this was the Marshall Plan, a program of economic aid that the United States offered to all European countries regardless of political affiliation. The USSR pressured all Eastern Bloc countries to reject aid from the US, directing most of the aid into the hands of Western European countries. This action sharpened the European divide, but brought Western Europe solidly into the US’s sphere of influence. In addition to economic influence, the US also focused its political policy on strengthening allies within their bloc of nations. In 1949, NATO was formed with the intention of unifying the Western powers in a military pact.
Possible Solutions - United States of America

When thinking of solutions, the leaders of the US must have two objectives in mind: (1) How should we resolve the immediate threat of Russia’s missiles in Cuba in order to prevent a full-scale nuclear war? (2) How do we position the United States in order to gain the advantage over the USSR in the pursuit for world dominance and ultimately win the Cold War?

The United States has a few advantages in the immediate conflict. First of all, this conflict is taking place in America’s backyard, making it both an existential threat to the United States but also a logistical advantage for resolving the conflict. The US can collect information and communicate with the various agents of this conflict much quicker than the USSR, and thus it can also swiftly react to changes in the situation and immediately implement new strategies and directives. The US also has a much bigger military presence in the caribbean area. In addition, the United States also has a stronger allied military force at its dispense if the crisis were ever to evolve into war. One big reason for this is NATO, which compels the countries of Western Europe to help in the defense of the US if ever needed.

Though the US is a strong military power, the countries leaders should still try to avoid war at all costs. Instead, a diplomatic solution with the USSR is highly recommended. The US could attempt to exchange prisoners, exchange political favors, or use political pressure to defuse the situation. Keep in mind that the US is not in a position of trust with the Soviet Union, especially following the U2 spy plane incident just two years prior.
On the other hand, when discussing potential solutions for the Cold War as a whole, it is important to keep in mind the fundamental principle that the United States adopted during the cold war: the doctrine of Containment. According to the Containment doctrine, the number one priority of the United States is to prevent the spread of communism to other areas of the world, especially parts of Eastern Europe and Asia. In order to accomplish this, the United States needs to exert political, economic, and cultural influence to at-risk countries around the world while simultaneously alienating the USSR and her bloc. One potential method is to increase the diplomatic and foreign aid efforts in specific countries in order to build an economic dependence on the US. Another, more covert method, is to use the US’s powerful intelligence apparatus to disrupt elections of unfavorable regimes and promote leaders who will support the US’s interests. However, be sure not to let these operations be known as they could drastically lower the US’s credibility in the eyes of the world. The US could also attempt to exert cultural influence on countries in order to win favor, one example being the “Amerika Haus” set up in Berlin following the end of World War II. As you craft foreign policy and attempt to spread your influence, be sure to keep in mind the importance of maintaining trust and a positive reputation around the world, and reconcile the vast cultural differences between the US and its desired allies.

**Positions and Portfolio Powers - United States of America**

The United States of America have been run by very capable leaders for nearly two hundred years, yourselves included. On top of your explicitly provided portfolio powers, it is important to remember the nuances and consequences that your actions have on the whole of the US of A and on the sectors of other members of your committee. It is only through collaboration with one
another and using your powers cooperatively that the United States will come out of this conflict on top.

Dean Rusk, Secretary of State: As the Secretary of State, Rusk will be responsible for advising the President, and his Cabinet, on foreign affairs and global diplomacy. Rusk will be able to communicate with other foreign dignitaries, and will be expected to properly represent the President’s in any of these discussions. Additionally, Rusk will be the member of this Cabinet responsible for negotiating treaties and international agreements. While the entire Cabinet may need to vote on the passing of major treaties, Rusk will be given major say in what is being dictated between the US and other foreign powers.

C. Douglas Dillon, Secretary of Treasury: Dillon’s role in the Cabinet will be the President’s primary advisor regarding the economy and finances of the nation. Additionally, the Department of the Treasury has control over several law enforcement agencies, including the Secret Service, which was initially tasked with identifying counterfeit currency, but eventually evolved into the presidential protection agency we know today. Keeping our country financially thriving will be key to crushing the Soviets like the bugs they are.

Robert McNamara, Secretary of Defense: McNamara will be charged with control over the Department of Defense, which includes administration and authority over the Armed Services of the United States. Maintaining the integrity of the US’s Armed Forces, even in times of lacking direct military engagements, will be imperative to ensure the United States will come out on top. This includes keeping up to date with new technologies that are being developed between conflicts. Working
closely with the National Security Advisor and Secretary of State will keep the Department of Defense at the forefront of what’s going on around the globe, should the United States need to get involved in conflict elsewhere.

*Robert F. Kennedy, Attorney General:* Kennedy will serve as the Attorney General of the United States, a particularly influential position within the Cabinet. As Attorney General, Kennedy will have jurisdiction over the Department of Justice, which includes the Federal Bureau of Investigation, among other bureaus. The Department of Justice is also responsible for managing federal prisons, and representing the government in front of the Supreme Court. Additionally, as the brother of the President, Kennedy will have particular influence in guiding the direction of debate.

*J. Edward Day, Postmaster General:* The Postmaster General is the head of the Post Office Department, and will be responsible for monitoring and maintaining mail delivery across the United States. Given that the Post Office touches the lives of all Americans, it is one of the most outward-facing state-run organizations. Keeping it operating smoothly, through rain, snow and oppressive heat, even in times of strife or conflict, will be key for keeping public morale high.

*Stewart Udall, Secretary of the Interior:* Udall will be responsible for conserving and monitoring the United States’s materials and land resources. Staying knowledgeable of our own resources will be key in designing trade plans and keeping the rest of the Cabinet aware of our overall access to materials for industrial, military, and other developments. Working with the Secretaries of the Treasury and Agriculture will be key to make sure the US has all the resources it needs for success in the foreseeable future.
Orville Freeman, Secretary of Agriculture: Freeman will be responsible for monitoring national agricultural output and promoting technological developments to maximize the agricultural output of the United States. Additionally, the Department of Agriculture is responsible for monitoring and organizing the upkeep of national forests, and for management and distribution of national food aid through the newly-developed Food Stamps program.

Luther H. Hodges, Secretary of Commerce: As Secretary of Commerce, Hodges will be responsible for promoting and regulating the development of businesses within the United States. He will also be involved closely with the Secretaries of the Treasury and Labor to keep the American economy thriving. If the outward perception of the American economy is weak, and employment rates fall due to poorly-regulated corporations changing their own policies, the country will certainly suffer in our plight against the Soviets.

W. Willard Wirtz, Secretary of Labor: Wirtz will be responsible for enforcing and modifying laws regarding unions and workplace issues. Keeping the workforce of America happy and productive will be critical for success over the Soviets, and finding ways to optimize work productivity could be very beneficial for speeding up economic growth, scientific development, and engineering feats coming from the United States.

Anthony J. Celebrezze, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare: Celebrezze’s role as Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare is multifaceted. He will be responsible for monitoring health conditions across the country, and implementing protocols that could address potential improvements in public health. The health sector also includes jurisdiction over bodies like the Food and Drug
Administration (FDA), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the National Institute of Health (NIH). He will also be responsible for the education sector, watching schools across the country and updating guidelines regarding education.

McGeorge Bundy, National Security Advisor: The National Security Advisor will be responsible for advising the President and the Cabinet on security of the United States and other relevant ongoing security issues around the world. Bundy will need to work closely with the Secretary of State and our ambassadors to monitor ongoing situations around the world, and plan with the rest of the committee on how the United States will respond or react. Being reasonable, while also firm, is key for painting the United States as a reliable ally and global role model.

Pierre Salinger, Press Secretary: As the White House Press Secretary, Salinger will be the most outward-facing spokesman of this Cabinet to the American people, and to the world. A silver tongue will be his greatest tool to make the shortcomings look neutral and the victories look even better. Since the American public could likely be swayed by his words, and impressions of this administration will certainly be influenced by what he says, Salinger should be sure to stick to his script and paint the President in the most positive light as possible. Public perception of our conflict against the Soviets will also be influenced by Salinger, so carefully constructed public statements will go a long way in keeping the American people happy.

John A. McCone, Director of Central Intelligence: John McCon...
will be able to sanction intelligence missions, and can check up on ongoing missions over the course of our time together. These missions can be domestic or international, but keep in mind that the CIA holds no civil law enforcement jurisdiction within the United States.

*Glenn Seaborg, Chair of the Atomic Energy Commission*: As the Chair of the Atomic Energy Commission, Glenn Seaborg is specifically responsible for leading developments on peacetime uses of radioactivity. The Commission was responsible for the Manhattan Project, and the development of the atomic bomb, but regulations have pushed research towards more productive uses of this energy. In addition to monitoring scientific research and development, Seaborg will have to deal with the societal fallout of some previous nuclear tests across the United States. Citizens are quickly becoming hyper-aware of mankind’s effects on the environment and how those effects come back to hurt us in the long run, which must be addressed if the Atomic Energy Commission hopes to accomplish anything from now on.

*Gen. Paul L. Freeman Jr., Commander of the US Army*: General Freeman will have joint control over the United States’ Army, alongside the Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara. Keeping the Army up to date on technological advances and maintaining troop number will also fall more into your purview, while the Secretary of Defense handles more big-picture items within the Department of Defense. Additionally, coordinating efforts with the Air Force and Navy to keep public perception of the military high will serve important in the long-term of developing and maintaining the greatest military the world has ever seen. Given the uncertainty that the future brings, Gen. Freeman may also need to design programs in the US to maximize the Army’s wartime supplies and rations, should conflict arise. These programs can be developed with other members of the Cabinet more closely linked to public policy.
Claude V. Ricketts, Chief of Naval Operations: Admiral Ricketts will have joint control over the United States’ Navy, alongside the Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara. Keeping the Navy up to date on technological advances and maintaining troop number will also fall more into your purview, while the Secretary of Defense handles more big-picture items within the Department of Defense. Additionally, coordinating efforts with the Army and Air Force to keep public perception of the military high will serve important in the long-term of developing and maintaining the greatest military the world has ever seen. Ricketts will also be charged to work with those involved in foreign trade, to coordinate proper protection for shipping units.

Curtis E LeMay, Air Force Chief of Staff: General Lemay will have joint control over the United States’ Air Force, alongside the Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara. Keeping the Air Force up to date on technological advances and maintaining troop number will also fall more into your purview, while the Secretary of Defense handles more big-picture items within the Department of Defense. Additionally, coordinating efforts with the Army and Navy to keep public perception of the military high will serve important in the long-term of developing and maintaining the greatest military the world has ever seen. LeMay may also need to work with intelligence agencies to coordinate stealth operations or reconnaissance missions involving aircraft.

Llewellyn Thompson, Ambassador to the Soviet Union: Thompson has the unfortunate, yet highly crucial, task of negotiating with those pesky Communists of the USSR. Preventing outright military conflict will be the neutral outcome of your work, and improving the global standing of the US, as compared to the Soviet Union, will be his goal. Being diplomatic and respectful, while also keeping the true intentions of the United States hidden from his Soviet counterpart will be key. Of course, keeping
foreign policy consistent and united is important, so expect to work closely with our Secretary of State and our Ambassador to the UN, so the United States appears as outwardly united as possible, regardless of what level of disagreement may or may not arise in the cabinet.

**Adlai Stevenson, Ambassador to the United Nations:** Stevenson is the US’s ambassador to the United Nations. As a global representative of the United States of America, he will be able to negotiate foreign policy, and holds the power to veto Security Council resolutions. Given that both the US and the USSR have veto power on the Security Council, the UN is often found in deadlock regarding issues pertaining directly to USA/USSR relations. While these particular ventures may not be fruitful, other proposals for conflicts around the world could be rather beneficial for the US's position on the global stage. Also, it should be noted that Valerian Zorin, the Soviet Ambassador to the UN, will be aware of anything that Stevenson proposes to the Security Council.

**Roswell Gilpatric, Deputy Secretary of Defense:** Gilpatric will serve as an associate of the Secretary of Defense over the course of the committee. While his word may not have as much clout over the Department of Defense as McNamara’s, Gilpatric will still have influence over the department, and will also be expected to stay involved with boosting troop morale and keeping the overall public perception of the military high.

**Past Actions - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics**

Spurred on by traditional ideals of imperialism, the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, and the ambitious reign of Joseph Stalin, Russian policy of the early 20th century relentlessly pushed for expansion of
communist dominance regionally and abroad despite poor conditions of famine and civil strife at home. Even nearing the end of the Second World War, where the USSR and the US allied against Nazi Germany, the aggressively anti-democratic Soviet policy toward Eastern Europe prevented further amelioration of relations\(^1\). By gaining control and influence of territory and nations, the USSR sought to create a “security buffer zone” from capitalistic Western camps, while championing communist ideology.

In 1947, the USSR set up the Communist Information Bureau as a means of unifying communist regimes internationally. In 1948, the USSR initiated the Berlin Blockade by cutting off all road and rail connections to West Berlin\(^2\). However, the USSR ended the Berlin blockade in 1949, and in 1955, under the leadership of Nikita Khrushchev, an attempt to warm relations with the West was made with the Geneva Summit between Britain, France, the US, and the USSR. Khrushchev himself stated in the 1956 that imperialism and capitalism could coexist without war, with the understanding that communism worldwide had become stronger. \(^3\)

Despite voiced calls for “peaceful coexistence”, Moscow continued its policy of strengthening and expanding communism by tightening regional dominance in the 1955 Warsaw Pact, supporting Third World nationalists, and actively confronting Western powers in a series of “proxy-wars” including in Korea and the Suez Crisis in Egypt\(^4\).


\(^4\) Gurney, Ursula. “ A Failed Empire: The Soviet Union in the Cold War from Stalin to Gorbachev (The New Cold War History)” Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspective, origins.osu.edu/review/failed-empire-soviet-union-cold-war-stalin-gorbachev-new-cold-war-history.
Parallel to such events of military conflict and unrest, the USSR also actively pushed forward an ongoing space race with the United States by sending the first living creature and first human into space. Tensions between the superpowers further escalated with the USSR shooting down an American U2 spy plane in 1960.

**Possible Solutions - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics**

The USSR believes in maintaining a stable “balance of fear” to both eliminate further aggression and ensure communist protection in the Latin American region. As long as the United States does not interfere, stability and lasting peace can be achieved. This Soviet version of brinkmanship closely mimics US nuclear policy and thus has historical precedent. The United States has already established missiles in both Turkey and Italy with similar calls for protecting democratic ideology and ensuring Western security. The USSR likewise has an “equal right” to strategic nuclearization, in attempts to deter the destruction of the revolution in Cuba by capitalist regimes. The USSR is especially concerned of the security of the government under Fidel Castro, having witnessed the bloody Bay of Pigs invasion in April of 1961.

In contrast, the USSR strongly warns against rash attempts of military action by the United States as they may prove futile. The number of Soviet missiles and ground forces in Cuba have been proven to greatly outnumber estimations made by the CIA. Furthermore, the USSR is prepared to

---

immediately destroy the reinforced garrison in the Guantanamo Bay base in particular if the US was
to launch an attack.⁹

Under certain conditions, the USSR is also willing to negotiate the relaxation of its nuclear program
in Cuba. As the USSR is primarily concerned of having an equal share in nuclear security, the
primary condition asks that the US correspond in denuclearization of its missile bases in Turkey.
The USSR also requests pledges from the President Kennedy, wherein the Americans may not
invade once the Soviets agree to withdraw the missiles and troops. Thus, the USSR allows for an
alternative solution to the status quo by mutually agreeing on Cuba as a territory for non-aggression
and neutrality.

The leaders of the USSR should keep in mind the overall goal of the USSR to safeguard and spread
communist thought by maintaining and establishing communist regimes. The solutions that are
agreed upon must allow for the continuation of Soviet glory and global stability.

**Positions and Portfolio Powers - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics**

The Soviet Union has been run by very powerful and capable leaders, including yourselves. On top
of your explicitly given portfolio powers, it is important to remember the nuances and consequences
that your actions have on the whole of the USSR and on the sectors of other ministers. It is only
through collaboration with one another and using your powers cooperatively that the Soviet Union
will come out of this conflict on top.

⁹ “One Step from Nuclear War.” National Archives and Records Administration, National Archives and Records
Nikolai Patolitshev, Minister of Foreign Trade: As the Minister of Foreign Trade for the USSR, Patolitshev will have the responsibility for forging new and maintaining old financial ventures around the world. The prospect of a stronger economy isn’t all that rides on this power: making investments in other developing parts of the world may prove useful in the global rise of the Proletariat. Working with the Ministers of Finance, Merchant Marine, and Foreign Affairs will be an integral part of upgrading Soviet economic influence on the world stage.

Boris Beshchev, Minister of Railways: Beshchev will be able to coordinate with his peers in the Politburo to develop the railways of the USSR. Not only do these potential improvements provide transportation for the average Nikolai, they could also expedite movements of troops, weapons, and materials around Europe and Asia. Coordinating with directors of transportation, engineering, and trade will be necessary to optimize his success as the Minister of Railways.

Viktor Bakajev, Minister of Merchant Marine: Bakajev is serving as our Minister of Merchant Marine and director of the Russian merchant marine fleet, Morflot. which is an integral part of implementing trade. After all, purchasing goods from a country is one thing, but being unable to retrieve them in a timely manner can be devastating to other developments across the Soviet Union. Working with ministers involved in trade and transportation will be useful to optimize your ships and labor forces.

Yefim Slavski, Minister of Medium Machine Building: Slavski will serve as our Minister of General and Medium Machine Building. As the director of both our space and nuclear programmes, his involvement in engineering, trade, and public perception will be vital for success in the Space Race and in achieving dominance over the Americans.
Andrei Gromyko, Minister of Foreign Affairs: If the Soviets will live or die by one man, that man is Gromyko. Holding the key to interacting with the world beyond the USSR’s borders will be a necessity for eventual Soviet success. He should work closely with other committee members like Valerian Zorin, Anatoly Dobrynin, and Nikolai Patolitshev to show a unified face to the world regarding the USSR’s foreign policies.

Yekaterina Furtseva, Minister of Culture: Furtseva’s cultural influence over the Soviet public rivals that of Khrushchev and Kosygin themselves. Her responsibilities are rooted in shifting and commanding the cultural ideals of the USSR to most benefit the greater good of the nation. With a creative hand in the artistic, cinematic, and literary productions of the state, among other things, the USSR is your canvas to paint red with communist fervor.

Vjatsheslav Yeljutin, Minister of Higher Education: Yeljutin is tasked with one of the more noble assignments for the good of the Soviet Union: he is responsible for providing guidance to the administrations of high schools universities across the USSR. One particular role within this position includes setting academic standards for the nation, and what students are to be taught. Should the Politburo decide that the young adults of the USSR should receive special education, it will be Yeljutin’s duty to implement these programs.

Vasily Garbuzov, Minister of Finance: The money man for the Politburo, Garbuzov will have heavy influence over how projects are paid for with funds from Soviet coffers. Additionally, he will be expected to work with the Ministers of Trade and Foreign Affairs to maintain and improve the financial standing of the USSR. With the control over funds that he has, and the overall lack of
individual oversight, using these funds for personal use would be relatively easy, given the proper caution of being found out. Embezzlement of government funds, while potentially providing some personal value, is treason against the government and is punishable by death at the discretion of the premier, so beware.

_Rodion Malinovsky, Minister of Defense._ Malinovsky’s role as the Minister of Defense is vital to keep the USSR prepared for anything the West may use against us. Keeping the armed forces trained and prepared, upgrading military utilities and infrastructure, and preparing protocol for the myriad of situations we could be put in is necessary for the USSR’s eventual success over capitalism. It will be key for Malinovsky to work with all of his peers to keep the Soviet Union safe and prepared for anything the world may throw at us.

_Nikolai Psurtshev, Minister of Communications._ As the Minister of Communications, Psurtshev will be in control of all state forms of communication, including communication via post, telegraph, telephone, and periodicals, and state-to-public communication via radio and television programming. His role will be vital if we hope to keep the public appeased during this time of international tension. Working closely with the Minister of Culture will be key to accomplish this. Additionally, improving communications technologies and optimizing communications protocols will also be key to keep the USSR as communicative as possible.

_Sergei Kurashov, Minister of Health._ Kurashov will be serving as our Minister of Health. Not only is it important that we deal with illness swiftly and appropriately, but what are we if our workforce is too weak to work?! Developing and implementing health protocols throughout the Soviet Union will be important to keep workers healthy and productive. Working with the Ministers of Higher Education
and Agriculture will be useful to help develop these protocols, and working with the Ministers of Communications and Culture to help implement them will be equally important.

Konstantin Pysin, Minister of Agriculture: Agriculture is a key sector of Soviet society. Since it provides food and jobs to our people, and exports that can bolster our economy, Pysin will need to do well with maintaining our current system, and implementing upgrades to various aspects of it to provide for the Proletariat. Both technological and organizational improvements will be key to increasing agricultural output and value.

Aleksandr Sidorenko, Minister of Geology: Living in a world where power and influence are defined by how much of a radioactive rock you have in your grasp, geology is an essential area of development for the Soviets. Sidorenko will be expected to lead the charge in developing Russian understanding of the power and resources that the Earth has for you.

Ignati Novikov, Minister of Energy and Electrification: Where are we if we do not have electricity? As the world becomes more and more industrialized, we must work to improve the ways that we gain, store, and use energy across the Soviet Union. Electricity not only serves an important role in the everyday lives of our people, but we also need energy to power transportation, state communication, and our developing space and nuclear programmes. Working with the ministers of these sectors will be important for using your position to its fullest potential.

Yevgeni Loginov, Minister of Civil Aviation: Loginov will be responsible for the everyday use of aviation to improve life in the USSR, particularly through use of the state-run Aeroflot. Whether that be by
expanding aeronautic research to improve long-distance transportation, increase fuel efficiency, or increase agricultural yields, the floor, and the sky, is yours.

*Alexander Shelepin, Chairman of the Party and State Control Commission:* The State Control Commission, otherwise known as the People’s Control Commission, is the entity responsible for monitoring and preventing government corruption. Shelepin has the difficult task of keeping our committee members honest and fully invested in the future of the USSR. He will be given the opportunity to investigate other members in the committee to keep them honest and in pursuit of the true goals of the USSR. Additionally, he can report back on his findings to the Premier to result in grave consequences for offenders. Shelepin’s love of the state is matched by few, so his push for Soviet supremacy will be strong.

*Vladimir Semichastny, Chairman of the State Committee for State Security:* As the Chairman of the State Committee on State Security, Semichastny will be the director of the notorious KGB. He will be responsible for managing our intelligence and counterintelligence operations to gain the upper hand against the Americans. Working with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defense will be key to stage well-orchestrated intel actions against the US. As a mentee of Alexander Shelepin, Semichastny has recently been given this chair from his influence, while Shelepin received a promotion to the Party and State Control Commission. He is personally indebted to Khrushchev and Shelepin for all of the help that they have given to get where he is today.

*Yevgeni Kozhevnikov, Chairman of the State Committee for Transport Construction:* As the Chairman of the State Committee for Transport Construction, Kozhevnikov will be instrumental in enacting developments that our Ministers of Civil Aviation, Railways, Foreign Trade, and Merchant Marine
hope to accomplish. Responsible for the labor-based aspects of these projects, he will also be able to pursue projects of his own that will improve the day-to-day transport of goods or manpower around the USSR.

Valerian Zorin, Ambassador to the United Nations: Zorin is the USSR’s ambassador to the United Nations. As a global representative of the Soviet Union, he will be able to negotiate foreign policy, and holds the power to veto Security Council resolutions. Given that both the US and the USSR have veto power on the Security Council, the UN is often found in deadlock regarding issues pertaining directly to USA/USSR relations. While these particular ventures may not be fruitful, other proposals for conflicts around the world could be rather beneficial for the USSR’s position on the global stage. Also, it should be noted that Adlai Stevenson, the US’s Ambassador to the UN, will be aware of anything that Zorin proposes to the Security Council.

Anatoly Dobrynin, Ambassador to the United States: Dobrynin has the unfortunate, yet highly crucial, task of negotiating with the capitalist pigs of America. Keeping them appeased and ignorant, like the fat slobs they are, will be a pivotal role of your position, and deception may be a necessary skill to develop for your interactions with them. Of course, keeping foreign policy consistent and united is important, so expect to work closely with our Minister of Foreign Policy and our Ambassador to the UN.