2050 National Security Council Application Frank Lou- PMUNC 2014 10/8/14

- 1. I'm a senior, with 11 conferences of experience.
- 2. The next major global conflict will likely be one caused by conflict over a scarce resource, possibly oil or rare elements. Countries will seek to acquire valuable and nonrenewable resources that are concentrated in the hands of a few countries. Economic development in some countries who can't acquire energy sources such as oil will lag behind, increasing inequality while also increasing desperation. Sooner or later, some countries will be desperate enough for oil or other resources so that they will feel the need to act in a violent way. Since the world is so enveloped in alliance chains (think NATO, or CSTO), this will cascade into a far larger conflict.
- 3. My favorite utopian future is probably the "Enlightened Scientific World" one where humanity has finally put aside its differences to develop scientifically and explore the universe as a spacefaring species. Regardless of whether or not there's other life out there, discovering the universe and making great scientific strides would be interesting to live through. Imagine being able to travel to another planet, or the discoveries that could be made. The lack of war and economic outlet of space would also be a great bonus for a planet that, as I said above, might be headed towards global conflict over scarce resources.
- 4. My favorite dystopian future is the Zombie Apocalypse. Since George Romero's *Night of the Living Dead*, zombies have been an incredibly popular source of dystopian futures. With almost 50 years of experience, I think the world is probably best off fighting against a world overrun by zombies. Plus, being a nerd who likes to read science fiction and dystopian novels would really come in handy in terms of knowledge and experience in fighting zombies. And of all the dystopian futures, this one would probably be the most fun to fight through. No aliens with insane future technology, no nuclear fallout to pick through the remains of. Just hordes and hordes of shambling zombies to beat.
- 5. The end of the world. I can't ever imagine capitalism ever ending. It's existed as part of humanity since we decided that upright walking was the way to go. As long as there are two people left at the end of the world, one will have something that the other person will want, and there'll be a price to part with that item. Whether it's the life-saving cure to the Zombie disease, or perhaps just some spare food, commodities and bartering are going to be alive and strong when a government is not able to coin money or ensure market controls (if any government is even left standing.) People are inherently selfish, and when the world is ending, most are keen to keep what they have and not part with it unless they can get something else in return. If your choice is between starving to death or giving up some of your bullets for food, the choice is pretty obvious. Capitalism is a deep-seated concept, and no apocalypse can quell human instinct.
- 6. Hopefully I'll be fairly well established, raising older kids and getting ready to send them off to college or already be free. I'd like to think that I'd have a comfortable amount of money, and working in a successful career as a surgeon, maybe even moving on to teaching by that point.