

CRISIS COMMITTEE APPLICATION QUESTIONS 2014

**2050 National Security Council**

1. What is your past Model UN experience?

I started Model United Nations in my sophomore year of high school and my only regret is that I did not start sooner. I have loved every debate and minute of every Model UN conference I have attended. Over the course of the last three years Model UN has taken me from local school conferences, Baltimore, and, this past summer, all the way to India. I started Model UN as a greenhorn delegate but quickly turned into a crisis specialist in crisis Security Councils and other crisis cabinets. The largest conferences I have had the pleasure of participating in are Johns Hopkins Model United Nations Conference 2014, held in Baltimore, and Cottons Model United Nations 2014, one of the largest Model United Nations conferences in India, in both of which I won Outstanding Delegate. I also am currently the Crisis Director for Cherry Hill East Model United Nations which entails creating and managing a crisis team and implementing crises during my school’s annual conference Cherry Hill East Model United Nations. PMUNC will be my ninth Model United Nations Conference and I look forward to attending. (Below I have included a list of all conferences attended, awards, staffing, etc.)

Conferences ATTENDED

* HADDONFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2013 (SPECPOL)
* CHERRY HILL EAST HIGH SCHOOL MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2013 (CELAC)
* SOUTH JERSEY MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2013 (UNSC)
* JOHNS HOPKINS MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE 2014 (UNSC)
* HODDONFIELD HISCH SCHOOL MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2014 (UNSC)
* CHERRY HILL EAST HIGH SCHOOL MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2014 (Staff)
* COTTONS MODEL UNITED NATIONS INDIA 2014 (World War II JCC)
* TENTATIVE: SOUTH JERSEY MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2014 (Attending in October 2014)

Awards

* COTTONS MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2014 HONORABLE DELEGATE (World War II Joint Crisis)\*
* OUTSTANDING DELEGATE JHUMUNC 2014 (United Nations Security Council)
* BEST POSITION PAPER HADMUN 2014
* BEST DELEGATE CHEASTMUN 2013
* BEST NOVICE HADMUN 2013

CONFERENCE STAFF EXPERIENCE

* Cherry Hill East High School Model United Nations Team and Conference 2013-2014 CRISIS TEAM MEMBER
* Cherry Hill East High School Model United Nations Team and Conference 2014-2015 CRISIS DIRECTOR

\*Note: The Indian Model United Nations Award systems differs from the American one. Rather than bestowing the format of Best, Outstanding, and Honorable, awards are bestowed as Best, Honorable, and Commendable. Therefore the American equivalent would be Outstanding Delegate.

1. What do you think will cause the next major global conflict?

It was differing ideologies that spurred the Persian Wars, the English Civil War, the American Revolution, the two World Wars, and it will once again be ideologies that spur the next major global conflict. It is clearly evident that countries today, such as the USA and China have vastly differing ideologies. The USA favors free market capitalism which lets the economy fix itself and allows the ownership of private property as established by Thomas Jefferson’s inspiration for the Declaration of Independence, John Locke. On the other hand China possesses a command economy in which most workers must go through rigorous labor for a measly pay. The results of the two economic ideologies are clear, the USA does not go through the same level of economic growth as China but it does give significantly higher salaries to the average worker (the average US worker makes about 80,000 dollars per annum while the average Chinese worker makes about 4,700 dollars per annum). Clearly a difference in ideologies between the two nations is present so conflict is probable.

Currently the only factor preventing a major global conflict on a mass economic and military scale is globalization. Robert Reich, the former Secretary of Labor for President Bill Clinton, once said “Globalization and free trade do spur economic growth, and they lead to lower prices on many goods”. These benefits provided by the global economy allow countries like the United States and China, who have vastly differing ideologies, to put aside their differences for the sake of economic growth. This balance, however, is extremely fragile, and can break for the most minor of conflicts. Unfortunately, a major conflict looms in the form of North Korea. I believe that North Korea will inevitably attack the South once it feels ready enough and the United States will openly declare its alliance to the South Koreans while the Chinese will declare its alliance to the North. Facing pressure both internationally and domestically, the United States would have no choice but to cut trade relations with China, thereby breaking the global economy that was built from the era of President Richard Nixon and leaving the world poised for the next global conflict.

The United States and China will not likely engage in a direct armed conflict, since it could lead to a nuclear holocaust and possibly eradicate the human species. Rather, a new Cold War would start between the USA and China to fill the economic gap caused by the break in trade relations. On one side, China and Russia would work to make an economic pact and maintain hegemony over Asia and Western Europe. On the other side, the USA and its staunch ally the United Kingdom would try to cling to the titles of hegemon that they built over the course of centuries. Proxy wars such as the ones fought by the United States in Vietnam and the Koreas, and the Soviet Union in Afghanistan during the Cold War will once again become commonplace except China will replace the Soviets as one of the hyperpowers in the conflict. Gradually the world will become split between the Eastern Economic ideology of China and the Western Economic ideology of the United States and will be forced to choose sides resulting in another Cold War with much more dire consequences, the end of the economic hegemony of one of these two nations, or the complete extinction of the human race should one nation feel threatened to resort to ICBMs.

This global conflict can only end in two ways. The first and most improbable way is through war. Should one side choose to carelessly declare open war on the other, World War Three would ensue. The final result can only be a nuclear holocaust caused by the usage of all the Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles of every single nation with nuclear capacities, thereby slaughtering the majority of humans. The more probable result, however, is that the economy of one side will collapse, just as it did to the Soviet Union in the late 1980s and one side will remain standing as hegemon for decades to come.

1. What is your favorite utopian future and why?

The only utopian future that could theoretically exist is a meritocracy based on two primary factors, intelligence and compassion. Rather than developing social classes based on skin colors, as it was done from Antiquity to the 1800s, or by wealth or social prominence, people will be judged on the factors of compassion and intelligence. From birth children will be groomed learning only scholarly and charitable pursuits. This method will ensure that not only are the brightest in charge of ruling the state but also that they are the individuals who truly care for their community rather than men and women who lust for power. Those deemed the most intelligent and compassionate by their school teachers will be tested in further levels of schooling while those not deemed either intelligent or compassionate can enter any field or profession of their choice other than government offices or to try to be selected for government again the following year. Those individuals who have passed this first level of selection would move on to learn about politics and governance of the state and would eventually go through further selection where the individuals who are deemed the most compassionate, and intelligent would move to the highest government offices whereas the individuals who did not pass the second round of selection will be limited to lower level governmental jobs or another non-governmental profession of their choice. Finally the five individuals deemed the most intelligent and compassionate will be allowed to enter the state legislature at the age of 35 and retire at the age of 60. The executive branch of this state will be similar to that of the USA’s in that the Chief Executive will be decided by a general election and any citizen may run, however, the electoral college will be compromised of individuals who have completed a high level of intelligence-compassion testing. Finally the judiciary branch of this state would be appointed by the executive branch thereby maintaining the balance of power.

I believe that this type of meritocracy is the ideal future for humanity. It puts powers in the hands of individuals who want to help their fellow people and also know exactly how to accomplish such a task. Poverty, hunger, and internal strife, would be greatly mitigated if not completely destroyed because the controllers of government will know how to act as one coherent and effective body rather than as squabbling politicians vying for greater power within their own party. If such a thing as utopia does exist, then it can only exist as a meritocracy.

1. What is your favorite dystopian future and why?

My favorite dystopian future is a future similar to the one described in Aldous Huxley’s famous novel Brave New World, because it illustrates the dangers that a meritocracy could pose if implemented incorrectly. In this novel, Huxley builds a world in which humans are genetically engineered, rather than born, into different classes. Alpha humans are the smartest and are given the best jobs, Beta humans are slightly less smart and fill mid-level jobs, and the three lower castes, Gamma, Delta, and Epsilon, take menial jobs which deteriorate in quality as the castes progress. Because the members of these castes are trained from birth to adore the social status they have been placed in, the Alphas are encouraged to have a superiority complex, and the Epsilons are encouraged to enjoy being treated as sub-human mongrels.

Although a superficial argument can be made that this scenario is actually a utopia because everybody is happy, scrutinizing the situation shows that this caste based meritocracy is actually a severe dystopia due to the lack of compassion. Such a world promotes consumerism over compassion and a lack of social mobility. Rather than developing a state where every person can prosper, in this society, certain people are forced to think that prosperity is the squalor and ignorance they are forced into. Such a meritocracy is one of the worst states to live in because the lack of compassion is an analog to the lack of humanity itself. Though these people claim to be happy and prosperous, neither the highest Alpha, nor the lowest Epsilon, can claim true happy or prosperity because neither has been exposed to the concepts of sadness or squalor over the course of their lives and just assume that they are happy with the lives presented to them because they were brainwashed. Humans must acknowledge that compassion is integral to a sovereign state. In order for a utopia to exist the leaders of a state must undergo emotional pain when they come to know matters such as a citizen losing his job, or a family being displaced by a hurricane rather than shed crocodile tears as several politicians across the world have over the ages.

1. Is it easier to imagine the end of the world or the end of capitalism? Briefly imagine one of them.

Although the end of the world would take a considerable amount of circumstance, human stupidity, and time, the end of capitalism is an extremely probable result of a major global conflict. Essentially should capitalism start losing to another ideology in a major conflict, the people will rebel and disestablish capitalist governments before said governments feel that it is necessary to use nuclear force and therefore end the human race and the world,

The end of capitalism could come about in many way though the most probable medium, in my opinion, is as a result from the conflict outlined in question number one. Should China manage to win the Cold War against the United States, not only will the US lose its status as world hegemon but it will quickly deteriorate economically and socially. Seeing the strength of the Chinese state the American people will crave for a government based on the Chinese economic system of a loose command economy, and will disestablish the capitalist government through a Chinese and Russian backed rebellion. Once the capitalist government falls a command economy would be instituted on the USA and the new dominant superpowers of China and Russia would pressurize the new American state to eliminate its nuclear capability through political and economic means when it is at its weakest. The fall of capitalism would put the standard of living in the United States at the lowest it has ever been. The people would be broken and living in one of poorest nations on the planet. Rampant squalor and inadequacy would run wild through the hearts of men in the once proud United States while China and Russia tout their dominance on the world stage for decades if not centuries to follow. The fall of capitalism in the United States, the bulwark of capitalism and democracy, would not only signify the death of an economic system, but also an age of darkness for the principles of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness which can only be cultivated in a capitalist environment where people are able to have the means to succeed.

1. Where will you be in 2050?

In the year 2050, I will be in one of two places. Should every single problem the United States of America faces have been miraculously solved by the grace of highly improbable circumstances, I will be sitting on a beach in Hawaii sipping water out of a coconut while watching the sun set.

More than likely, however, there will still be problems plaguing the United States at that point in time and, therefore, as a patriotic American whose first allegiance goes to his nation, I will be doing all that I can to help the government in combatting the problems that dare to rear their heads towards the greatest country on Earth. Personally, I feel my talents would best go to use in international economics. Ergo, in the year 2050, I wish to be serving on the United States Senate International Relations Committee or in another position of government that allows me to resolve international conflicts with economic solutions. I believe that in the year 2050, if I were to be a senator specializing in international economics, my knowledge in economics and international affairs would help the United States create strategic programs to secure better economic alliances with nations across the world. The twentieth and the twenty first century have shown the world that the United States cannot achieve peace with other states indefinitely through purely military or diplomatic means but rather through economic choices that tie the United States to other nations. For example, the United States gained far more prosperous results when it helped rebuild Japan through economic alliances rather than when it was forced to decimate Japan in the Second World War to end the violence. Essentially, the best long term solution to an international issue always involves economics.

I know for a fact that the year 2050 will be racked with travails that the USA needs to combat. Though these problems may find initial solutions through several different methods such as war, or pressurized diplomacy, the United States can only achieve prosperity for its own people by bringing about economic ties with the entire world. When I will advise the US government on the matter I will make it exceedingly clear that the economic method will not only ensure peace and prosperity for this great nation but will also strengthen our position as hegemon in such a way that not only our people but the people of the entire world prosper since the US will link the world together economically.

It is my deepest wish that by the year 2050 the United States no longer faces challenges and that prosperity reigns supreme but I know that this is an idealistic dream. I also know, however, that whether it be the year 2014 or the year 2050, if any person, group, or nation threatens the Home of the Brave in any way, I will fight to my last breath to defend the ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.