

SECONDARY SCHOOLS' UNITED NATIONS
SYMPOSIUM 2016

Scottish War of Independence: England

Chair:

Tijana Mitrovic

Vice Chair:

Peter Dropping Furberg

Crisis Director:

Yakau Feldman

Assistant Crisis Directors:

Austin Northey

Shiraz Zia



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Crisis Letter

Famed and Illustrious Delegates!

Bienvenue and welcome to the JCC: First Scottish War of Independence committee of SSUNS 2016! My name is Yakau Feldman and I will be your Crisis Director in your incredible journey through the treachery, drama, and warfare of the British Isles at the turn of the 13th Century. A Model U.N. crisis junkie since sophomore year of high school and now head of McGill's very own team, I promise to bring all my knowledge and experience to the table to provide for you the most immersive simulation you have seen to date. As I finish my Finance major this year and prepare to depart into the real world, I plan to finish off my SSUNS career with a feat William Wallace would be proud of!

I will not be alone on this quest, besides the wonderfully dais in your committee, I will be aided by Austin Northey and Shiraz Zia, my two Assistant Crisis Directors. Austin is one of the most conniving and menacing staffers in all of SSUNS. Best known for the infamous Oil Scandal of SSUNS 2014, Austin will be sure to keep you on the edge of your seats! Shiraz is another charming personality that goes "zero to a hundred – real quick". Previously known for his many acting roles (with a preference to Billionaires), Shiraz is stepping up to the plate of this JCC with a commitment to treason, espionage, and a particularity for hangings.

Supporting our entire venture will be a crew of the finest crises staffers SSUNS has ever seen! Last year we were able to keep all note replies to less than five minutes, and this year the bar has been set even higher. Providing you fluidity, data, and constant updates our crisis team can't wait to spend the weekend challenging you at every step of your British exploits!



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Kind Regards,

Yakau Feldman

Crisis Director

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It's all for nothing if you don't have freedom. – William Wallace



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Dais Letter

Dear Delegates,

Hello, and welcome to what is sure to be a thrilling weekend at the Secondary Schools' United Nations Symposium 2016. Before delving into the intricacies and goals of our committee, I would like to introduce you to your dais.

My name is Tijana Mitrovic, and I am currently a U2 student at McGill University, pursuing a degree in Honours History and Honours International Development. In my spare time, I enjoy perusing the great feats and conquests of the English Kingdom – not to be confused with the later British Empire and its “achievements”. My vice-chair, Peter Dropping Furberg, is a U2 student currently in the Honours Political Science program at McGill, who similarly enjoys lauding over English might, particularly in regards to the British Isle. Together, your dais hopes to witness engagement, personal growth and development, and an even stronger England at the end of the weekend.

However, this might not be the case: while our main goal is to achieve English domination over Scotland, there are many outcomes which may occur throughout this committee. Whether history is ‘righted’ with English victory or, as in reality, ‘slighted’ with Scottish rebellion, the outcome depends not only on the actions of this committee, but on those of your Scottish counterparts, as well as on quick-cropping problems. In this joint-crisis committee, plans will be foiled and plots will be uncovered, amidst unforeseen crises. In order to achieve glory over Scotland, delegates will need to engage various skills pertaining to the multi-faceted nature of the committee, such as quick-thinking and historical accuracy, as well as personal strategy to further characters’ own agendas. Now, in the wake of the English ruler’s death, and as we near the new century, the glory of



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England rests on the shoulders of your individual characters, as well as your united front against Scotland as England's leading figures. May the grace of the Crown be with you.

Tijana Mitrovic

Chair

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Rules of Procedure

In general, delegates can expect the JCC: First Scottish War of Independence to function similarly to other crisis committees. That being said, below is a general list of rules specific to this JCC in order to best accommodate its unique structure. They are subject to change pending the chairs discretion for the betterment of the committee experience.

- The committee will not have a speakers list and default to a Moderated Caucus of one-minute speaking time in perpetuity unless another motion is made.
- The number of signatories required for a directive is either five or 1/3 of the committee (whichever is less) including the writer of the directive themselves.
- A group directive requires a majority of the committee to pass.
- An abstention is subtracted from the vote count to reset the majority.
- A delegate can be censored:
 - This requires a 2/3 majority vote;
 - A censored delegate retains the ability to speak, submit directives (although their signature is voided) and send crisis notes (although they can expect their authority to decrease and some, but not all, notes to be confiscated) but they cannot vote;
 - The censoring of a delegate puts the character's portfolio at the discretion of the committee (i.e. if the censored delegate was the Royal Treasurer the committee as a whole will be responsible for the Treasury). However, action against that person's portfolio's interests may lead to insubordination and the movement of that Character into the other committee;



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- The censoring period will last no longer than 30 minutes. The chair, at their discretion, can lift the censoring early and/or the committee can return full rights to the delegate with a 2/3 vote.
 - Communication and movement between the two committees is allowed, but is an extremely difficult endeavour,
 - Committee Communiques have a much higher chance of success than singular crisis notes;
 - Defecting, pending extraordinary circumstances, will be allowed – but not encouraged.
- Delegates will be continuously urged to stay true to their characters.



Creation of Scotland

The creation of the Scotland has long provided England with a neighbouring kingdom on the British Isle, and, in more recent times, with a valuable realm. Yet, before the benevolent English presence, Scotland was comprised of four distinct races: the Picts, the Scottish Gaels, the Anglicans, and the Scandinavians¹. These races, in some ways similar and identical to their English counterparts, came to the future lands of Scotland and England, and eventually united into two separate nations of Scots and English.

While Europe in ancient times was conquered by the Romans, they were unable to quell ancient Scotland and England, which were then known as Caledonia and Britannia, and their distinct Pict and Caledonian peoples. When the Romans finally left Scotland and England, the newly-free peoples of Scotland and England remained distinct and focused on their own societies and lands. At this time in the 6th and 7th centuries, the Gaelic Kingdom of Dal Riata was formed, likely by Scoti Gaelic raiders close to the Scottish-English border. Celtic Christian movements, which had circulated in England since the early 5th century, now reached the previously pagan Gaels in their new kingdom. The quickly-developing Britons and Gaels would have company in the 8th century and onwards, as Norwegian and Danish Viking forces swept the Isle. These Viking forces, while laying waste to many towns and villages, eventually stayed in England and Scotland and became integrated into societies on the Isle².

¹ Bartlett, Robert. 1993. *The Making of Europe, Conquest, Colonization and Cultural Change: 950–1350*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

² Fleming, Robin. 2011. *Britain After Rome: The Fall and Rise, 400 to 1070*. London: Penguin Books. 221.



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As the nations of Scotland and England each unified their lands and people, the Kingdom of Alba emerged in Scottish territory in the years leading up to the new millennium. The first Alpin King was a Pict by the name of Kenneth McAlpin, who established the first House of the Alpin line³. This was the sole house of heirs to the Scottish throne until the early 11th century, when then-king Duncan I, himself a McAlpin, ushered in a new line of kings of the House of Dunkeld (Canmore). This House has successors such as the now-famous MacBeth and Máel Coluim III⁴. The Dunkeld House went on to breed Scottish Kings for the next two centuries, the last of which was Alexander III. With no more heirs from the Dunkeld House, Scotland is poised for a new house to reign.

English dominance over Scotland

It was in the late 11th century that William I and his army invaded Scotland, taking it from King Mael Coluim, who gave up the lands in complete submission to the English throne⁵. Since this victory, English Kings have had an open door in the affairs of the Scottish kingdom, which has since been considered part of the English realm. In turn, Scottish court and lifestyle have grown more akin to the culture in the South under the Davidian Revolution, particularly with the introduction of feudalism⁶. Through continued compliance with English monarchs, Scottish monarchs have been able to lead their people to greater achievements than before. In the last century, the two kingdoms have

³ Hudson, Benjamin T. 1994. *Kings of Celtic Scotland*, Westport. 95-96.

⁴ Ibid., 124.

⁵ Carpenter, David. 2004. *The Struggle for Mastery: The Penguin History of Britain 1066–1284*. London: Penguin. 67.

⁶ Bartlett.



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shown unprecedented cooperation, such as with the 1237 Treaty of York, which fixed the Anglo-Scottish border⁷.

Since the ascension of Alexander III to the Scottish throne, however, tension has risen between the English and Scottish. Under Alexander III's rule, the Scottish people experienced an even stronger sense of unity and nationalism, particularly as the King made peace between the Highlander, Norman, and Pict peoples and strengthened his authority in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. With this unity has come a growing sense among the Scots that England should have no claim or authority in Scottish affairs – in spite of the marriage of Alexander III with one of King Henry II's daughters. Alexander III's conquests, such as those against Norway, have shown other kingdoms a stronger Scotland, which threatens England's own image abroad. Sentiments such as these are a grave danger to England and a threat to the lasting peace between Scotland and England, which King Alexander himself pursued.

Our King, Edward I, has been primed for strengthening the English throne ever since his ascension to power following his contribution to the crusades. Since his coronation in 1274, Edward I has successfully put down threats from English nobles, as he did during his father's reign, and defeated Welsh leaders to annex Wales as England's own⁸. The power he has yielded throughout his rule thus far has done much to maintain the royal power that Henry III wielded, yet, much like during his father's rule, there have been certain rumours of unrest and doubt with Edward I's rule. However, with Alexander III's death, King Edward has rightfully been invited to arbitrate the discussion of the next Scottish King. While this is neither the first nor last time an English monarch has been called

⁷ Bartlett.

⁸ "Edward I." BBC. 2014.



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upon in Scottish matters, it is imperative that Edward I and his council select a proper heir to the throne.

Domestic and International Considerations

Since his coronation, after his return from the ninth Crusade, Edward 1st has proven himself an effective ruler. Although he is not loved, he is feared and respected⁹. Domestically, however, songs and poems are written regarding the rampant crime rates and corruption of the elites in England¹⁰. As a devout Christian, King Edward aims to counter the unlawfulness with his stern royal hand. To help him in his decisions, the King convenes his vassals, when he sees fit. These Lords and Barons are, however, independently vying for more land and territory¹¹. Additionally, there are rumblings that they wish to increase their influence over the King, and in turn diminish his influence upon their holdings¹².

Edward 1st is not one to shy away from conflict, having proved himself an effective military commander, as shown through the annexation of Wales. Warfare, however, has put a serious strain on England's finances. Additional funds would be raised through taxation, which may damage the Lords' personal fortunes. Although calls for further crusades are diminishing, England values a strong relationship with the Catholic church¹³. The Pope has blessed all of Edwards previous military

⁹ Prestwich, Michael .2003. The Three Edwards: War and State in England, 1272–1377 (2nd ed.). London, UK: Routledge p 37

¹⁰ "Part II : POLITICS, GOVERNMENT AND LAW." A Companion to Britain in the Later Middle Ages. Rigby, S. H. Blackwell Publishing, 2003 Chap. 11

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ "Part III : THE CHURCH AND PIETY." A Companion to Britain in the Later Middle Ages. Rigby, S. H. Blackwell Publishing, 2003. Blackwell Reference Online. Chap. 18



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adventures¹⁴. Should he wish for any further blessings, a continued mutually beneficial relationship between the Crown and the Church must both continue and prosper.

International Considerations

The French and the English have had a tumultuous relationship throughout history. Edward 1st is not only the King of an independent England, but he simultaneously serves as a vassal to the French king through his claims in the Duchy of Gascony¹⁵. As such, Edward answered Phillip III's call for the 9th crusade. Subsequently, Phillip engaged in the Aragonese Crusade from 1284-1285. A crusade referred to as "perhaps the most unjust, unnecessary and calamitous enterprise ever undertaken by the Capetian monarchy"¹⁶ resulted in not only a major French loss, but in the death of their King¹⁷. Edward I has now been left the task of mediator between the Kingdom of France and Aragon¹⁸. Relations between the French and the English are however growing increasingly hostile.

Both Wales & Ireland have been conquered by the English. The annexation of Wales seems to be running smoothly, with only minor skirmishes threatening the peace as Edward develops a mighty cohort of castles. The occupation of Ireland, on the other hand, has not been as successful, and unless addressed could lead to further hostilities.

¹⁴ "Part III : THE CHURCH AND PIETY." A Companion to Britain in the Later Middle Ages. Rigby, S. H. Blackwell Publishing, 2003. Blackwell Reference Online. Chap. 18

¹⁵ Powicke, Maurice. 1962. The Oxford History of England: The Thirteenth Century 1216-1307. Oxford: Oxford University Press. P.237

¹⁶ Chaytor, H. J. 1933. A History of Aragon and Catalonia. University of Michigan. P.105

¹⁷ Powicke, Maurice. 1962. The Oxford History of England: The Thirteenth Century 1216-1307. Oxford: Oxford University Press. P.252

¹⁸ Ibid.



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Past Conflicts and Tensions

Conflict between England and her northern neighbour is not unheard of. War was rampant between the two states in the first half of the 13th century, until relations between the two royal households improved. Henry III wed his daughter to Alexander III and granted him land on British soil¹⁹. In doing so, he cemented the Scottish King's fealty to him. Even as vassals to the English King, the Scottish have refused to grant his request of being the lord paramount of Scotland²⁰. This is a major source of tension between the two nations. Armed conflict has not ensued... yet.

Although there is a desire on the part of English to maintain the existing cautious peace with Scotland, it must be noted that Edward still sees himself as rightful lord paramount, not only over the Scottish King, but over the entire Scottish people. With the Support of the Church and the English people, Edward not only wishes for a peaceful resolution, but for a resolution that advantages him.

Goals of the English

In these troubling times, the English must stand united in order to achieve their goals: to help pick a suitable heir to the Scottish throne, to maintain a steady influence over Scottish matters, and to strengthen the English Kingdom against domestic and international threats. Since the English acquisition of Scottish territory, we have enjoyed a relationship with our Northern neighbour which has ensured that Scottish decisions will be beneficial for England. In the face of growing nationalism from the Scots, it is important to push a Scottish heir who will have both the issues of Scotland and England in mind. In addition to the immediate benefits of selecting such an heir, maintaining our

¹⁹ Powicke, Maurice p.581

²⁰ Barron, Evan Macleod. 1914. The Scottish War of Independence: A Critical Study . Edinburgh: Ballantyne, Hanson & Co. p.87



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influence would reinforce our strength concerning the Welsh and the Irish, and ensure that other kingdoms, such as France, as well as possible sources of domestic threats, are aware of our strength.



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Character List

Under oath to the king to pursue loyalty, secrecy, proper conduct, and an increase in the power of the Crown.

The Chancery, the Exchequer, the Household, and the Council Leaders

Henry de Lacy – Earl of Lincoln:

As the third Earl of Lincoln, Henry de Lacy owns a number of large and important estates and titles in England. Having been raised and educated at court, the Earl has crafted a number of strong relationships with powerful figures, the most important of which the King, of whom he is deeply entrusted. He is also on particularly good standing with the Catholic Church.

Humphrey de Bohun – Earl of Hereford:

Humphrey de Bohun comes from a powerful family on the border of England and Wales, with a strong enough influence to oppose certain actions of rulers without fear of denouncement or treason. While closely bound to England and his King, he is associated, perhaps only geographically, with certain Scottish figures, such as Robert Bruce.

Hugh le Despenser – Earl of Winchester:

The son of the closest confidant of Edward I, who accompanied him into multiple battles and advised in countless matters of domestic and international diplomacy, Hugh le Despenser is very close to the King as well, enjoying a similar role to that of his late father.

Henry de Percy – Baron of Alnwick:

Henry de Percy was a higher-level Baron amongst English officials under Edward I, with multiple large and distinguished estates in his inheritance. Having felt the taste of victory while participating in the defeat of the Welsh rebellion, de Percy sees the empty Scottish throne as an opportunity for more battles, or even war, under the English banner.



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John Hastings – Baron Bergavenny of Abergavenny:

Primarily a valiant English soldier, the Baron already has significant experience with war. Hastings also has particular interests in the fate of the Scottish throne, since he is related to the late King David I of Scotland, who ruled in the 12th century.

John de Botetourt – Governor of Framlingham; Admiral of the North Fleet:

As an illegitimate son, de Botetourt has surprised many by rising to be a powerful military figure and commander of the English fleet. As admiral, de Botetourt is primed to lead the Northern fleet in any potential armed encounter with the Scots, major or minor.

6th Earl of Surrey – John de Warenne:

With experience fighting for both Edward I and Henry III, John de Warenne has been a prominent figure in military and diplomatic decisions. While he was momentarily against the Crown in the Second Baron's War, he is held in high esteem of the present King, with promise to have a leading figure in the prospective affairs of Scotland.

Otton de Grandson – Savoyard Knight, Governor of Channel Islands, Representative to the Pope:

Hailing from France, Otto de Grandson has been working for the English Crown since the childhood of Edward I, of whom he is a very close friend. Having already worked as an executor and chief justiciar in Acre during the crusades, as well as in Scotland, and Wales, de Grandson has a multitude of diplomatic contacts across Europe.



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Stephen de Pencester – Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports:

Having been Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports for over two decades so far, de Pencester is an expert in military coastal operations. While he has had little experience with the Scottish so far, his tenure on the English Channel gives him a strong voice on military advisement.

Brian Fitz Alan – Baron of Bedale:

A Baron of Northern England, Brian Fitz Alan has been in the King's service for years now, having served in Wales. His opinion on military matters is respected, particularly on those concerning Scotland and the North.

John of Brittany – Earl of Richmond

Nephew of the King, John of Brittany has already entered the King's service as the future Earl of Richmond. Not a particularly distinguished or gifted soldier, John of Brittany has the protection of Edward I, since he was close friends with the King's loved but deceased son Henry.

Government Officials

William of March – Lord High Chancellor:

As a graduate of Oxford University and having worked as a Treasurer, William of March has a strong background in finance and economics, experience which benefits him as he helps oversee England's accounts and finances.

Walter Langton – Treasurer:

Together with William of March, Langton works on overseeing and managing the accounts and finances of the Crown. Previous to his position as Treasurer, Walton Langton worked as a clerk in the royal chancery, a position through which he grew close to Edward I, who selected him to join his personal service.



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Robert Winchelsey – Archbishop of Canterbury:

Robert Winchelsey's background is that of a strong scholar: he was educated at both Oxford University and the University of Paris, two premier institutions which he would later teach at. Recently, he was the Chancellor of Oxford University, before being elected to Canterbury, despite some personal reservations.

Henry of Newark – Archbishop of York

Having grown up in an order of monks, Henry of Newark received higher education at Oxford University – his previous education is uncertain – and through his titles and holdings slowly made a name for himself at English Court. He is now a royal clerk to the King, and is part of the standard English diplomatic team, but the rumour is that he is esteemed to be the next Archbishop of York.

Sir Ralph de Hengham – Justice:

A long-serving clerk and judge in the English legal system, Sir Ralph de Hengham is now English Chief of Justice. In the past, he was dismissed and made to pay a hefty fine only to be reinstated after serving a sentence, and is once again in the King's graces, working as Chief of Justice.

Peter of Chauvent – Steward of the Household:

An important official in the Royal Household, Peter of Chauvent ensures that it runs smoothly. The position comes not only with an immediate Cabinet rank, but also carries considerable political importance and weight.



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Roger Bigod – Earl Marshall:

A significant Earl, Roger Bigod has previously served the Crown in both Wales and Ireland. While he is a favourite of the King for any grand military service, he has enough support and confidence in what he believes is right to follow his mind if necessary.

Religious Figures

Richard Swinefield - Bishop of Hereford:

Bishop Swinefield has long worked in the ecclesial field, having been a member of the house of late Bishop Cantilupe's for over a decade, a religious figure who he has worked tirelessly to commemorate. While his predecessor was a favourite of Edward I, Bishop Swinefield cares little for politics or Parliament.

Anthony Bek – Bishop of Durham:

Educated at Oxford University, Bishop Anthony Bek entered the clergy and immediately captured the attention of a young King Edward. The Bishop has done many services for the King, such as accompanying him in the Crusades and being a negotiator with the Welsh Prince following English victory during the Welsh Rebellion.

Richard Gravesend - Bishop of London

Unique to the Bishop of London's diocese is the fact that it includes royal palaces and lands, as well as a seat in Parliament. Therefore, Bishop Gravesend is able to hold a fair amount of influence with the King

Godfrey Giffard - Bishop of Worcester:

Bishop Giffard has been employed at Worcester for several decades now, and is among the more trusted and respected religious figures in England, particularly by the King.



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John of Pontoise - Bishop of Winchester:

Of French origin, Bishop John of Pontoise has spent the majority of his life in England, having even enjoyed a stint as the Chancellor of Oxford University. The Diocese of Winchester is one of the most significant in England, therefore the Bishop wields considerable influence.

Ralph Walpole - Bishop of Norwich:

A recent election to the Diocese, Bishop Ralph Walpole was previously the Archdeacon of Ely. Not much is known of the new Bishop, and he remains a mystery to many of the other religious figures and leaders of the country.

Others

Gilbert of Rothbury – Clerk of Parliament:

While not formally called the ‘Clerk of Parliament’, as this official title does not yet exist, Gilbert of Rothbury plays a critical role in Parliament by ensuring its smooth operation by preparing its minutes and ensuring parliamentary procedure is followed.

Phillip Martel – Doctor of Civil Law (Diplomatic affairs):

A chief advisor to the King concerning diplomatic affairs, both domestic and abroad, Phillip Martel is a trusted, and often confidential, advisor who sits on the King’s council and is sworn to him.

Francesco Accursi – Legist:

Of Italian origin, Francesco Accursi is a prominent judge in England, as well as the chief legal advisor to the King, advising him on his legal abilities and limits within the bounds of the English law.



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