

HackMUN IV
Crisis Committee: Chinese Civil War



Table of Contents

Note From the Chairs	3
Introduction to the Committee	4
Committee Procedures	5
Position Papers	5
Directives	5
A Brief History	6
Fall of the Qing Dynasty and the Formation of the Republic of China	6
The First United Front and the Warlord Era	7
The KMT-CCP Split and the First Phase of the Chinese Civil War	7
The Second United Front and the Second Sino-Japanese War (World War II)	8
What Now?	10
Committee Positions	11
Chinese Communist Party (CCP)	11
Political Characters	11
Military Characters	13
Kuomintang (KMT)	17
Political Characters	17
Military Characters	20
References	24

Note From the Chairs

Greetings Delegates!

Our names are Daniel Cai and Steven Yu and it is our pleasure to welcome you to the Crisis Committee on the Chinese Civil War. We, alongside our HackMUN staff, are extremely honored to bring you this committee featuring the complex history of the Chinese Civil War. Today, there is no doubt that the People's Republic of China stands as one of the world's superpowers. From economic vitality to its vast international networks and its growing military, China is transitioning into a position to rival the United States in regard to its prowess. To understand the future global geopolitical landscape, learning about China is perhaps one of the most crucial pieces. Out of the expanse of Chinese history, perhaps nothing has defined modern China more than the long struggle of the CCP during the Civil War. We encourage you to read through the history and all the other contents in this background guide to gain an understanding of the events leading up to the beginning of our committee. We also encourage you to look beyond what this document has to offer you and learn a deeper understanding of the causes and consequences of the Chinese Civil War.

If you are new, do not be shy. Model UN is home to one of the most encouraging communities in high school. The various experiences and perspectives that people bring to these conferences are what makes Model UN what it is. Try your best and be engaged!

We wish you all a great conference and look forward to the diplomatic resolve, passion, and joy you will bring to the conference! Please remember to reach out if you have any questions.

Feel free to contact us with any questions. See you at HackMUN IV!

Daniel Cai, Former Secretary-General, HackMUN IV

Steven Yu, Secretary-General, HackMUN IV

Chairs of the JCC on the Chinese Civil War

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Introduction to the Committee

Boom...

With the echoing sounds of the Little Boy and Fat Man atop the ruins of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, on September 2nd, the Empire of Japan surrendered to the allied forces in the official documented end of the second world war.

While the world rejoiced and simultaneously mourned the countless deaths this war has claimed, across the sea in China, the conflict between the Kuomintang (KMT) and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) was once again brewing. The war for this vast land in the far east was not over, and both sides had bad blood against each other. The KMT & CCP had fought each other and alongside each other for the past two decades, but with the Japanese exit from the Chinese land, they each envisioned a new China under their vision.

July 1946. Less than a year after the Japanese surrender, gunfire rocked Northern China with 1.6 million KMT troops entering northern China into an unknown fate. Beyond the hilly and rural terrains stood 1.2 million CCP troops backed by Soviet support, ready to lay down their lives for the worker's revolution.

You will be placed right into the stormfront and assume the role of a Communist individual of significant military and/or political value, charged with your own interests to contend for the ultimate prize: the great and historic land of China. The committee will begin at the onset of the Chinese People's Liberation War (as the CCP dubs it) and the resumed fighting between the KMT & CCP post-Second Sino-Japanese War. Will China relive history under the grasp of the worker's revolution, or will Sun Yat-sen's Republic live to see a new dawn? Will you live through the bloody fields of battle or perish in the dangerous political landscapes of this violent conflict?

"All are past and gone!
For truly great men,
look to this age alone."

- Mao Zedong
Chairman of the CCP, 1943-1976

"俱往矣，
数风流人物，
还看今朝。"

-《沁园春·雪》毛泽东

Committee Procedures

Position Papers

If you wish to be considered for an award this year at HackMUN IV, you must turn in a position paper. Position Papers help you prepare effectively for debate and engage meaningfully with the topic before the day of the conference. Furthermore, your chairs can better understand the unique issues and possible solutions, and your committee position at large, prior to the actual beginning of the committee. For this crisis committee, the ideal position paper demonstrates a solid grasp of the history of the Chinese Civil War and your character's role in it. More importantly, you should attempt to describe your position/stance within the conflict and the resources you potentially have at your disposal. Lastly, you should brainstorm potential solutions to the challenges at hand. Please send position papers less than 2 pages in length, 1.5-inch spacing in EITHER Google Doc or PDF format by the morning of March 4th, 2023 to chinesecivilwarhackmun@gmail.com.

Directives

In this Crisis Committee, the directives are a little more complicated than in a typical general assembly. On the day of the conference, you will have the opportunity to collect paper copies of directive templates and fill them out over the course of the committee as you please.

A Brief History

Fall of the Qing Dynasty and the Formation of the Republic of China

Starting from the 19th century, Qing China had undergone a series of humiliations by foreign powers. In what is considered to be the start of the Century of Humiliation, the British defeated the Chinese in the First Opium War, weakening the Qing dynasty and forcing China to sign a series of treaties and concessions. These so-called “unequal treaties” forced China to lease treaty ports to foreign powers, cede land to foreign powers, pay reparations to foreign powers, grant extraterritorial privileges to foreign citizens, and open up trade. These treaties allowed China to be carved up by Western powers (and Japan) into spheres of influence. Humiliations would follow one by one, including the defeat in the Second Opium War, the sacking of the Old Summer Palace by the British and French forces, the defeat in the First Sino-Japanese War, and the suppression of the Boxer Rebellion. These events infuriated many Chinese, including the Father of Modern China, Sun Yat-sen.

These events led some to question the Qing government. Sun Yat-sen founded the precursor to the Kuomintang in 1894 with the goal of overthrowing the Qing dynasty. Subsequently, uprisings against the Qing began. After many failed uprisings, the Wuchang Uprising finally succeeded and set off a series of uprisings throughout China. These uprisings would be known as the Xinhai Revolution (also known as the 1911 Revolution). On New Year's Day 1912, the Republic of China was established, with Sun Yat-sen as president. To fully overthrow the Qing government, Sun negotiated with Qing general Yuan Shikai, who commanded the Beiyang Army, to remove the Qing emperor, in exchange for the presidency of the Republic of China. On February 12, 1912, China's last emperor, Puyi, was forced to abdicate. Subsequently, Sun Yat-sen resigned in favor of Yuan Shikai, the new President of the Republic of China.

However, Yuan Shikai did not respect the republican ideals of the Republic of China and consolidated power: he dissolved the Kuomintang, assassinated political rivals, and exiled Sun Yat-sen. This ultimately led to him crowning himself as Emperor of China in 1915. Emperor Yuan Shikai continued consolidating power by abolishing the provincial system, which angered the provincial governors, causing many provinces to declare independence and become warlord states. Yuan Shikai lost his support and died shortly after. Sun Yat-sen

returned back to China in 1917 and advocated for Chinese reunification, resurrecting the Kuomintang in 1919. However, the Republic of China had already fallen into disarray and become weak. In 1919, Chinese students were outraged by how the government handled the Treaty of Versailles, which handed former German colonies to the Japanese, and demonstrated against Western influence. This environment let Marxism flourish in China, leading to the founding of the Chinese Communist Party in 1921.

In 1921, Sun Yat-sen and the KMT would form a rival government in Guangzhou to fight the warlords and unify China under a strong central government. Sun Yat-sen would seek aid from foreign nations, but only received assistance from the Soviet Union. Shortly afterward, the KMT formed the First United Front with the CCP in 1924 to fight the warlords in China.

The First United Front and the Warlord Era

Shortly after the First United Front was formed, Sun Yat-sen would pass away in 1925, and with that, Chiang Kai-shek became leader of the Kuomintang. In 1926, with the help of the USSR and the CCP, Chiang Kai-shek led the National Revolutionary Army of the KMT on the "Northern Expedition" to carry out Sun Yat-sen's goal of fighting the warlords and reunifying China. By 1927, the First United Front successfully seized control of many Chinese cities, including Shanghai and Nanjing. Even though the Northern Expedition and the First United Front were successful, there was growing mutual distrust between the two sides ever since Sun Yat-sen's passing. In 1927, with the Northern Expedition still underway, Chiang Kai-shek purged the communists and left-wing KMT members from the First United Front in the White Terror, massacring thousands of them and thus ending the First United Front.

The KMT-CCP Split and the First Phase of the Chinese Civil War

This White Terror eventually led to a full-blown civil war between the CCP and the KMT. The CCP decided to base its operations in the countryside of southern China with the rural peasantry. To defeat the Communists, the KMT launched multiple encirclement campaigns, culminating in the fifth campaign in 1933. In the face of this encirclement, the CCP decided to embark on a military retreat, famously known as the Long March, from the South (Jiangxi) to the North (Shanxi). This Long March would ravage the CCP, with 90% of the original members dying. In the process of the Long March, Mao Zedong would prove his leadership and become the leader of the CCP, with Zhou Enlai as his assistant, in 1935.

The Long March allowed the CCP to escape to Shanxi, where it could rebuild and prepare. In addition, the Long March helped the CCP gain its appeal to the masses, with the CCP recruiting the peasants and confiscating property from local landlords and warlords along the way. With the support of the masses, Mao could wage a guerilla war from the countryside against Chiang, weakening the KMT until Mao could raise a conventional army to fight Chiang. Meanwhile, Chiang Kai-shek's KMT faced social unease, political tensions, and class tensions (severe wealth inequality). Furthermore, because of Chiang Kai-shek's focus on destroying the Communists, Japan had annexed Manchuria in 1931, establishing a Japanese puppet state, further angering the Chinese people.

Although Chiang was focused on destroying the Communists, the threat of the Japanese alarmed Chiang's subordinates. Chiang's strategy was "first internal pacification, then external resistance" (安內攘外), in other words, eliminate the Communists and compromise with the Japanese until later. In 1936, the Xi'an incident would occur. Chiang Kai-shek was detained by his generals, who forced him to agree to end the civil war with the CCP and enter into a Second United Front against the Japanese.

The Second United Front and the Second Sino-Japanese War (World War II)

Japan launched its full-scale invasion of China in 1937, with the two sides taking on different roles. The CCP waged guerilla warfare against the Japanese, while the KMT did most of the conventional fighting against the Japanese. Although they were both part of the Second United Front, there was minimal cooperation between the two parties. There were many clashes between the two parties, which resulted in the New Fourth Army Incident, where the KMT ambushed the CCP after previous provocations, which ended the Second United Front. This split alarmed the international community, who pushed for the two sides to not wage a civil war, which would only benefit the Japanese. Due to these efforts by the US and the USSR, there was a superficial and delicate peace during the War.

The Second Sino-Japanese War proved beneficial to the CCP, as they were able to build up popular support with its guerilla warfare tactics and build up the CCP's forces. On the other hand, as the KMT was the legal government of China, they had to do the vast majority of the fighting against the Japanese, severely weakening Chiang's army.

When the Japanese surrendered to the Americans in August of 1945, the Japanese troops were ordered to surrender to KMT troops, not CCP troops. To complicate matters further, in Manchuria, the Japanese surrendered to the USSR. After the War, Chiang Kai-shek and Mao Zedong held peace talks in Chongqing, with no concrete results and small battles still raging on. Although there was a truce, the two parties struggled for control of Manchuria. With the help of the US, KMT troops were airlifted to occupy the major cities in northern China. Meanwhile, Mao rapidly moved his troops to Manchuria, where they established control of the countryside and armed themselves with surrendered Japanese gear that was captured by the Soviets.

What Now?

It is July 1, 1946. Negotiations between the two parties have failed and it appears that the second phase of the Chinese Civil War is on the horizon.

The KMT, while weakened from its fight against the Japanese, still holds the upper hand. It still has the vast majority of the territory of China, with its stronghold in the South. Despite huge losses against the Japanese, they still have 4.3 million troops. In addition, these troops are better equipped against the CCP. However, these troops are unmotivated, with many of them having been forcibly conscripted from their villages into the KMT army. In addition, the KMT is plagued by corruption, hyperinflation (302% in June 1942), and has little peasant support.

The CCP has made significant progress throughout the Second Sino-Japanese War. They now have control over most of Manchuria, with small pockets of territory in the rest of China. They have amassed 1.2 million troops over the course of the war, albeit, worse equipped. Although the CCP has fewer troops and land, they have the support and sympathy of the peasantry as well as that of the neighboring and emerging superpower: the Soviet Union.



Map of China on July 1, 1946.

Committee Positions

NOTE TO DELEGATES: PLEASE READ THROUGH BOTH YOUR OWN ROLES & THE ROLES OF OTHER DELEGATES PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE

Chinese Communist Party (CCP)

Political Characters

Mao Zedong - Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party

Mao Zedong had successfully established himself as the leader of the CCP by July 1946. Though in many ways he was the founder of the communist movement in China, he was not always regarded as its uncontested leader. By the onset of the second phase of the Chinese Civil War, he had however become the unquestioned leader of the CCP having survived the first phase of the Civil War, the Long March, and the Second Sino-Japanese War. Even though Mao will become a dictator after the establishment of the PRC, by 1946 his leadership has not yet transformed into a dictatorship. A learned child born into peasantry, Mao harbored a deep hatred for imperialism and Chiang's KMT.

Though Mao is an ideological revolutionary and attracted many peasants to his party, his power derives from his brilliant tactics in diplomacy and novelties in military strategies. His pragmatic attitude towards the civil war overshadowed his ideological battles with the KMT.

Mao has total command over the armies of the CCP, the diplomatic directions of the CCP, his subordinate politicians and generals. Though through his role as the Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party he derives these powers, delegates mustn't forget that only the laws of war are respected during this time. If Mao fails to deliver in his leadership, power-hungry generals and politicians could overthrow him and bring about a new Communist Party without Mao at its helm.

Zhou Enlai - Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party of China and General Chief of Staff

Zhou Enlai has cemented himself as one of the most important leaders of the CCP since its inception. Zhou Enlai got involved with Marxism ever since his foreign studies in Japan in 1917. In 1921, he became one of the founding members of the Chinese Communist Party

after he joined the Paris Communist Group, one of the eight predecessors to the CCP. Throughout his career, Zhou would play various key roles in the CCP in the political, diplomatic, and military spheres.

Zhou Enlai has helped transform the CCP from a simple study group into a major power in China. From brokering the two United Fronts to helping install Mao as Chairman, Zhou has helped shape the Communist Party.

Although Zhou is Mao's chief aide, he still wields enormous power in various spheres. Zhou Enlai has played key diplomatic roles in the past, including negotiating for the Second United Front. However, since peace talks have broken down, his duties as Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the CCP have taken precedence. In addition, he has senior roles in intelligence work, which provide crucial information on the bigger KMT army. He has also been tasked to direct underground activities in KMT-controlled areas.

Liu Shaoqi - Supreme Leader of all Communist Forces in Manchuria and Northern China & Member of the CCP Central Committee

Liu Shaoqi was born into a relatively wealthy peasant family. He was a stellar student and became fascinated with the ideals of socialism and communism. He was amongst the first members of the CCP when it was first formed and never strayed from the ideological goal of achieving the worker's revolution. He soon became a senior party member and accompanied the CCP forces for a section of the Long March. During much of the first phase of the Civil War and the Second Sino-Japanese War, Liu worked in northern China as an underground political figure against the KMT and the Japanese. Though during the course of the war he was given the title: "Supreme Leader of all Communist Forces in Manchuria and Northern China," his role was much more political than military. He excelled in the field of diplomacy when his generals spoke the languages of war. He was an effective propagandist and liaison between the army generals and the CCP Central Committee. He was an effective mediator between the army and its generals.

Liu has the total trust of Mao at this point in the Civil War. He was one of the CCP's most effective politicians and propagandists. If Liu's abilities in the diplomatic field are used well, he may secure crucial alliances and deals to not only propel the CCP to victory, but also himself to a rising position of power.

Deng Xiaoping - Secretary of the Central Plains Bureau of the CPC Central Committee

Deng Xiaoping was born into a locally prominent family in Sichuan. After graduating from a Chongqing school, he traveled to France to participate in a work-study program. In France,

he met many of his future comrades, including Zhou Enlai, and joined the CCP in 1924. In 1926, he would travel to the USSR and study at Moscow Sun Yat-sen University, a training camp for Chinese revolutionaries organized by the Communist International. Upon his return to China, he would work together with the KMT until the KMT-CCP split forced him to flee. He would later lead a failed uprising in Guangxi against the KMT. Afterward, he would become the “Director of the Propaganda Department of the Provincial Party Committee in Jiangxi” until he was removed due to internal strife. He would also go on to survive the Long March. During the Second Sino-Japanese War, he would become the Political Commissar of the Eighth Route Army, commanded by Liu Bocheng. Deng and Liu would continue to work together, leading the Shangdang Campaign and the Handan Campaign against the KMT together in the immediate postwar period.

Deng Xiaoping, as Political Commissar, is a natural political leader and propaganda master. With his previous experience as director of propaganda, he is crucial to rallying popular support for the ideas of Mao Zedong and laying the ideological foundation of the CCP. Together with Liu Bocheng, they are a “perfect pair” of military and political talent.

Chen Yun - Deputy Secretary of the Northeast Bureau of the CPC Central Committee

Chen Yun was born into an urban working-class family. He joined the CCP in 1924 and became an important organizer under Zhou Enlai and Liu Shaoqi. After becoming a member of the Politburo in 1934, he was placed in charge of underground activities in areas outside of the CCP’s control. He also helped Mao consolidate power within the Party, becoming a member of Mao’s inner circle. After the Second Sino-Japanese War ended, he moved to establish CCP control of Manchuria.

Chen Yun is also in control of economic affairs. Chen Yun was assigned management of the economic affairs of China’s Northwest and Northeast regions. As one of the senior economists of the Party, Chen Yun has the responsibility and power of implementing economic policy. In addition to his economic responsibilities and powers, he is in Mao’s inner circle.

Military Characters

Zhu De - Commander-in-Chief of the People’s Liberation Army

Zhu De was born to a poor peasant family in rural China. Despite his humble beginnings, Zhu’s family sought that he received a proper education and he eventually entered the military academy in Nanjing. Immediately after graduation, Zhu joined the revolutionary forces to overthrow Yuan Shikai. During the warlord China years, Zhu became one of the

warlords to occupy a relatively remote area of China. He eventually converted to a member of the CCP after several unsuccessful attempts and became closely acquainted with Mao. Through the Long March and the Second Sino-Japanese War, Zhu proved both his military genius and loyalty to Mao and gained his total trust as Commander-in-Chief of the CCP's People's Liberation Army (PLA) by 1946. He is regarded as one of the crucial founders of the PLA, the army of the CCP, which still exists to this day.

A decorated commander and respected by his soldiers, Zhu De's strength comes from the soldier's loyalties to both him and Mao. He serves as the figurehead of the PLA which is seen by many peasants as defenders of their land during the Japanese invasion. His military tactics are what makes him shine during this period of chaotic warfare.

Zhu will receive favorable prospects when leading his armies into battle provided that the battle plan is sophisticated and well thought out.

Peng Dehuai - Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the People's Liberation Army

Peng Dehuai came from humble origins. A son of farmers, he made his living as a soldier in the armies of warlords. Eventually, he and his warlord battalion aligned themselves with the KMT, joining the Northern Expedition against his former rivals and compatriots. During his time with the KMT, his military genius was recognized and he was promoted rapidly. He caught the eye of many communists who tried repeatedly to recruit him to their side. He eventually joined secretly and betrayed the KMT to join the CCP. Peng was alongside Mao through much of the Civil War having survived the Long March together and having been one of the most effective CCP generals during the Second Sino-Japanese War. Though Peng was mostly a political figure during the Japanese invasion, his military genius was to be shown during the ensuing conflict between the KMT and CCP.

A master of both political and military strategies, Peng will be commanding roughly 200,000 troops in the Northwest Field Army. This army is relatively under-equipped but with time will become an effective army that could decimate KMT's armies. Peng's strength comes from his combination of political abilities and military strategies. He will be able to capitalize on his diplomatic relationships and his troops to lead the CCP to victory.

Lin Biao - Commander of the Communist Northeast Military District

Lin was born to a poor peasant family and became involved in the military at a young age. He admired Chiang Kai-shek but also studied under Zhou Enlai. He was commissioned in the ranks of the KMT but soon joined the CCP and the People's Liberation Army (PLA). During the first phase of the Chinese Civil War, Lin became one of the earliest and closest

supporters of Mao. Lin was one of the best field commanders in the PLA. During the Second Sino-Japanese War, Lin's military capabilities were put on full display. His considerably smaller army ambushed Japanese forces and managed to achieve one of the few Chinese victories in the war despite being outmanned and outgunned. He was severely injured during the war and thus did not see much action until the end of the war against Japan.

By 1946, Lin was stationed in Manchuria commanding roughly 300,000 troops. He had received much of the Japanese surrendered equipment courtesy of the USSR but his army was still relatively underequipped. He will be soon pushed to the forefront in this renewed conflict against the KMT as there's little doubt that Manchuria is where the KMT will first make their attack.

Lin's power comes almost exclusively from his military talent. His abilities in the field, particularly with smaller guerilla forces, were unparalleled in this era. His ambushes filled the Japanese graves and will surely once again fill those with the KMT dead. It will be the strategies that Lin will implement that will let him leave his heavy mark on Chinese history.

Liu Bocheng - Commander of the Communist Central Plains Military District

Liu Bocheng was born into a peasant family in Sichuan. After being inspired by Sun Yat-sen's revolutionary ideas, he decided to dedicate himself to establishing a modern China. In 1912, Liu enrolled in the Chongqing Military Academy and joined the army to fight against Yuan Shikai. He joined Sun Yat-sen's party in 1914 and rapidly climbed the ranks of the military. In 1916, while commanding an attack, he lost his right eye. However, this did not stop Liu as he went on to be promoted to commanding general in Sichuan during the Warlord Era. During this time, he met two Sichuan communists, Yang Angong and Wu Yuzhang, and became sympathetic to Marxist ideas. In 1916, he officially joined the CCP and was appointed military commissioner of Chongqing. After the KMT-CCP split, Liu, along with other CCP members, led the Nanchang Uprising against the KMT, the first major engagement of the Chinese Civil War. In 1927, Liu traveled to Moscow to study military strategies and tactics. In 1930, he returned to China where he was appointed Commissioner of the Central Military Committee of the CCP. However, Liu Bocheng had conflicts with other leaders, like Mao Zedong and Peng Dehuai. Eventually, during the Long March, Liu chose to support Mao over the leadership of the 28 Bolsheviks. During the Second Sino-Japanese War, Liu Bocheng was given command of the 129th Division of the 8th Route Army, where he would work together with Deng Xiaoping to fight the Japanese. Liu Bocheng and Deng Xiaoping would continue to work together, becoming close allies and friends. In the immediate aftermath of the War, the pair would assist in the occupation of Manchuria.

Liu Bocheng has proved himself a brilliant tactician and skilled commander time and time again. He is among the first Chinese leaders to study and use conventional and modern military tactics. Together with Deng Xiaoping, they are a “perfect pair” of military and political talent.

He Long - Second-in-Command of the Northwest Field Army & Member of the Central Committee of the CCP

He Long was born into a poor peasant household, where he herded cattle instead of receiving schooling. After he killed a local tax collector to avenge his uncle’s murder, he became a “Robin Hood”-esque outlaw and subject to legend. After starting his revolutionary career with just “two kitchen knives”, he organized a revolutionary peasant army, which later joined the KMT Army. In the Northern Expedition, he would command the 1st Division, 9th Corps of the National Revolutionary Army (KMT Army). In late 1926, he would join the CCP and help lead the Nanchang Uprising against the KMT in 1927. Although he was eventually defeated, Chiang Kai-shek’s attempts to sway He Long back to the KMT failed. During the Encirclement Campaigns, He Long’s forces established a base in the southwest province of Guizhou in 1933. He Long’s forces would then take part in the Long March, arriving in Shaanxi mostly intact, and therefore, tasked with protecting the capital. During the Second Sino-Japanese War, he would be the overall commander of Communist forces in Shanxi, Shaanxi, Gansu, Ningxia, and Inner Mongolia. After the end of the War, command of He’s forces would be transferred to Peng, where He became second-in-command of the Northwest Field Army. He Long would focus on organizing the manpower, materials, and financial resources to support the troops. Although he was demoted to second-in-command of the Northwest Field Army, He Long was elected to the Central Committee of the CCP, where his military and political influence rose.

From his humble beginnings, He Long has shown that he is a man of action and dedication to the communist cause. Although He Long holds a significant military position, he also wields influence in the civilian spheres. He must use both his military and civilian influence to not only lead the CCP to victory but also secure his place as a leader.

RESERVED POSITIONS

Chen Yi

Luo Ronghuan

Xu Xiangqian

Nie Rongzhen

Ye Jianying

Kuomintang (KMT)*

* The backroom will assume the role of the KMT characters. Delegates can attempt communication with the KMT characters via crisis notes to the backroom.

Political Characters

Chiang Kai-shek - Chairman of the National Government of the Republic of China

Chiang was born to a relatively wealthy family and educated in Japan. He was a founding member of the KMT but was quickly exiled by Yuan Shikai along with Sun Yat-sen. Eventually, when Sun Yat-sen regained control of the KMT and passed away, Chiang filled the power vacuum by establishing himself as the dictator of the republic. His Northern Expedition helped end the warlords destabilizing much of China and to solidify his reign, he turned against his communist partners in the “white terror.” He then spent the next decade fighting the diminishing communist until the breakout of the Second Sino-Japanese War, in which he formed the second united front alongside his once enemies, the communists, against the Japanese invaders. He supplied much of the conventional military strength against the Japanese whereas the CCP’s People’s Liberation Army was more oriented towards guerilla warfare. Though his army would be beaten time and time again by the Japanese Imperial Army, his fierce resistance against the Japanese would contribute much to the overall effort against Japan, preventing the capitulation of China altogether as the Japanese had hoped. During this war, Chiang’s brutal pragmatic willingness to sacrifice citizenry for triumph was put on full display, culminating in the 1938 Yellow River Flood where he killed 500,000 people by flooding the Yellow River as a part of his scorched earth tactic in delaying the Japanese. Chiang was also a skilled diplomat as he played into the favor of both the USSR and the United States throughout the course of the war, securing favors from them both.

By 1946 Chiang Kai-shek was once again looking to solidify his power in China by attacking the CCP. The nationalist army is better equipped and larger than the CCP, though it is plagued by corruption and has little idea of how to effectively combat the CCP’s guerilla warfare tactics in northern China.

Chiang’s strength comes from his powerful conventional armies totaling 4 million standing troops, his diplomatic genius, and his brutal willingness to sacrifice in order to solidify power. In addition, his totalitarian grasp upon nationalist China means that he has total control over its armies and policies at this point in the war. He is favored to win. If Chiang Kai-shek and the nationalists triumph in this ensuing struggle, a new China will surely be birthed upon the ruins of its old.

Song Ziwen - Premier of the Republic of China

Song Ziwen was born into a wealthy family and was extremely well educated in the west. He attended both Harvard and Columbia universities and returned to China as a successful businessman. He would soon pivot into serving the National Government alongside Chiang Kai-shek as a finance official and was one of Sun Yat-sen's most trusted advisors having succeeded much of his governing responsibilities after witnessing Sun's death. Song was closely intertwined with the United States in the campaign against Japan and Song was well-known as one of the most hardline anti-Japanese government officials in China. Song soon became the figurehead of the KMT's diplomatic efforts, securing support in both the Second Sino-Japanese War and the KMT's overall efforts against the CCP. Song's years as a diplomat would secure him direct channels of communication with both Stalin in Moscow and Truman in Washington D.C.

Song was known as a tough negotiator. He was a seasoned diplomat, wielding political influences everywhere on the globe to secure a future for the KMT. Song was undeniably one of the most well-read and intelligent people serving in the national government. As the war between the KMT and CCP resumes, the war will become not only a military conflict but one for foreign diplomatic support also. Song's relationships with the USSR and USA, if used well, could yield a decisive advantage for the KMT in an increasingly polarized world defined by the post-war superpowers of the Soviet Union and the United States.

Kong Xiangxi - Finance Minister

Kong Xiangxi was born into a prosperous family and was educated both in China and in elite universities such as Yale University in the United States. Upon returning to China he was involved extensively with the revolution to overthrow the Qing dynasty. He worked under Yuan Shikai and quickly proved his talent by helping modernize one of the provinces of China at a time when Chinese infrastructure was in horrendous condition. With numerous other successful policies and projects, he rose through the ranks of the KMT and eventually became the Premier of the ROC. Whilst Song Ziwen was more focused on diplomacy with the allied powers, Kong was in contact with the axis leaders of Hitler and Mussolini throughout the second world war. His financial policies were largely successful during his tenure as Finance Minister which certainly did help compensate for the KMT's diminishing public popularity. He held out hope with the KMT (as he was one of its earliest members) to create a financially modernized and stable China free from the grasp of both foreign imperialism, feudalism, and communism.

Kong's strength comes from his fiscal policies. An often-overlooked factor that may shift the direction of the war is who grasps the hearts and minds of the people. Through the projects,

Kong may implement, and the alliances he may make diplomatically in this post-WW2 world, Kong may secretly and quietly shift the tide of war to the favor of the KMT. If he's used well, Kong may bring about a KMT victory without the KMT even firing a single bullet.

Chen Lifu - Secretary-General of the KMT Central Political Conference

Chen Lifu was born to a relatively wealthy family and was well educated. He received an education at the University of Pittsburgh and then enrolled in military school which converted into a career of public service. During his career of public service, his talents for government were put on display and he quickly rose through the ranks of KMT. He was well acquainted with Chiang Kai-shek and worked as his personal secretary. He eventually became an influential political figure in the KMT, and the leader of the KMT Central Political Conference. Chen worked under Chiang as the center of the KMT network. He created strong relationships with other KMT members and was a very capable leader of the group of domestic policymakers.

Chen's strength is derived from his relationships with the KMT officials. He held a careful balance between pleasing the KMT members and Chiang Kai-shek, and delivered on many of the policies Chiang created. He was a loyal member of the KMT and a good personal friend of Chiang. If he capitalizes on his many political relationships then he might be able to help purge the KMT of corruption, and lead the KMT to victory.

Chen Guofu - Chairman of the Central Finance Committee

Chen was born into the Qing dynasty and was well-educated in his time. He participated in the revolution against Yuan Shikai and became a businessman in its aftermath. He simultaneously first interacted with Chiang Kai-shek through his business dealings and worked for the most famed military academy in China at that time, meeting many prospective leaders in Chiang's future KMT. Through his relationships, he was selected to be the Chairman of the Central Finance Committee where he worked with KMT officials to wage economic war against their enemies, mostly the communists. During the Second Sino-Japanese War, he was one of the brainchildren behind the Yellow River Flood, a brutal military strategy that sacrificed half a million Chinese civilians to halt Japanese advances.

Chen is a committed anti-communist. He is wholeheartedly convinced that communism will fail in China and thus he commanded a vast host of economic resources against the CCP. His strength comes from his economic strategies, policies, and his brutality.

RESERVED POSITIONS

Song Meiling

Chiang Ching-Kuo

Military Characters

Chen Cheng - Chief of Staff of the Ministry of Defense

Chen Cheng was born to a relatively normal family in China without much turmoil. He underwent a solid education, enrolled in military academies, and enlisted in the KMT army. He first distinguished himself as a brave soldier, and then during the Northern Expeditions, he scored numerous victories as a commissioned officer. He rose quickly in the ranks of the KMT's army as an effective commander against the warlords of China. Starting in 1931, Chen was put in charge of combatting the Communists. Though he would suffer many losses against Communist guerilla forces, he dealt a decisive blow against the CCP in April 1934 which forced the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to begin the notorious Long March. In the ensuing Second Sino-Japanese War, he was one of the most crucial military advisors to Chiang Kai-shek and proposed the strategy for the KMT to pivot south instead of defending the poorly supplied northern Chinese territory. This strategy effectively stalled Japanese advances and allowed Nationalist China a fighting chance against the advancing Imperial Japanese Army.

By 1946, Chen was appointed both the Chief of Staff of the Ministry of Defense and the Commander-in-Chief of the Navy for the KMT military. He struck the first blow in this renewed conflict as he followed the orders of Chiang to attack the CCP. Chen's strength comes from his effective military strategies and experience against the PLA's smaller guerilla forces. Few KMT generals in his time were able to understand how to combat the PLA. Chen triumphed through the cost of blood in the past and will surely be a crucial asset to the KMT come the second phase of the Chinese Civil War.

Bai Chongxi - Minister of National Defense

Bai Chongxi was born to a Hui Muslim family in Guangxi. At 14, he would attend the Guangxi Military Cadre Training School in Guilin. During the Xinhai Revolution, he would join the Guangdong Student Dare to Die Corps, where they confronted the Northern Qing Army. He then joined the Nanjing Enlistment Corps and after half a year, entered the Second Military Preparatory School at Wuchang. He continued his schooling at Baoding Military Academy, the highest military institution in China. In 1917, he returned to Guangxi and became a lieutenant after a period as a trainee. During the Warlord Era, he was one of the leaders of the New Guangxi Clique, which brought Guangxi under the jurisdiction of the Republic of China. Bai soon became the Chief of Staff of the KMT Army and led the Army to many victories during the Northern Expedition. During the KMT-CCP split, he helped purge

the Communists from the KMT and suppressed labor unions in Shanghai. However, during the Northern Expedition, he had conflict with Chiang Kai-shek as well, even fighting against pro-Chiang armies. However, in the face of the looming Japanese invasion, they resolved their differences and Bai Chongxi rejoined the KMT government. He was given the position of the Field Executive Office of the Military Council in Guilin and successfully repelled many Japanese attacks. Although Bai was not in direct conflict with Chiang, Bai sometimes refused to obey orders from Chiang if Bai disagreed with them. Bai Chongxi also helped rally his Muslim comrades for the Chinese cause, uniting the Hui and Han against the Japanese. After the victory over the Japanese, Bai was appointed Minister of National Defense. Unfortunately for Bai, it was in name only, as Chiang bypassed Bai on major decisions and would hold daily briefings without Chiang.

Although Bai Chongxi is a gifted general, he faces challenges within the KMT, with a rocky relationship with Chiang Kai-shek. He must find a way to make sure his brilliant strategies are realized and respected by others in the KMT, so history won't repeat itself.

He Yingqin - Director of the Chinese Military Delegation to the UNSC

He Yingqin was born in Guizhou and was a bookish child. After studying at various military schools, he was selected by the Qing to study in a Japanese military preparatory academy, becoming acquainted with Chiang Kai-shek there. He became involved with the revolution against the Qing dynasty during these years, briefly coming back to China to support the war against Yuan Shikai. He continued his studies at the Imperial Japanese Army Academy and on his return to China, became colonel of the Fourth Regiment of Guizhou Army. Later, He Yingqin would join his old classmate Chiang Kai-shek to run the Whampoa Military Academy, where He Yingqin would become the General Instructor, where he would win Chiang's appreciation. He Yingqin would also win several battles against a local warlord, proving his military talent. During the Northern Expedition, He Yingqin commanded the 1st Army Corps. In continuing his support for Chiang, he supported the Shanghai massacre against the Communists. However, in the power struggle between Chiang and Bai, He remained silent, damaging He's relationship with Chiang. He was later relieved of his military command, but was still appointed Minister of Military Administration Department of the KMT in 1930, where he made great contributions. During the Encirclement Campaigns, He suffered a devastating defeat, which hurt his reputation. After the Japanese annexation of Manchuria, He was sent to the North to negotiate with the Japanese. During that time, He would advocate for no military action against the Japanese. After war did eventually break out, He Yingqin was appointed Chief of Staff and worked with Chiang on plans to defeat the Japanese. When Japan was defeated, he was appointed as a representative of China to accept Japan's surrender. After the War, he became Director of the Chinese Military Delegation to the UN Security Council.

Although He Yingqin's reputation as a general is not as before, He Yingqin has become well-known after he accepted the Japanese surrender. As a delegate to the UNSC, he can encourage and convince other members of the Security Council to help the KMT in its fight against the CCP.

Li Zongren - Vice President of the Republic of China

Li Zongren was born in Guangxi, where he enrolled in a provincial military school. Although he joined Sun Yat-sen's revolutionary party, at that time, he had little understanding of Sun's goals. Li Zongren would become a platoon commander in a Guangxi warlord's army, where he would later be promoted to battalion commander. However, when the warlord's army was defeated, Li Zongren's battalion shrank and he was forced into hiding. Li would later join the KMT after Sun Yat-sen established a base in Guangdong. Li would later become an independent commander of an area in Guangxi, where they protected the area from bandits. Sun Yat-sen would recognize Li and his allies as the rulers of Guangxi. Li's forces joined the KMT during the Northern Expedition, where he became a commanding general. During the Northern Expedition, he would go on to win many battles for the KMT. In addition, Li was strongly opposed to communism and his army detachment was one of the few without heavy Communist influence; he would later support Chiang Kai-shek in the White Terror. In 1929, after the end of the Northern Expedition, Li Zongren and Bai Chongxi, members of the New Guangxi Clique, would fight a mini civil war with Chiang Kai-shek. After Chiang defeated Bai Chongxi and Li Zongren, they were kicked out of the KMT and they both returned to Guangxi to govern the province. After the Japanese annexation of Manchuria, Li and Chiang would unite to defend China against Japan. During the Second Sino-Japanese War, despite Chiang's mistrust, Li Zongren was appointed overall commander. Li Zongren scored a major victory for the Chinese in his successful defense of Tai'ierzhuang. Despite his successes, he was made Director of the Generalissimo's Headquarters from 1943 to 1945, which basically forced him to retire from active command. After the War, he was made Director of the Peiping Field Headquarters, where he helped Chiang fight the Communists and didn't have much power.

Li Zongren has proven himself a great general, but he, like his old ally Bai Chongxi, faces difficulties within the Party. To prevent a Communist victory, he must navigate within the KMT to ensure his military skills are put to work.

Yan Xishan - Shanxi Provincial Chairman

Yan Xishan was born into a long line of bankers and merchants in Shanxi. However, Yan Xishan and his father were briefly forced to flee Taiyuan after incurring massive debts. In

1904, he was sent to study at a Tokyo military preparatory academy and, after graduating, entered the Imperial Japanese Army Academy. Yan Xishan was impressed with Japan's modernization efforts and this would later serve as inspiration for his efforts to modernize Shanxi. He heavily disapproved of the Qing dynasty, because of the corruption of the Qing officials in Shanxi, lack of efforts to modernize, and inept foreign policy. In Japan, he met Sun Yat-sen and joined Sun's Revolutionary Alliance to overthrow the Qing Dynasty. On Yan's return to China in 1909, he was assigned as a division commander in the Qing's New Army in Shanxi, but worked to overthrow the Qing in secret. During the Xinhai Revolution, he led local troops to force Manchu troops out of the province and proclaimed an independent Shanxi. In this independent Shanxi, Yan Xishan was elected military governor, but was invaded by Yuan Shikai, who occupied most of Shanxi. After Yuan Shikai's death, Yan Xishan resumed control of Shanxi. From there, Yan Xishan devoted himself to modernizing Shanxi and implemented a neutrality policy to avoid bloody battles between other warlords. In order to maintain neutrality, Yan Xishan developed a strategy of shifting alliances between different cliques, only joining the winning side. In the Northern Expedition, Yan aided Chiang Kai-shek by occupying Beijing, thus, ending the Northern Expedition. Yan also support Chiang's campaigns against the Communists, which Chiang repaid by recognizing Yan as governor of Shanxi. However, in 1929, Yan Xishan joined the war against Chiang with Chiang's enemies, including the New Guanxi Clique (Li Zongren and Bai Chongxi) and Feng Yuxiang. Yan attempted to set up a new national government, with himself as president. Chiang defeated them and thus ended the Warlord Era of China. After making peace with Chiang, Yan Xishan would return to Shanxi in 1931. Later that year, after KMT troops fired on students protesting against the KMT government's lack of action against the Japanese, Yan Xishan would kick the KMT out of Shanxi on the grounds of public safety. In 1934, Chiang flew to Taiyuan, the capital of Shanxi, to praise Yan's government in return for Yan's public support of the KMT government. However, there would still be some small conflict between Yan and Chiang, especially regarding economic issues. During the Second Sino-Japanese War, Shanxi would become overrun by the Japanese, but Yan Xishan refused to surrender, bravely resisting the total occupation of Shanxi by the Japanese. During the War, Yan Xishan would ally himself with the Communists and invite them to help fight the Japanese with him. In addition to waging guerilla warfare against the Japanese, the Communists recruited and propagandized the local population, gaining significant peasant support among the people of Shanxi. Yan Xishan fought fiercely against the Japanese, even losing 90% of his army, drawing praise from Mao Zedong and even the Japanese for his fierce fighting. After the last defense of Taiyuan, Yan Xishan reformed his army to wage guerilla warfare against the Japanese. Towards the end of the Second Sino-Japanese War, although he admired Marx, he would actively battle the Communists after Yan and the Japanese observed an informal ceasefire. After the War ended, Yan Xishan would recruit thousands of Japanese soldiers and their commanding officers into his army to protect Shanxi from the Communists. Because this was immensely unpopular, he would keep this

secret from outside observers, pretending to disarm the Japanese troops, just to rearm them after the observers left.

Yan Xishan always keeps his own interests first, above ideology and previous alliances. As the de facto leader of Shanxi, he has considerably more autonomy than others. However, he must make sure he continues his control over Shanxi, making sure to outmaneuver the other powers, whether it be his current allies or foes.

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