

SIDMUN XVII

Historical United Nations General Assembly Summit on Sustainable Relations in the Far-East

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Position Paper Guidelines

You must have a work cited page in your position paper. Please use this link ([Click here](#)) if you need help with a work cited page. Position papers should be **1-2 pages** in length (not including work-cited page), single spaced, Times in New Roman pt 12 font with normal 1 inch margins. Please have all papers uploaded by March 26, 2010. If you have any problems uploading your papers, please email them as attachments directly to your chairs by emailing historical@drop.io

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Delegates:

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Committee: U.N. General Assembly

Topic:



The Summit on Sustainable Relations in the Far-East; July 4th, 1973

Introduction:

The Yom-Kippur War began on October 6, 1973 when the combined forces of Egypt and Syria attacked the Israel territories of Golan Heights and the Suez Canal respectively. With the auxiliary of other nations such as Iraq, Libya and Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Syria devastated Israel for the first two days of the war. However, Israel was able to mobilize its reserves, repel the invaders and conduct the war deep into Syria and Egypt. The United Nations intervened; it passed Resolution 338 on October 22, 1973 which called not only for a ceasefire, but for peace talks between Israel and the Arab collation. Both Israel and Egypt ignored the resolution, but a final ceasefire came into effect on October 25th.

Although the war had ended, its impact affected the world tremendously. In addition to changing political alliances, the Yom Kippur War would later influence the economic and social relationships of the world. For example, after the war Egypt, under Sadat, favored an alliance with the United States more than one with the Soviet Union. Syria then took Egypt's place as the Soviet Union's closest comrade in the Middle East. The United States then took on a more active role in the Middle East, negotiating Arab-Israeli issues as can be seen from the Camp David Accords of 1978. This is especially important for it was the first time an Arab nation had recognized the state of Israel. In addition, the Geneva Conference, an attempt to remedy the Arab-Israeli condition also emerged as a result of this active role. From an economic standpoint, the Oil Embargo of 1973 was placed on western countries that supported Israel; this damaged the economic conditions of western nations and caused the 1973 Energy Crisis. Socially, the nationalism of Syria and Egypt actually returned after suffering from the defeat of the Six Day War. On the other hand, unrest began in Israel a few months after the war, forcing political leaders like Golda Meir to resign.

There were many international leaders involved before the war. Anwar Sadat, the third president of Egypt, overthrew the Muhammad Ali Dynasty in 1952 which started with the first president Muhammad Naguib, was very persuasive which is why he gained the position as president after his predecessor, Gamal Abdul Nasser, died. Anwar Sadat came into office at the end of the war of Attrition. After Levi Eshkol's of Israel died, Golda Meir was elected the fourth prime minister of the state of Israel. Before becoming the third woman world leader, she was Israel's ambassador for



Moscow, Russian and the foreign minister under the previous prime minister. She entered office during the War of Attrition and lead Israel until 1974. The leader of Syria, Hafez al-Assad, came into office after the Six-Day War and strongly supported Egypt's Anwar Sadat. On the opposite end, United States' President Richard Nixon came into office shortly after the War of Attrition. Unlike al-Assad, Nixon supported Israel and was willing to support them in any way after Egypt's failure to reacquire the Sinai Peninsula. The leader of the Soviet Union before and during most of the events that occurred in the Middle East was Leonid Brezhnev, the general secretary of the Communist Party, maintained close relations with the United States.

Although short, the Yom Kippur War made a lasting impression on the world through changing relationships of the Middle East as well as affecting the Cold War in general. Delegates should remember these effects during debate, as the decisions they make effect history.

Current Status:

The date is July 4th 1973. The current conference is a body that has been created under full jurisdiction of the UN. This Summit on Sustainable Relations in the Far-East (SSRFE) has been brought together to try and solve some of the ongoing issues from the previous conflicts regarding past grievances brought on by members of the region. With bodies representing a varying assertion of viewpoints we hope to see an all encompassing and truly sustainable solution that will help lead the area into a new era of common good.

In the past few years since the War of Attrition ended, tensions have been escalating. Thankfully there have been few outbreaks of violence, but hostilities on both sides indicate that that could change quite soon.

President al-Sadat of Egypt has made numerous proposals for negotiating the return of Israel's conquered territories, but all efforts made up to this date have been ignored by Israel. To this date Israel has ceded no land back to any of its original owners, and has maintained strong alliances with most of the western world whereas Soviet Russia has taken a liking to most of Arabia.

As recently as this past April al-Sadat has been making threats to Israel about acts of war if the territorial dispute is not resolved, but again nothing has been done.

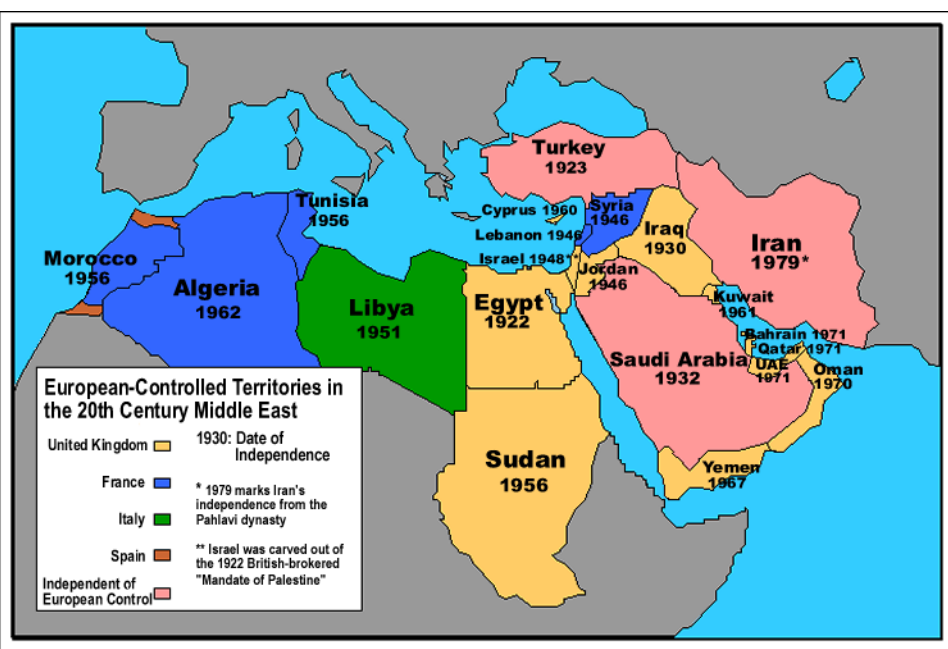
The onlookers of the international community have had strong views on the Arab-Israeli situation since its early days, but are ever vigilant now as to its implications on their foreign



affairs. American President Richard Nixon is quoted as saying in 1969 that the United States would “do what is necessary” to restore and maintain the status quo of the Middle East. While Egypt has been boisterous in its appeal and has garnered support from other Arab regimes that have sided with it in this matter.

As the Summit approaches we hope that you all bear with us and come up with true and comprehensive viewpoints on what can be done to bring about a solution to the growing issue of international proportions.

History:



The question of reaching and sustaining long term peace in the Middle East is one that can be traced back undoubtedly to European imperialism. By the beginning of the 20th century nearly the entire region was controlled by foreign powers. Natural, cultural borders had been dismissed and replaced with mandate districts controlled primarily by the nations of England and France.

Independence followed the First World War for Egypt and most other Middle Eastern nations. The United Kingdom was granted the Mandate of Palestine by the League of nations to provide for “...such political, administrative and economic conditions as [would] secure the establishment of the Jewish national home, as laid down in the preamble, and the development of self-governing institutions, and also for safeguarding the civil and religious rights of all the inhabitants of Palestine, irrespective of race and religion.” During this period of holding, Israel saw an influx of Jews from all over the world. This migration was, in part, due to the insurgence of Jewish nationalism and the promise of land after World War II. This new ideal fostered a sense of belonging amongst displaced



and persecuted Jews and was endorsed by the international community through 1917's Balfour Declaration.

World War II saw a continuation in the trend of foreign intervention in the Middle East as established through British Palestine. The region became an extension of the European and Mediterranean theatres and served as The Allies' hinterland. While there was relatively little fighting revolving around the War, several strong insurgences arose in the form of native hostility such as the Anglo-Iraqi War and the rebellions against the French forces in Lebanon and Syria.

While things stirred in the Far East, Egypt saw itself a free country, but with very little true freedom. British troops had never pulled out from their prior territorial occupation, and they began using the port of Alexandria as a base of operations for their Mediterranean theatre navy.

Prior to the ending of World War II, the League of Nations collapsed because it proved ineffective and failed to prevent war. In 1945 the United Nations was established to replace its outdated predecessor with its newer and broader scope the UN was to be the end of all international conflicts.

With relative calm at hand and an era of change, the UN decided to remove Palestine from the hands of Britain, and in 1947 established the partition of three separate states: an Arab controlled Palestine, a Jewish controlled Israel, and an international controlled Jerusalem. This led to rage amongst both the Arabs and Jews involved. Both parties sought more on their end of the deal, and this tension eventually led to the outbreak of the 1947-1948 Civil War in Mandatory Palestine. While intermittent fighting broke out between the two, Britain was instructed to intervene and try and quell the situation. However, they began organizing a pullout from the region entirely. After five and a half months of fighting the result was deemed a decisive Jewish victory. They had crushed the Palestinian army and procured land making the Israeli state a now continuous land that stretched to the shores of the Mediterranean.

During this period however there were other conflicts brewing as well. In late 1948, upon the end of the British Mandate of Palestine, Arab neighbors Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria invaded the Israeli state in an attempt to claim the temporarily unorganized land. After months of Israeli defense, the 1949 Armistice Agreements were signed granting Israel 78% of Palestine's land as well as the implementing of ceasefire lines by UN personnel.

The next notable conflict between the Middle Eastern world would be 1967's Six-Day War. This struggle occurred between Israel and the combined forces of most of the Arab world. It began as a series of border conflicts between Israel and neighboring states, but truly broke out as a result



of Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser’s intrusion on the zone that had been declared open to peacekeeping as a result of the earlier Suez crisis. Nasser mobilized thousands of troops and tanks along the Israeli border and blockaded the Straits of Tiran to all Jewish vessels. Israel responded with a preemptive strike that brought about a chain of attack from nearly all other bordering Arab states. Israel began with a surprise air-raid on Egyptian air forces. The result was a dizzying chain of events that eventually led to invasion of Israel on nearly all fronts. After days of fighting Israel had effectively seized the Sinai Peninsula and Gaza Strip from Egypt, West Bank from Jordan, and the Golan Heights from Syria. Peace fires and treaties followed, but none were more encompassing than Security Council resolution 242 which called for the returning of “all territories occupied” in accord with “the termination of all claims or states for belligerency.”

Later that year Egypt moved into negotiations with Israel to attempt to try and acquire its lands which had still not been surrendered under SCR 242. This led to the outbreak of a quasi-war between the two parties that became known as the War of Attritions. This series of skirmishes and conflicts lasted until 1970 and resulted in the partnership of most of Arabia with the Soviet Union. They came in on the side of the Arabs with the support of paramilitary and military equipment. At the end of the war President Nasser of Egypt died of a heart attack and was succeeded by Anwar al-Sadat. The war ended with signing of a ceasefire, but no cessations on either side.

In the three years since then, hostilities seem to have risen once more with very limited commitments to future peace on either side.

Bloc Positions:

North America:

North America has been on the side of Israel since its independence. The United States has proved a stalwart ally of the Israelis in previous conflicts and has looked upon them as opportunities to combat the growing threat that the Soviets pose to them. While Canada, Mexico and the USA all have their own stocks of oil, they’ve been wary to take such strong stances against other Middle Eastern nations. As not to raise un-needed tensions most North American countries have chosen a strong stance of diplomacy and peace as an alternative to fighting in order to maintain sustainable relations.

Europe:

The views of Europe on the Middle East over time range over a broad spectrum and have been subject to change over time. Beginning no doubt with Imperialism in the late 1800’s, Britain

Lee Marcus Inventional



and France have had a major role in Far-East relations and intervention. Prior to World War I, the Middle East was sliced up and controlled via 'Special Mandates' by France and Britain. Over time, and the granting of freedom the west slowly loosened its grasp on the region and had relinquished most of the current states to full autonomy by the 1940's. During the Cold War, the Russian Federation and many Middle Eastern nations sided together.

With this at hand we've seen Europe play to the region for strategic advantage even up till now. In most of the conflicts actual intervention has been scarce; however a strong view of diplomacy has been common.

Africa:

Where the Middle-East gained autonomy and brought on strong regimes, African imperialism left the continent in shambles. The obvious instability has lead to little actual intervention in the ongoing Arab-Israeli situation, with the exception of the North. In previous issues between Egypt and Israel, such as the Six-Day War and the War of Attritions, countries including Sudan, Morocco, and Libya have all lent aid in some form or another to the Egyptian cause. With an ever growing Soviet presence the nations of Africa have had to deal with the looming imperialistic shroud and have generally fallen towards the side of the other Arab nations.

Asia:

Many nations of Asia have remained almost totally separate from the Middle Eastern conflict with the exception of the USSR. The Soviet Union has been on the side of the Arabs since the conclusion of the Second World War. While the Soviet Union was a part of the allies while they were fostering a new sense of peace, The Soviet Union was also starting to make its play for the Middle East at that same time. During many of the conflicts of this time, the Arab forces were almost always outfitted with Soviet technology. During the Six-Day War the entire Egyptian fleet was comprised of Russian craft and tanks. While keeping themselves relatively out of the mix, the USSR has had a major impact on most all Arab-Israeli situations.

Middle East:

The Middle East, an entirely Arab mass with the exception of Israel, has been struggling to maintain a lasting system of interaction. The founding of new military regimes has ensured that progress has been slow, and compromise rare. The chaos previously mentioned has ripped the region apart. Egypt has been continuing to make threats against Israel for the ignoring of SCR 242, with Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon angry as well.



Diplomacy is virtually non-existent as Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir and Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat refuse to accept each other's audience. This Summit will be a truly influential and decisive step in finally solving the question of Far-Eastern sustainability.

Questions a Position Paper Must Answer:

- 1 – To what extent has your nation been involved in the ongoing Arab-Israeli Conflict? What stance has it taken?
- 2 – What prospects does your country hold in the Middle East? Will these stakes effect your country's potential actions?
- 3 – How far is your country willing to engage in future situations?
- 4 – What are some initiatives that can be taken to create sustainability in the Middle East?
- 5 – As of now, is war a palpable solution to the crisis? To what extent should diplomacy and peace be maintained?
- 6 – What influence have past events had on your country's current view of the crisis?

Questions for Consideration Upon Writing A Resolution:

- 1 – What can be done to create immediate solutions in the region?
- 2 – What can or should be done to implement past resolutions (GA194 and SC242) and your proposed solutions?
- 3 – Does a nation's sovereignty out weigh a country's obligation to protect it's foreign ventures?

NOTE: The committee will run on a basis of Directives and Communiqués. Directives are actions taken by an individual country and do not need to be voted on. As they are a procedural matters they must be made clear to the entire committee. Communiqués are actions taken out by the body itself. These must be voted upon by a 2/3 majority and will take effect immediately.



Helpful Sites:

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/24201/john-c-campbell/the-arab-israeli-conflict-an-american-policy> <American Stance on the Arab-Israeli Conflict>

<http://meria.idc.ac.il/journal/2005/issue2/jv9no2a2.html> <Egypt and Six-Day War>

<http://www.mfa.gov.il/MFA/Foreign+Relations/Israel+Among+the+Nations/ISRAEL%20AMONG%20THE%20NATIONS-%20Middle%20East%20-%20North%20Afri> <Israel and its neighbors>

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/240/94/IMG/NR024094.pdf?OpenElement>
<Security Council Resolution 242>

www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/73_war.html <Timeline of Yom-Kippur War>

www.historylearningsite.co.uk/yom_kippur_war_of_1973.htm <Summation of Events in Yom-Kippur War>

www.experiencefestival.com/a/Yom_Kippur_war/id/19000460 <Yom-Kippur War>

