



Boston University Academy Model United Nations Conference IX
Saturday, January 30th to Sunday, January 31st, 2021
Boston University Academy
Boston, MA

***Lincoln Assassination and
Reconstruction***

***Historical Joint Crisis Committee:
Confederation***

Background Guide

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Committee Staff

Nangwa Nyambose, chair
Daschel Koh, vice-chair

Sudarshan Ramanan, Secretary-General

John Lee, Secretary-General

Jonas Rajagopal, Secretary-General



Welcome Letter

Dear Delegates,

My name is Nangwa Nyambose, and I am a senior at BU Academy. I have been involved in Model United Nations since middle school, and last year I had the pleasure of working as chair in the Venezuelan Presidential Crisis Committee. I look forward to seeing you all this February as we address the Reconstruction amid the chaos following Lincoln's assassination. Similar to any MUN conference, the success of your performance as a delegate and our committee as a whole depends on your knowledge of the topic at hand. Ample research completed before the conference is crucial. My vice chair is Daschel Koh.

Daschel: I am glad to see how many of you are attending the BUAMUN conference. I am Daschel Koh. I am currently a freshman at BUA, and although this is my first time being a vice chair at a conference, I have done MUN before. I started doing MUN in middle school as well, and I am super excited to watch you all as you work to resolve the issues that occurred during the reconstruction after the death of president Abraham Lincoln. As Nangwa said before, preparation is a fundamental and crucial part of attending a conference, and I hope to see you all ready for the event. One last thing to leave you all with, a short saying. "Proper preparation prevents poor performance." Best of luck.

Yours truly,

Nangwa Nyambose, Chair

Daschel Koh, Vice-Chair

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Position Paper Information

The chairs of this committee will review and provide feedback for all position papers submitted at least a week in advance of the committee. A well-written and well-research position paper will influence the determination of awards for committees. For award consideration, your position paper should be submitted to chairs before the start of the conference.

Your position paper should follow a 3-part scheme: 1) introduction to the topic, 2) delegate's stance on the topic, and 3) delegate's proposed action on the topic.

Please adhere to the following format for your paper: 12 pt Times New Roman font, double-spaced, and 1"-margins. Also, we ask that you fill-out and include the header at the top of your paper as follows:

Delegate:

School:

Committee: Confederation

Position:

Topic: Lincoln Assassination and Reconstruction

If you have any questions regarding your position paper or any information included in the background guide, please contact your chair through email.

Committee Logistics

(Adapted from Phil Giliver, 2013)

Crisis committees at BUAMUN and other conferences work differently from “regular” General Assembly (GA) assemblies. Crises follow a less formal flow of debate, and generally remove many of the elements of parliamentary procedure. Delegates must still raise placards to speak and must follow standards of diplomatic politesse; however, elements of debate such as speakers’ lists and moderated/unmoderated caucuses are mostly done away with. Motions for caucuses on specific topics are encouraged, but crisis debate generally runs similar to a never-ending moderated caucus. This structure is adopted because events and crises can progress rapidly during a crisis simulation, and a full implementation of parliamentary procedure would only slow the ability of delegates to respond to fast-paced happenings.

There are three general measures that delegates in a crisis committee can perform:

- 1. Directives:** Formal action undertaken by a committee or an individual on a committee. Directives can contain any reasonable action and may be drafted by any delegate on a crisis committee (eg., a directive can declare war on another nation; it may also ask the other nation to attend bilateral treaty negotiations). After a draft is written, delegates submit directives to the chair. The chair will then read the directive, at which point delegates can motion to alter the directive or to vote on it.

Committee Logistics

(Adapted from Phil Giliver, 2013)

In some cases, delegates may send private directives to the chair, also known as portfolio action. This type of directive depends on the purview of the delegate's position. For example, the chief of a nation's intelligence agency may order the secret detainment of a known terrorist. Likewise, the minister of energy of a nation may choose to cut energy agreements with another nation. Conversely, a minister of culture may not unilaterally declare war, nor may the minister of education impose economic sanctions on another nation, etc.

2. Press Releases: Formal statements from a committee detailing an action or a committee's stance or opinion. For example, if a committee representing the United States decided to attack Canada (absurdity intended), the committee could issue a Press Release telling the world that they have chosen to break all economic and trade ties with Canada and launch a full scale war. Similarly, if the US waged war on Canada, a committee representing the United Kingdom could issue a Press Release condemning the US's action.

Committee Logistics

(Adapted from Phil Giliver, 2013)

3. Communiqués: Informal communication between individuals or committees. For instance, if a committee representing Iran chose to send information to the leader of Hezbollah (a terrorist organization represented on a Lebanese committee), it could do so in a communiqué, and only the addressee would receive the information. Similarly, two economic ministers, (for example, of Australia and the UK) could be communicating without anyone else's knowledge through communiqués.

The crisis chairs and crisis staff will make sure to inform you of any additional actions that you may take; they will also make sure that no delegate's actions are out of order. Crises occur rapidly and often throughout the course of crisis simulations—be prepared to think on your feet and to enact whatever measures you and your fellow delegates feel are necessary, and most importantly, have fun!



Committee Structure

In JCC1-Reconstruction, I, as the chair, will represent an independent moderator. You will each be given roles as leaders in the American south. It is your job to make sure that you keep in mind not just the interests of the role that you are representing but also on a grander scale, the interests of the South as a region. As we are a crisis committee, I will oversee debate in the form of a default moderated caucus. Furthermore, because crises are fast-paced and in real-time, parliamentary procedure will be somewhat more relaxed during committee.



Topic Background

History

On November 6th, 1860, Abraham Lincoln was elected president of the United States. The institution of slavery being the pillar that supported the southern economy, the appointment of Lincoln, a member of the antislavery Republican Party, was extremely unpopular in the South. Amid an already hostile political environment between North and South, the appointment was enough to spark civil war. On December 20th of the same year, South Carolina seceded from the Union. Over the following 4 months, 10 more states would secede. The seceded states would go on to form the Confederate States of America on February 4th of 1861. Over the next two years, these Confederate States would fight a losing war of attrition, after the first engagement, a Confederate attack on Fort Sumter signalled formal war on April 12th, 1861. Union victory was ensured on April 9th, 1865, when Robert E. Lee surrendered after being surrounded at the Appomattox Court House. On April 14th, Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth, a member of the Confederacy. Lincoln would eventually succumb to his injuries a day later. The death of Lincoln, a leading proponent of clemency for the South, exacerbated an already tenuous relationship between North and South, in a nation in desperate need of reconstruction and reconciliation.



Major Issues

Topic 1: Freed Slaves

At the beginning of the civil war, it is estimated that just under 4 million slaves were living in the United States. Their freedom, following Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation on January 1st, 1863 created a uniquely challenging situation, both from a humanitarian and an economic perspective. The same racist sentiment that had upheld the system of slavery for decades remained; whites would often choose not to sell or do business with blacks. The newly freed African-Americans would have to build lives starting from absolutely nothing, even as the powers that governed them still did not view them as full citizens.

Topic 2: The Southern Economy

As previously mentioned, the southern states economy leaned heavily on the use of slave labor. Without it, the South would soon find itself economically crippled compared to the North, where industrialization had already firmly taken hold. The south had remained largely agricultural. Additionally, in many places the war itself had further thrown white farmers into poverty. The result was an economy in need of complete resuscitation.



Prominent Figures

South

- Arthur I. Boreman, West Virginia Governor
- Peter G. Van Winkle, West Virginia Senator
- William G. Brownlow, Tennessee Governor
- Isaac Murphy, Arkansas Governor
- Calvin C. Bliss, Arkansas Lt. Governor
- David S. Walker, Florida Governor
- William W. J. Kelly, Florida Lt. Governor
- Thomas Ward Osborne, Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau for Florida
- Robert Miller Patton, Alabama Governor
- Wager Swayne, Union General and Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau for Alabama
- Albert Voorhies, Louisiana Lt. Governor
- James Madison Wells, Louisiana Governor
- B. L. Lynch, Louisiana Attorney General
- William Woods Holden, North Carolina Governor
- Jonathan Worth, North Carolina Governor
- Benjamin Franklin Perry, South Carolina Governor
- Rufus Saxton, Union General and Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau for South Carolina
- Francis Harrison Pierpont, Virginia Governor

Prominent Figures

South

- Thomas Russell Bowden, Virginia Attorney General
- Benjamin G. Humphreys, Mississippi Governor
- William M. Walton, Texas Attorney General
- Andrew Jackson Hamilton, Texas Governor
- Charles J. Jenkins, Georgia Governor
- Thomas E. Bramlette, Kentucky Governor
- Thomas Clement Fletcher, Missouri Governor

Bibliography

History is adapted from American Civil War Timeline, Britannica

<https://www.britannica.com/summary/American-Civil-War-Timeline>
[2020](#)

