

CHAPTER III.

THE HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL - 1973

STATE MEMBERS

Australia
Austria
China
France
Guinea

India
Indonesia
Kenya
Panama
Peru

Sudan
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
United Kingdom
United States of America
Yugoslavia

ABOUT THE HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL

This year, AMUN's Historical Security Council (HSC) will focus on events beginning on 1 January 1973.

AMUN's HSC is unique not only in its topics, but also in its treatment of those topics. History and time are the HSC's media and those media are flexible. In the simulation, the HSC will preempt history from the time the Council's simulation begins. History will be as it was written until the moment the Council convenes. From that moment forward, however, Council members exercise free will based on the range of all the choices within their national character and upon the capabilities of their governments.

Effective role-playing for an HSC member-state will be not just a rote replay of national decisions as they evolved in 1973. Indeed, the problems of the era may not transpire as they once did, and this will force active evaluations, and reevaluations, of national policies. Beyond this, it cannot be said that the policy course a government made in 1973 was necessarily the wisest. While rote replays must by definition be in character, it is not a sure thing that given a second opportunity to look at events, any given national government would do things exactly the same way. History is replete with the musings of foreign ministers and heads of state pining for "second chances." It will be the job of Council Representatives to actively involve their country's national policies and national capabilities in solutions to the problems and issues, which may not have had adequate contemporary resolutions. There is almost always more than one alternative choice in any situation. While national governments often did not want international 'meddling' in what they felt to be national policies or disputes, this in no way lessens the responsibility of Council members to make the effort and find ways to actively involve themselves in solving crises. This task must, however, be accomplished without violating the bounds of the member states' national characters.

In particular, the international community has often chosen not to actively involve itself in many regional disputes or political crises where it might have shown greater involvement. The UN has often been a bystander to regional or international conflict. One major factor in whether or not to be actively involved or to be a bystander which representatives must consider is the costs of peacekeeping with the deployment of regional missions. The increase in costs often caused the Security Council to reprioritize their peacekeeping efforts.

Representatives should approach these issues based on events through 1 January 1973, and should do their research accordingly. In studying their role playing assignments, it is strongly recommended that research be done on these topics using timely materials. The changes of the past 30+ years will not be evident within the chambers of the HSC. While histories of the subject will be fine for a general overview, **Representatives should pursue periodicals from late 1972 through January of 1973 to most accurately reflect the world view at that time.** Magazines featuring an overview of that year may give a particularly good feel for the international mood in which the simulation is set. Periodicals contemporary to the period, which can be easily referenced in a Readers Guide to Periodical Literature or the New York Times Index, should provide a much better 'historical perspective' and 'feel for the times' than later historical texts, which can also be useful for general information.

The HSC simulation will follow a flexible time line based on events as they occurred, and modified by the Representatives' policy decisions in the Council. The Secretariat will be responsible for tracking the simulation and keeping it as realistic as possible.

In maintaining realism, Representatives must remember that they are role playing the individual assigned as their nation's Representative to the UN. This person may have access to the up-to-the-minute policy decisions of their country, or they may be relatively "in the dark" on their countries moment-to-moment actions in the world. In this area, the AMUN Simulation Staff will frequently consult with HSC members. Representatives are welcome and encouraged, as their nation's spokesperson, to make whatever declarative statements they like. Declarative statements would include any comments or actions (including real or implied threats or deals) that an individual at the UN could normally make.

Representatives must, however, always consult with the simulation staff before making ANY operational statements. Operational statements would include announcements of the movements or actions of military forces, as well as any other actions which would have an effect outside of the U.N. In these cases, the simulation staff would be equated with the actual 'home office' of the involved nation(s).



OTHER INVOLVED COUNTRIES

From time-to-time, other countries will be involved in the deliberations of the HSC. Delegations representing these countries will be notified in advance by the Secretariat, and should have one or more Representatives prepared to come before the HSC at any time. Because these countries will not be involved in all issues, it is highly recommended that the Representative(s) responsible for the HSC also be assigned to another Committee/Council, preferably with a second Representative who can cover that Committee/Council while they are away. A floating Permanent Representative would also be ideal for this assignment. These delegations will be asked to identify their Representative(s) to the HSC at registration, and to indicate where they can be reached if/when needed.

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

The following are brief synopses of the main international situations facing the Security Council on 1 January 1973. The prominent events of 1972 are discussed, as well as some questions which will face the Security Council at the turn of the year. This research is intended merely as a focal point for Representatives continued exploration of the topics.

GENERAL BACKGROUND ENTERING 1973

1972 was a pivotal year for international affairs, a time in which several regional crises dramatically heightened world tensions, while new cooperation between the US, USSR, and Communist China began to ease the superpower conflict which had been raging.

With Communist China receiving full recognition and assuming the Chinese seat at the United Nations in 1972, world focus was turned in this direction. US President Nixon's historic visit to China in February, followed by full diplomatic relations between the two countries in March, was a highlight of the spread of detente which occurred in 1972. China pushed for the complete removal of all references to "Taiwan" at the UN, and this request was grudgingly granted. New Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim visited China in August, and China and Japan ended their formal state of war (in existence since WW II) in September. On the opposite side, China disdained international opinion in March by conducting an above ground nuclear test.

US and Soviet relations also dramatically improved in 1972, with Nixon and Brezhnev signing a Strategic Arms Limitation pact in May, and the finalization of a US/Soviet trade pact in October.

Soviet and Chinese relations, however, deteriorated in 1972. This was evidenced with territorial disputes, the Soviets accusing China of attempting to break apart the Communist world, and China supporting anti-Soviet governments wherever possible.

The recognition of Bangladesh as a state, along with its admittance to the UN, was a major stumbling block for international relations in 1972. The Soviets and US led the international community in supporting Bangladesh's independence, with the USSR offering trade agreements in March, and formal US recognition of Bangladesh in April. China, however, continued to support its trading partner Pakistan in efforts to prevent Bangladesh's (formerly East Pakistan) independence. China postponed the issue of Bangladesh's UN admittance for most of the year, and in August cast its first Security Council veto to prevent Bangladesh's admittance as a member state. This deadlock continues into 1973.

Two issues specific to the Security Council highlighted new movements in 1972. The historic UN Security Council meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in February was the first ever meeting in Africa, and served to dramatically highlight African issues. Also, in November Guinean Ambassador Mrs. J.M. Cisse became the first woman ever to preside over the Security Council, giving additional focus to women's equality issues around the world.

Finally, the November agreement by East and West Germany to begin diplomatic relations served to pave the way for their future acceptance as UN Member States. After a year of debates,

the agreement was reached and the US, USSR, United Kingdom and France announced they will support joint admittance to the UN in 1973, upon ratification of a formal treaty.

Overall, 1972 was a difficult year for the United Nations. The permanent members chose to handle many of their conflicts and agreements outside of the UN, leaving the other Member States feeling that internationalism was going backward, and that the UN might go the way of the League of Nations. In particular, US relations with the UN significantly deteriorated in 1972, with the US going so far as to state that they will use their veto more liberally and no longer take a soft stance on "bad" resolutions, namely those which do not actively deal with world problems from a US perspective. This is the atmosphere in which Representatives will begin their deliberations in the 1973 Security Council.

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Arab and Israeli hostilities continued as before in the Middle East, with increased hostilities and continual small conflicts vexing the region. On 1 January 1972, the Federated Arab Republic flag was raised over Egypt, Syria and Libya, marking heightened relations between these states, as well as increased antagonism toward Israel. In August, Egypt and Libya took this one step further, agreeing to formally unify their states in September of 1973.

Military incidents involving Israel continued throughout the year, mainly revolving around Arab guerilla bases in Lebanon and Syria. Numerous Israeli attacks occurred, always in response to "terrorist" attacks by Arabs into Israel. The peak of these attacks happened in September, with the 1972 Olympic Games incident in which 11 members of the Israeli Olympic team were killed by Arab gunmen at the Games. This invoked significant world opinion against the attacks, and led to a large scale retaliation by Israel against Arab bases in Lebanon and Syria. The US continued to prevent strong Security Council action against Israel, supporting only resolutions which led to a non-specific cessation of hostilities, and not allowing for Israeli condemnation at the hands of the UN.

The question of a Palestinian state was another continuing issue in 1972, with the most dramatic action being a Jordanian proposal for a semi-autonomous state in the occupied West Bank in March. This proposal was quickly rejected by Israel.

In July, Anwar Sadat took a significant step in expelling all Soviets from Egypt and nationalizing all former Soviet military bases in that country. This move to counter Soviet influence was a significant step toward lessening the superpower conflict which exists in the Middle East. Soviet advisors peacefully departed Egypt by early August.



Finally, heavy border fighting between North and South Yemen occurred in September, and the potential exists for continued clashes in 1973.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- What actions can be taken to prevent future Arab/Israeli violence and terrorist activities along the Lebanon and Syria borders?
- How can tensions resulting from the unification of Arab states be prevented from increasing the level of hostilities in the region?
- Can a Palestinian state be successfully achieved in the Israeli occupied territories (or elsewhere)?

THE SITUATION IN AFRICA

The Situation in Rhodesia

Southern Africa received significant international attention in 1972, with the Rhodesian issue being a key focus. The lack of change in the government's policies regarding formal discrimination against black Africans was the focus of most UN attention. Additional limits on black land ownership in "European" areas and Rhodesia's continued reticence to accept UN initiatives were two critical issues.

The US and Great Britain's continued tacit support for the Rhodesian government significantly complicated the issue from the UN's perspective. The resumption of trade in chrome and nickel between the US and Rhodesia, in direct violation of the UN's 1968 embargo against trade, flew in the face of international opinion. In July, the US abstained in a 14-0 Security Council vote to condemn "all acts violating" the economic sanctions against Rhodesia, considering US actions to be outside of these sanctions. In September, the United Kingdom vetoed an African sponsored resolution on Rhodesia, calling for stronger economic sanctions and a direct settlement of the Rhodesian issue. This resolution also called for three significant points: no independence before majority rule is established; the use of universal suffrage, including secret ballots and a 1-man, 1-vote process for determining Rhodesia's future; and a request to the UK to "try its utmost to bring about free expression of rights and self-determination" in Rhodesia.

The international community did make a significant statement in 1972, however, in barring Rhodesian athletes from participation in the 1972 Munich Olympic Games. This came in direct response to a threatened boycott of the Games by many African states, as well as by black athletes in the US, and highlighted the country's struggle for international recognition.

The Situation in Southwest Africa

In direct violation of a UN mandate, South Africa continued to administer the territory of Southwest Africa (known as Namibia by the United Nations), justifying its actions via the League of Nations mandate which made South Africa the original administrator. Throughout 1972, Secretary-General Waldheim, at the request of the Security Council, was in direct contact with the South African government, attempting to resolve the issue of independence.

The dispute continued to revolve around South Africa's insistence on pressing for a "homelands" policy for Southwest African natives, thus limiting independence and continuing South African governance. South Africa also favored the creation of an

"advisory council" of regional leaders to assist South Africa in the governance of Southwest Africa. Both of these proposals were seen as unacceptable by the United Nations.

The Security Council is scheduled to continue the debate on Southwest Africa in early 1973, including the issue of whether to extend the Secretary-General's mandate to continue direct negotiations with South Africa.

The Situation in Uganda

General Idi Amin's government in Uganda came under increased international scrutiny in 1972, largely because of its potential destabilizing influence on the East African region. September was a very significant month in this country, involving border clashes with Tanzania and the expulsion by Amin of all Asians from Uganda.

Guerilla raids, insurgencies and the incursion of over 1,000 troops from Tanzania into Uganda occurred throughout September of 1972. These troops, consisting mainly of Ugandan rebels sponsored by Tanzania and loyal to ex-Ugandan President Obote, were counting heavily on mass defections by the Ugandan military to supplement their force. When these defections failed to materialize, guerilla raids continued throughout September, ending in mid-October with a formal agreement to end hostilities between Tanzanian and Uganda.

Also in September, General Amin formally ordered the expulsion of all Asians from Uganda, calling them traitors and spies for the imperialist British government. This racist policy was decried by the UN, and provisions were rapidly made to deal with the large exodus of Ugandan refugees. Many went to the United Kingdom, as well as the United States and several European countries. The expulsion began a significant political conflict between Uganda and the United Kingdom, mainly focused on the treatment of the refugees and on their ability to take material goods out of the country, which was severely limited by Uganda.

Finally, the 18 December 1972 seizure by Amin's government of all foreign owned tea plantations and eight of the biggest commercial companies in Uganda (7 British and 1 United States) raised anew the question of Uganda's destabilizing influence in the area. Uganda's break-off of ties with Israel, tenuous new relationship with Libya, and the perceived dangerous and unpredictable nature of Idi Amin all threaten to bring Uganda further into the international spotlight in 1973.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- How can the government of Rhodesia be brought into compliance with international desires for a majority government?
- What actions can be taken that will be acceptable to the Western powers, especially the US & UK?
- How can the government of South Africa be enticed or induced into complying with UN mandates for the independence of Southwest Africa (Namibia)?
- What actions, if any, should be taken to prevent the spread of instability or violence in Eastern Africa?

THE SITUATION IN ASIA: VIETNAM

While the North and South Vietnamese situation was discussed heavily in the General Assembly in 1972, the issue was kept out of formal Security Council discussions because of US insistence that the Vietnam War was strictly in the US sphere of influence. Tensions from this conflict, however, continue to spill over into and influence Security Council relations in other areas.



Vietnam was very much an issue behind the scenes, with the USSR and China continuing support of North Vietnam and with many nations opposed to the continued bombing of North Vietnam by the US.

Significant events in this region in 1972 included: in March, North Vietnam attacked South Vietnam across the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in the biggest offensive since 1968; in April, the US resumed bombing of the DMZ and North Vietnam after a 3 ½ year pause; in May the US ordered the mining of Haiphong Harbor; also in May martial law was declared in South Vietnam in an attempt to quell pro-North influences there. Bombing by the US continued throughout the year with little abatement.

The Paris Peace talks also continued throughout 1972, with US Secretary of State Kissinger engaging North Vietnamese leaders. These private talks continued to meet with limited political success, although it was rumored that some significant technical and military issues were closer to resolution as a result.

The conflict peaked in December with heavy carpet bombing by the US, along with significant reports of bombing of civilian structures, including some foreign embassies and hospitals. Impartial reports note that significant portions of heavily populated civilian areas in Hanoi were "reduced to rubble" by the bombings.

North Vietnam referred to this as "terror bombing" by the US, and continued ground offensives and the firing of missiles at South Vietnamese troops. The US asserted that the bombing was in response to the North's lack of seriousness at the Paris Peace Talks, as evidenced by their continued aggression.

The UN General Assembly President called this new phase of the Vietnam War "inhuman in all aspects," and stated that it jeopardized the future of detente and carried a risk of increased tensions in international life.

In response to the increased bombings in December, China and the USSR demanded an immediate halt to all attacks and a swift peace settlement. Meanwhile, the Nordic countries expressed strong criticism, and Pope Paul VI said "all the world had thought a peaceful solution was at hand," prior to the bombings. Indonesia, however, in a statement reflecting a minority world opinion, stated that the bombing was "only a tactic of one side in response to the other."

Late in the year, a cease fire was upheld for two days over Christmas, but this was followed by the resumption of heavy bombings by the US. On 31 December though, in a dramatic turn of events, US President Nixon ordered a halt to all bombing of North Vietnamese targets above the 20th Parallel and announced the resumption of private Paris Peace talks on 8 January. It was hoped that these actions will lead to the cessation of hostilities, rather than just another pause in the ongoing war.

A final significant issue was the presence of North Vietnamese troops in neighboring Cambodia. Occupied portions of Cambodia were utilized as a staging area for advances by the North, and the effect of any US/North Vietnam peace negotiations brings into question the possible disposition of troops in Cambodia after a separate US peace.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- What actions, if any, are appropriate for the Security Council to take in attempting to reach a resolution to the Vietnam conflict?
- What actions can the Council take to limit the spread of the conflict to other nations in the region?

OTHER ISSUES

Any issue on the world scene in 1973 is fair game for discussion in the Historical Security Council. Representatives should have broad historical knowledge of the world situation as it stood going into 1973. One other specific issue is:

The Situation in Northern Ireland

Like the situation in Vietnam, Northern Ireland drew considerable international attention in 1972. It also, however, received limited Security Council attention, due to the United Kingdom's view of the situation as a strictly internal issue.

Increased levels of strife throughout the year between the Catholic minority and the Protestant government led to significant bloodshed and repercussions. Assassinations continued throughout the region, with a total of 105 in 1972. While terrorist attacks continued, police and army retaliations were never far behind. In December the British government passed legislation for sweeping powers to arrest and convict members of the outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA). This legislation altered the rules of evidence used to prosecute suspected IRA members, and is seen by some nations as unreasonably curtailing individuals rights.

Lending an international element to the hostilities, rumors were made that the USSR was supplying rocket launchers and other weapons to the IRA. While these allegations were denied by the Soviets, they have increased tensions around the conflict.

The United Nations sought to look into what are considered significant human rights violations on the part of the British government, but the United Kingdom resolutely continued to declare this an internal conflict, and that it did not belong before the international community.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- What actions, if any, are appropriate for the Security Council to take in attempting to reach a resolution to the conflict in Northern Ireland?

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 "Commenting on Nixon's shift of Amb. Bush from UN post," 12 Dec 1972, 47:1.
 "Former US Amb. to UN comments on strained relations," 14 Apr 1972, 4:3.
 "Growing fear among UN delegates that UN is going backward," 10 Jun 1972, 2:3.
 "Question of admitting Bangladesh to UN," 2 Dec 1972, 34:1.
 "US, USSR, GB and France support applications for E & W Germany membership," 10 Nov 1972, 1:6.
 "US can no longer be counted on as cornerstone of UN," 25 May 1972, 2:4.
 "US will exercise its veto power much more readily," 15 Oct 1972, 4:1.

Situation in the Middle East:

"Israeli For. Min. charges that Uganda's sudden dipl. break was plotted," 11 Apr 1972, 3:1.
 "Security Council holds emergency session on the Mideast," 11 Sep 1972, 1:8.
 "US vetoes Mideast resolution," 11 Sep 1972, 1:8.

Situation in Africa:

"African countries move for full scale Council debate on Rhodesia," 1 Jul 1972, 6:5.
 "GB uses veto to block condemnation of settlement terms with Rhodesia," 5 Feb 1972, 1:4.
 "GB vetoes African-sponsored resolution on Rhodesia," 20 Sep 1972, 3:1.
 "Intl Olympic Committee withdraws invitation to Rhodesia," 23 Aug 1972, 1:1.

"Pres. Amin announces seizure of all foreign owned tea plantations," 18 Dec 1972, 22:5.
 "Tanzania and Uganda agree to end hostilities," 10 Oct 1972, 2:4.
 "UN GA approves resolution condemning US importation from Rhodesia," 8 Dec 1972, 5:3.
 "Unacceptable proposals made by S Africa at UN," 19 Nov 1972, 20:2.
 "US abstains as Security Council votes 14-0 (Rhodesia)," 29 Jul 1972, 5:1.
 "US holding up projected loan over statements by Amin," 14 Sep 1972, 3:5.

Situation in Asia:

"Current phase of secret Paris peace talks nears end," 13 Dec 1972, 1:8.
 "Nixon announces resumption of full scale bombing," 19 Dec 1972, 1:8.
 "Nixon orders halt to bombing; Paris peace talks will resume," 31 Dec 1972, 1:8.

Situation in Northern Ireland:

"Irish Republican Parliament approves legislation cracking down on IRA," 2 Dec 1972, 1:1.
 "USSR refuses request to help track origin of Soviet made rocket launchers," 21 Dec 1972, 4:5.

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 S/Res/309 -- The Situation in Namibia (4 Feb)
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 S/Res/311 -- The Question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa (4 Feb)
 S/Res/312 -- Question concerning the situation in Territories under Portuguese administration (4 Feb)
 S/Res/313 -- The Situation in the Middle East (28 Feb)
 S/Res/314 -- Question concerning the situation in Southern Rhodesia (28 Feb)
 S/Res/315 -- The Cyprus Question (15 Jun)
 S/Res/316 -- The situation in the Middle East (26 Jun)
 S/Res/317 -- The situation in the Middle East (21 Jun)
 S/Res/318 -- Question concerning the situation in Southern Rhodesia (28 Jul)
 S/Res/319 -- The situation in Namibia (1 Aug)
 S/Res/320 -- Question concerning the situation in Southern Rhodesia (29 Sep)
 S/Res/321 -- Complaint by Senegal (23 Oct)
 S/Res/322 -- Question concerning the situation in Territories under Portuguese administration (22 Nov)
 S/Res/323 -- The situation in Namibia (6 Dec)
 S/Res/324 -- The Cyprus Question (12 Dec)