

Tenth Annual Session *of the*
Gaucho Model United Nations Conference
February 15-17, 2019



Historical United States Senate:
Red Scare



83rd Session of the United States Senate

January 3, 1953

Chair's Letter

Dear Delegates,

I am so honored to welcome you all to our serene coastal campus for a fun and engaging weekend filled with substantive debate. I am a third year History and Political Science Major here at UCSB and thus I am especially thrilled to be chairing such an intriguing historical committee. This is my third year with Model United Nations at UCSB and it has proved to be an incredibly rewarding experience. A personal highlight for me was being able to compete at National Model United Nations in New York this past spring. I have also just recently served as the Secretary-General of our collegiate conference, Santa Barbara Intercollegiate Model United Nations (SBIMUN), which was quite the challenge but likewise rewarding. Personally, what I find most exciting about MUN is the public speaking and debate that it involves and I strongly look forward to seeing what this committee can produce.

Some personal interests outside of Model UN include activism with the local Catholic parish St. Mark's in Isla Vista, reading historical biographies, spending time at the ocean, going on hikes, adventuring with friends around Santa Barbara, and catching up on my favorite Netflix shows. I am confident our committee sessions will be filled with substantive discussion along with plenty of fun. See you all in February!

Best Regards,

Michael Caplan

Chair, United States Senate, Historical Red Scare
Secretary-General, SBIMUN IX
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Co-Chair's Letter

Dear Delegates,

It is my pleasure to be able to welcome you to GauchoSUN 2019 at UC Santa Barbara as the co-chair for the Historical US Senate Red Scare Committee. I am very excited for committee in February, and look forward to creative solutions and intense debate, as well as meeting all of you!

As for a little about me, I am a first year Political Science Major at UCSB, hailing from the Bay Area. This is my third year of doing Model United Nations, and my second time co-chairing. Throughout my time in Model UN, I've most appreciated the creative problem solving, the making of friends, and practicing my public speaking, and I hope this committee gives you all these opportunities too.

In my free time, I enjoy playing running, playing board games or video games, backpacking, going on adventures with friends, and listening to alternative rock. Feel free to ask me about any of my hobbies outside of committee! See everyone in February!

Thank you,

Carson Eschen

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Committee Introduction

The United States Senate is the upper body of the American bicameral legislature established according to the precepts of the United States Constitution. It's prerogative is established by this founding document to have "legislative power"¹ along with the House of Representatives. It goes on further to state that the Senate shall be composed of two Senators from each state and each Senator would be allotted one vote².

This beginning of this Senate session takes place on January 3rd, 1953 as the 83rd United State Senate convenes after the results of the 1952 Election. The Senate is considered to be a more deliberative body and is smaller than the House in order to facilitate more substantive discussion. Additionally, this body is responsible for confirming presidential appointments, approving international treaties, and is where the trial of impeached officials takes place. During committee, the Senate will act de facto as the sole legislature as any bills that are passed will automatically become law. Furthermore, the Senate as an entity will have the power to subpoena government officials and force them to testify regarding any potential Communist activities. The dais shall be considered to be the President of the Senate throughout committee session and thus will have final determination over any and all Senate procedural rules.

Background Information

¹ U.S. Constitution, Article I

² U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 3, Clause 1

A. First Red Scare (1917-1921)

The First Red Scare was the result of fears of Communist uprisings that would have followed the model of the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. Occurring just after the end of World War I, there was a tangible concern that a similarly disrupting and violent revolt of the working class could happen if promoted by malign actors. Communists were associated with a movement called anarchism which reflected a revolutionary sentiment that sought to overthrow all current governmental structures in favor of a classless and self-governing society. Additionally, in the wake of the devastation of the First World War there were a series of competing philosophies that sought to offer a path of divergence from the status quo which led to war. From this chaotic political state those who followed the Communist ideology were able to grow in prominence.

The growth of those sympathetic to the Communist ideology coupled with nativist fears in reaction to the horrors of the Bolshevik Revolution contributed to the First Red Scare. In mid-1919, a massive bomb plot was discovered that would have involved 36 bombings on May Day 1919³. This coupled with a series of bombings on June 2, 1919 that destroyed the home of Attorney General Palmer led to a general anxiety of a Bolshevik conspiracy. Attorney General Palmer took steps to quell such a possibility and first launched raids on the Union of Russian Workers in November and December 1919. This led to the discovery of a bomb factory and the subsequent deportation of 249 individuals in connection with this plot. The most notorious of the Palmer Raids occurred on January 2, 1920 when 3-10,000 individuals were arrested in over 30 cities. These raids were unconstitutional as they lacked proper warrants for most of the arrested and those who were arrested often had done no crime beyond being of foreign birth.

³ Dehler, Gregory. "Palmer Raids." Encyclopædia Britannica. April 26, 2018. Accessed December 23, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Palmer-Raids>.

The Palmer Raids came to represent the fulcrum of anti-Communist action and fears during this tumultuous period following the First World War. While American public opinion had shifted by the beginning of 1921 there was an indelible mark left by the fear of Communist conspiracy in the country. The objection to Communist ideology and its association with foreign invasion would continue to linger in subtle manners before being swept away by the crises of the 1930's. Yet, those same fears would demonstrate a resurgence following the Allied triumph in the Second World War and the subsequent American-Soviet rivalry.

B. Early Cold War (1947-1953)

The Cold War primarily arose out of tensions between the USSR and the rest of the Allied powers over postwar goals and ideological differences. Throughout World War II, the USSR's takeover of Eastern European states spawned concerns among the Western democracies over their growing influence, as the rise of communism threatened to overturn western democracies. Meanwhile, the Soviets were determined to increase their national security and spread communism throughout the world.⁴ President Harry Truman essentially positioned the United States as diametrically opposed to the second of these goals with the 1947 Truman Doctrine, in which he promised military, political, and financial aid to any democracy under threat from authoritarianism. 1947 also saw the publication of George Kennan's so-called "X-article" in which he advocated for the United States to pursue containment of communism, a policy that would be followed for almost the entirety of the Cold War. These policies could not help but to put the two countries into competition.

The first major standoff of the Cold War was the Berlin Airlift. In June 1948, the Soviet Union blockaded all rail, road, and water access of the West into the western occupation zones of

⁴ Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Cold War." Encyclopædia Britannica. December 13, 2018. Accessed December 24, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Cold-War>.

Berlin, which had been occupied by France, the United Kingdom, and the United States. To prevent West Berlin from being absorbed into the rest of Soviet controlled East Germany, the three countries began airlifting the necessary supplies to Berlin instead, until the Soviet Union finally relented and lifted its blockade on May 12, 1949.

That year also saw the creation of NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The organization was a security-driven alliance between the United States, Canada, and many Western European nations to counter the growing influence of the Soviet Union. Of the many clauses, the most significant was Article V, where an attack on any one nation was to be considered an attack on them all. This article guaranteed that the Soviet Union could not attack one nation without finding itself fighting many enemies.

Finally in 1949, the West's fight for democracy suffered a heavy blow when Communist leader Mao Zedong declared the creation of the People's Republic of China, officially demolishing the previous nationalistic and US-supported regime of Chiang Kai-shek. This event signalled the beginning of the end of the Chinese Civil War, a war that had roots back to 1927, though the height of the conflict did not arrive until 1946, and also heightened fears over the expansion of communism throughout the East Asia region.

In 1950, the Korean War began after Communist North Korean leader Kim Il-Sung attacked the democratic South Korea, with the aid of China and the Soviet Union. This attack violated the agreement created following the end of Japanese occupation that had divided the country at the 38th parallel. The United States, which had withdrawn from South Korea the previous year, immediately returned with the support of the United Nations to prevent the defeat of South Korea. Over the next year, their forces managed to push North Korean forces back to the 38th parallel. The next two years (up to the date of the committee) saw little change in the

borders, but was instead a war of attrition, with the US conducting many bombing operations on the North. This event was significant as a proxy war between the US and the USSR, and as an implementation of containment.⁵

C. Second Red Scare

This second period of fear of Communist infiltration was deeper and had more substantive consequences than the First Red Scare. It permeated throughout all facets of American society and reflected the anxieties of a nation facing an existential threat via the Communist USSR. This fear of the other in connection with the aggressive actions of the Soviet Union to solidify their control over satellite nations had a significant effect on the American psyche. Tangible concern over potential Communist infiltration in every form of American life was evidenced via popular films like *I Married a Communist* and *I Was a Communist for the F.B.I.* which explored those possibilities. The foundation for anti-Communist policies in the government were established during the First Red Scare with the creation of an anti-radicalism division of the FBI⁵. In addition, a permanent investigatory committee labeled the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) was created to extinguish potential “subversives”⁶ to the American order. HUAC was at first charged with investigating the Fascist threat but became notorious for their wrangling over the Communist threat following the end of WWII. HUAC proceedings would eventually include thousands who were called to testify and contributed to the growing unease and fear of “red” infiltration. The infamous case of Alger Hiss originated from testimony given by former Communist Party member Whitaker Chambers to HUAC in 1947. In the previous year, President Harry S. Truman established a federal employee loyalty

⁵ <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952>.

⁶ Storrs, Landon R. Y. 2015 "McCarthyism and the Second Red Scare." *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*. 24 Dec. 2018.

program which precluded any Communist Party members from serving in the government. Additionally, the notable case of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg⁷ supplemented the notion that Communist espionage was rampant and threatened American national security. The entirety of the era was personified in the figure of Senator Joseph McCarthy (R-Wisconsin) who first made a national profile through outrageous claims of the Truman Administration permitting subversion and disloyalty in the U.S. government. McCarthy was charged with leading the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations after he assumed control of the Senate Committee on Government Operations in January 1953. He called before him hundreds of witnesses who he believed were secretly Communist agents working within the government. McCarthy's luster in pursuit of potential Communist subversives is now regarded as excessive, but at the time received major popular support for his tirade against what was seen as a real threat. By 1953, the American public was by and large severely concerned over the Communist threat to the homeland and the national climate of fear was expansive.

II. Topic of Discussion-U.S. Involvement in Korean War

III. Topic of Discussion-Protecting the Nation from Subversive Influences and Infiltration

IV. Topic of Discussion-The Iron Curtain

V. Character List

The following list reflects the composition of the Senate for the duration of our committee. There shall be 30 U.S. Senators with a partisan balance of 15 Republicans, 14 Democrats, and one Independent. A simple majority is 16 Senators.

1. Joseph McCarthy (R-Wisconsin)

⁷ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/1953/jun/20/usa.fromthearchive>

2. Prescott Bush (R-Connecticut)
3. Robert Taft (R-Ohio)
4. John F. Kennedy (D-Massachusetts)
5. J. William Fulbright (D-Arkansas)
6. Barry Goldwater (R-Arizona)
7. Richard Russell Jr. (D-Georgia)
8. Everett Dirksen (R-Illinois)
9. Russell B. Long (D-Louisiana)
10. Albert A. Gore Sr (D-Tennessee)
11. Lyndon Johnson (D-Texas)
12. Hubert Humphrey (DFL-Minnesota)
13. James O Eastland (D-Mississippi)
14. Lester Hunt (D-Wyoming)
15. Harry F. Byrd (D-Virginia)
16. George Aiken (R-Vermont)
17. Arthur Watkins (R-Utah)
18. Margaret Chase Smith (R-Maine)
19. William E. Jenner (R-Indiana)
20. Wayne L. Morse (Independent-Oregon)
21. A.S. Mike Monroney (D-Oklahoma)
22. Herbert H. Lehman (D-New York)
23. Styles Bridges (R-New Hampshire)
24. Patrick McCarran (D-Nevada)
25. William F. Knowland (R-California)
26. George Smathers (D-Florida)
27. Herman Welker (R-Idaho)
28. John Sherman Cooper (R-Kentucky)
29. James Gleann Ball (R-Maryland)
30. John J. Williams (R-Delaware)

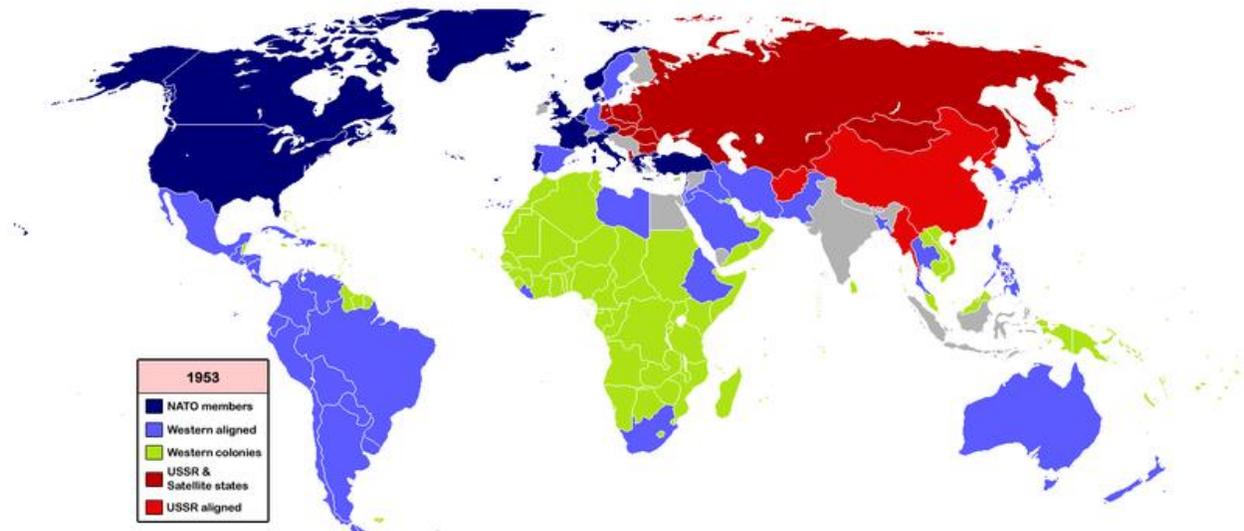
*Note from the Chair: Each of these Senators was selected for their relevance to the issues facing the 83rd Senate in 1953 and some may represent views which in the modern era would be considered offensive. It is imperative that delegates who portray such Senators in committee do their best to balance authenticity with respect for the decorum and behavior expected of a Model UN delegate. If there any questions regarding this please do not hesitate to contact the dais before or during the conference.

VI. Questions to Consider

- How important is it to find and remove Communist Party members in the U.S. government?

- Should the Senate establish a separate committee to deal with the Communist issue?
- What should be the role of the Senate in regulating Communist party membership?
- Should public hearings be allowed?
- What should be the priority of the Senate in this era?

VII. Appendix



On Capitalism versus Communism: <https://keydifferences.com/difference-between-capitalism-and-communism.html>

References

1. U.S. Constitution, Article I
2. U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 3, Clause 1
3. Dehler, Gregory. "Palmer Raids." Encyclopædia Britannica. April 26, 2018. Accessed December 23, 2018.
4. Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Cold War." Encyclopædia Britannica. December 13, 2018. Accessed December 24, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Cold-War>.
5. U.S. Department of State. Accessed December 24, 2018. <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952>.
6. Storrs, Landon R. Y. 2015 "McCarthyism and the Second Red Scare." *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*. 24 Dec. 2018.
7. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/1953/jun/20/usa.fromthearchive>