

Six Day War

Delegate Guide



Delegates,

Hold on to your seats ladies and gentlemen we have shocking news out of the Middle East: CRISIS! The year is 1967 and Israel, and the Arab States (Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Iraq) are on the precipice of war. In this committee, it will be your job to determine if there will be a full on war to the death, a compromise, or something in between. The committee will be comprised of Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Iraq. The stage will be set for June 5 as the tensions are rising but the war has not begun... Will it still be called the Six Day War when you are done?

This war is brought to you by your friendly neighborhood chair. I am a senior at Penn State double majoring in International Politics-National Security and History, minoring in Middle Eastern Studies, and a Schreyer Honors Scholar. I emphasize in behavior psychology, and weaponry (guns, explosives, pretty much anything that goes boom) – cough, cough, hint, hint for committee. Last year I was on the Secretariat and ran crisis for the Iran committee for PUNC and look forward to running the 6 Day War Committee this year. As a note though, I will not be taking a position in the committee. I will be acting as the chair. I will know all, see all and guide you, but I will not act as a position. You will be the members, I will just be there to lead debate. Think of me as the five star general who can't vote but knows what's what.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me kmf5151@psu.edu. If anything is unclear about your position, or anything about the committee feel free to let me know and I will be glad to help!

Sincerely,

Kaitlin Farnan
Chair



Israel before June 1967

Background to the Conflict

(Note: This will not be a complete background to the Arab-Israeli Conflict as that would require a lot longer of a Delegate Guide)

November 29, 1947- UN General Assembly approves partition of Palestine

December 1947- May 1948 – First Palestine War

April 1948- Dayr Yasin Massacre,

Zionist (Israeli) massacres 115

Palestinian villagers. Palestinians retaliate by attacking Jewish Medical convoy.

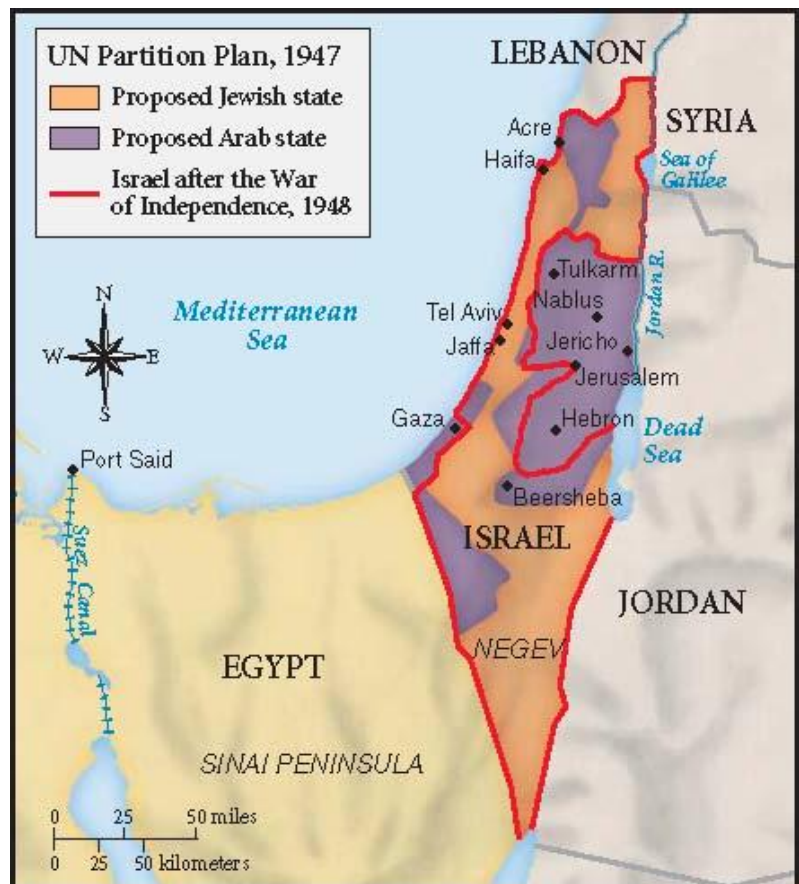
May 14, 1948- Israel obtains Independence

May 15-June 11 and July 6-19, 1948 - Wars between Israel and Arab States (Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Egypt).

January-July 1949- Talks between 1948 war states to reach Armistice (this would be the armistice line that defined borders until the 1967 war)

July 20, 1951- King Abdullah of Jordan is assassinated by a Palestinian in East Jerusalem.

February 28, 1955- Israel conducts raids in Gaza.



July 26, 1956- Nasser nationalizes the Suez Canal Company to the support of Egyptians and the outrage of foreign states (begins Suez Crisis).

October 29, 1956 - Israel invades the Sinai Peninsula. Prime Minister Ben- Gurion did not see Sinai as being part of Egypt.

November 5- December 23, 1956- British and French Invasion of Egypt as part of the Suez Crisis. Demonstrates Western Imperialist backing of Israel, and defeat for Egypt (though public victory of Nasser in face of the West).

March 1957- Israel withdraws troops from Sinai Peninsula.

Feb. 1 1958-Sept. 1961 – Egypt and Syria unified as United Arab Republic. A Nasser idea to eventually join all Arab states that does not take off, and dissolves in 1961 when Syria secedes.

Jan. 1964- Palestinian Liberation Organization founded

1964 (Summer)- Launch of the Israeli water system

November 1964- Israel attacks Syria's efforts to divert water.

January 1965- Fatah commences raids against Israel

July 1965- Israel bombs the Syrian Water Diversion project

November 13, 1965-Israel raids Samua in Jordan West Bank.

Lead up to War:1967 -

January to May- Israel and Syria battle along Golan Heights

May 12- Israel warns of possible military action against Syria

May 14- Nasser moves Egyptian forces into Sinai Peninsula

May 21- Egyptian forces occupy Sharm al- Shaykh

May 23- Nasser begins a blockade of Tiran Straight (closes off Israel)

May 25- Egyptian Minister of war arrives back in Egypt from USSR and tells Nasser he had Soviet backing for a war with Israel (Though USSR was really urging restraint on the part of Egypt).

June 4- Israeli cabinet approves plan to attack Egypt (to occur the following morning)

June 5- Israel launches Operation Focus (June 1967 War begins)

Important Conflict Players:

Egypt: an Arab nation known for its Arab pride which had previously attempted to unite the Arab nations into one United Nation under the leadership of Nasser. This is a country that fought imperialism for years under Western control. Egypt took a stand against Western control and influence in the 1950's and once again in 1954 when Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal. However, Egypt's choices to occupy the Sharm al-Shaykh and blockade the straight of Tiran were seen as being the final stages of the pre-war build up. Israel saw those acts as direct threats to their new country. Threats they were not going to take lightly. Nasser did not want to go to war with Israel. He hoped for diplomatic compromise on behalf of territory and the Palestinians.

Jordan, an Arab nation and kingdom, which claims to have the oldest family in the Arab lands which has ties to the prophet Muhammad. Jordan had an agreement with Israel in the 1960s. A supposed secret agreement that was not favorable amongst Arab nations, who did not agree with Israel being a country. However, Israel broke this agreement with an invasion in the

year before the start of the June 1967 war. This was something Jordan was not pleased about and now the country of Jordan holds agreements with Egypt. These agreements are mutual defense treaties.

Syria was formerly a country joined with Egypt under the United Arab Republic. Current leadership does not agree with the UAR, and seceded from it. Syria did not believe that Nasser was being fair to the people of Syria in the union. Syria was involved in the 1948 war, and fought on the side of the Arab nations in that conflict as well. Despite their break with Egypt, they still have defense treaties with the nation, they just preferred to be separate. Syria also has a pact with the Soviet Union going back to the 1950s. A pact that exchanges military weapons for another area of communist support. Syria is a big supporter of the Palestinians.

Iraq, had prepared to join the UAR with Syria and Egypt prior to the dissolution of the UAR. A Ba'athist country as well as Syria. Iraq had deployed troops into Jordan prior to the start of the June 1967 war, after Jordan signed the defense treaty with Egypt. President of Iraq at the current time is very anti-Israel. He does not believe that Israel should be an independent state and is a big supporter of the Palestinians.

United States of America, a supporter of Israel. A Western backer for the country of Israel both diplomatically and militarily. As well in some instances financially. They approved of Israel going to war against the Arab states at the end of May.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, opposes the United State of America. They are trying to get a foothold in the Middle East to combat the Democrat United States. They have a pact with Jordan, and are in talks with Egypt regarding the situation with Israel. Sadat returns from Moscow in May, 1967 informing Nasser that the USSR supports a war against Israel. However, the USSR urges restraint on behalf of the Arab Nations. Although they are supply weapons. They view it as a good chance to see how their weapons would fair against those of the United States (which were supplied to Israel).

Committee

Our committee will begin just after Operation Focus on the morning of June 5, 1967. You will all be receiving updates on the state of your countries and militaries after this attack at the beginning of committee. You will be expected to know the basics of what your military capabilities are in 1967 as this will be a committee where moving troops and weapons is key. Questions and status updates can be directed towards crisis but it is expected you will at least have some basic knowledge. You will also be receiving updates on where you are, as some of you aren't actually in the capital or country at the start of the war, if you wish to do planning ahead you can find that information in the listed sources below.

Due to the fact that we are running committee during a war, there will be no need to waste time with things like speakers lists. We are a small committee and unless otherwise motioned will operate in a moderated caucus. Motions can of course be made for other functions, which will be up to the discretion of the chair (or co-chair) if appropriate.

We will be running in modified real time. So Thursday night during committee session 1 will be the rest of June 5, 1967. Friday morning will be the morning of June 6 and will run like a normal day, though we may go into modified time to speed up troop movements if necessary.

All positions in the committee will be held by delegates. The chair and co-chair will not have any committee positions. We will just be like the see all know all people who guide and answer questions.

Since this is a war, if you wish to communicate with your troops without the risk of it being “leaked” please address such things confidential and please make sure all notes have a clear to and from on them or they might just be confiscated by enemy forces or leaked leaving your missions vulnerable.

Positions:

Egypt:

Gamal Abdel Nasser- President of Egypt, known for modernization and advancement of Pan-Arabism. Previously attended and instructed at the Military Academy. Nasser signed a mutual defense treaty with King Hussein of Jordan (though he previously thought he was not loyal to the Arab cause).

Zakaria Mohieddin- Vice President of Egypt. Attended the Military College, and served previously in the first Palestinian War.

Abdel Hakim Amer- Egyptian Army General. Attended the Military Academy. Led military forces against Israel during the Suez Crisis. Served as Chief of Joint military command of Syria and Egypt (during the time of the United Arab Republic).

Muhammad Sidqi- Commanding General of the Egyptian Air Force.

Anwar El Sadat- President of the Egyptian National Assembly. Close confidant of Nasser, and member of the Presidential Council.

Jordan:

King Hussein- King of Jordan, member of the Hashemite family (claim the oldest clan in the Arab world and members of the family of the Prophet Muhammad). Previously held a secret agreement with Israel, which put him at odds with Arab states, but Israel broke the agreement in 1966. Signed mutual defense treaty after with Nasser of Egypt.

Saad Juma- Prime Minister of Jordan. Associated with pro-American policies.

Abdul Munim Riad- Lt. General, Egyptian national appointed to be commander of forces in Jordan.

Zeid Ibn Shaker- Field Marshall of Jordanian Forces, and Prince of Jordan. Cousin of King Hussein.

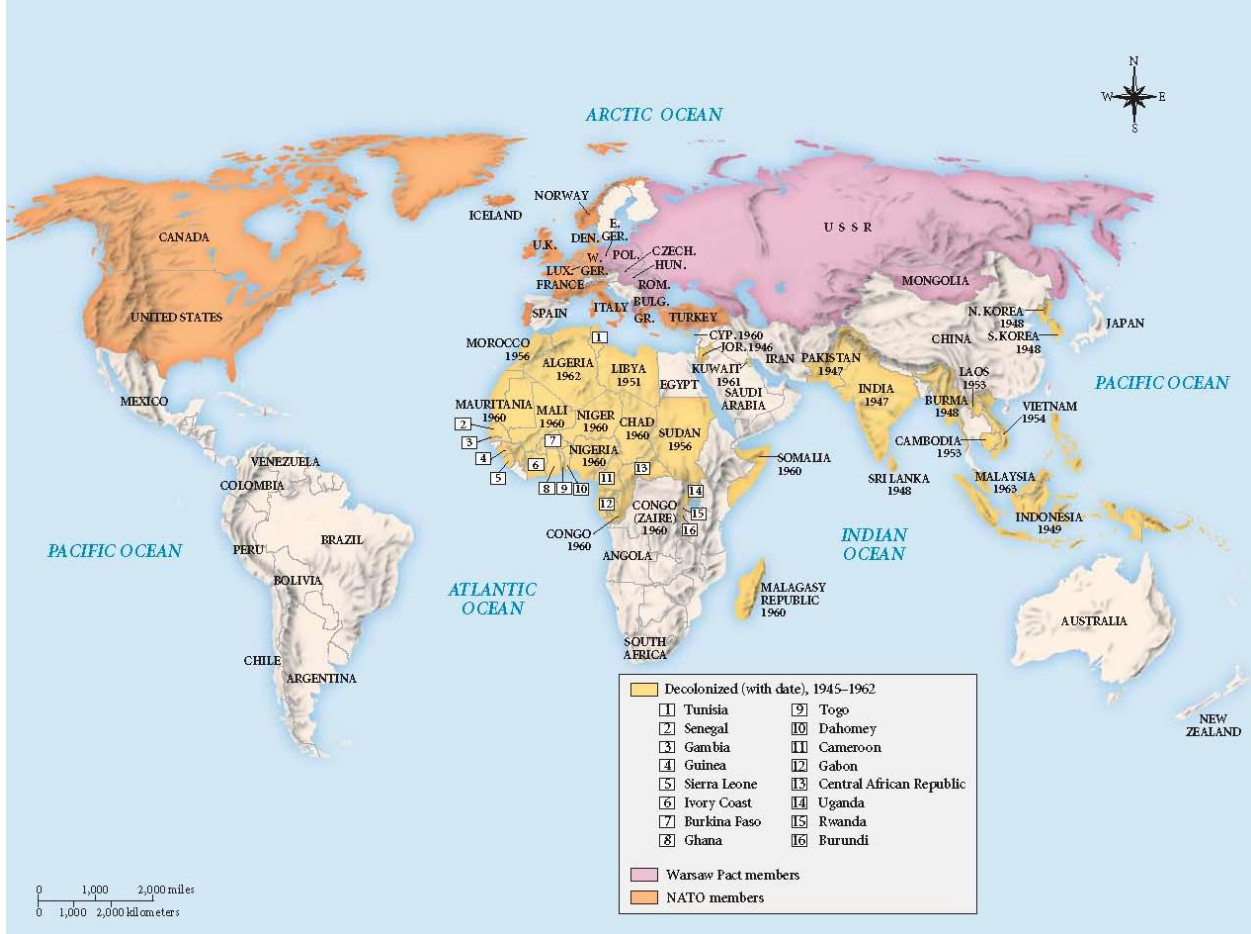
Asad Ghanma- Major, commander of the 48th Infantry Battalion.

Syria:

Hafez al-Assad- President of Syria. Attended the Military Academy. Member of the Ba'ath party. Opposed the creation of the United Arab Republic (union of Syria and Egypt). Was also briefly imprisoned by the Egyptians.

Iraq:

Abdul Rahman Mohammed Arif Aljumaily- President of Iraq. Support of Nasser and the idea of Pan-Arabism. Career Military man.



References:

Cleveland, William L. *A History of the Modern Middle East*. Boulder (Colo.): Westview, 2004.

Print.

Gelvin, James L. *The Modern Middle East: a History*. New York: Oxford UP, 2008. Print.

Smith, Charles D. *Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict: a History with Documents*. New York:

Bedford St. Martin's, 2010. Print.

www.bedfordstmartins.com/makehistory (maps)

Note: All of your positions I made sure are able to research on Wikipedia (except for one- sorry) since I know you will all start there anyway. However, there isn't much there for most of you, and not much outside of the important details I listed above. If you wish to go into more detail on who your person is and their role see the other sources listed above.