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Opinions, Questions, and and Interview Greeting from the Editor-In-Chief

By Neekoo Collett

Greetings, delegates! Today I want to talk about two things regarding the human face of the issues we will discuss next month: one, the way we form opinions about global politics; and two, asking people questions.

First, opinions. It is easy to have opinions about international politics; you can read books, or inherit your parents' world views, or watch the news, or flip a coin. It is easy to have opinions about international politics because it so often seems removed from us: people with power make decisions, natural disasters strike, wars are won and lost, and we continue with our daily routines, stopping briefly to complain

about government spending and the overtaxation of our hard earned money. It is easy to have an opinion about something that is reduced to numerical values: damage estimates, lives lost, carbon emissions, national budgets. Good opinions are formed in conjunction with and supported by facts, because part of what separates a valid opinion from an unjustifiable belief is quantitative evidence. Good opinions require research, but they also require more than factual research. Good opinions require introspection, compassion, dialogue, and critical thought. They require that we treat issues as real things that affect human lives, not as conceptual textbook ideas; they require that we

consider ideas different from our own, not yell louder from our soapboxes; they require that we question things we are told by others, as well as our own natural assumption.

So, I would like to advocate to you, delegate, as you hunt down *your country's position* on the issues of your committee, that you take time to think about *what you think*. You don't have to end up with a fully-formed opinion on the issue, because it's not about having a soundbyte opinion, it's about fully engaging with issues in a personal, thoughtful way.

Second, asking people questions. On November 14, 2010,

Stephen Harper announced that Canada will be extending its mission in Afghanistan until 2014. On November 15, 2010 I sat in my International Relations course, and debated this announcement with my classmates. I learned something new: that the guy I casually chatted with in seminar and between breaks, to whom I had been sending notes when he couldn't attend class, was going to be deployed to Afghanistan. We are cordial acquaintances, not close friends, but the knowledge that someone I know will be going overseas has changed my view of the issue; this knowledge gave an issue previously far-removed from myself a human face. I wanted to know more about a person who was willing to brave serious danger, and fight across an ocean: What was he? What was his life like? Was he prepared, or could he be prepared? So, I interviewed him. To protect personal privacy, and military confidentiality, many questions couldn't be answered. Those that were however, can be found below.

My point is this: issues are real, they affect real people, and asking questions to people who have personal experiential knowledge is just as important as reading a textbook. If you really want to learn something about your country, leave the library, find someone from the country you are representing, buy them lunch, and ask them some questions. Their answers won't be objective, and they won't be peer-reviewed, but they will give you something that statistics can't: a personal connection.

The United Nations is a stage for issues, debates, and (my favourite!) scheming, but it is also a platform for reconsideration, questions, and community. Hopefully you will leave this conference with your opinions better-formed, and with some innovative answers to important questions. The best preparation for this outcome? Think critically, and ask people questions. You never know who might be sitting beside you.

What is a typical day in the military life like?

A typical day goes something like this:

08:00 to 10:00 - Physical training

10:00 to 12:00 - Administration time/training plan/equipment maintenance

12:00-13:00 - Lunch

13:00-16:00 - Training (battle procedure, mine awareness, equipment handling, etc.)

When we go for exercises, we typically work all day and night; scenarios are set up for his and commanders and soldiers are tested on all levels on their preparation, reaction and actions to accomplish the missions sent out for us.

When and why did you decide to join the military?

I joined the army reserve in high school, when I was 16 years old. I finished the infantry battleschool and, at the time, wanted to challenge myself more by finishing my university degree and joining the police services. The army has changed rapidly in only a few years and now is the cutting edge of all government services with the best in technology and professionalism, so I came back to join the regular forces and fight the war on terrorism. Gen. Patreaux refers to counter-insurgency as the "graduate level of warfare" in terms of the individuals soldiers specific knowledge of war fighting and ability to be diplomatic, politically aware and communicate effectively with the population.

Have your experiences in the military been as you imagined them from the outside? What have your favourite experiences been? What have your least favourite experiences been?

My experiences inside the military far exceeded my outside expectations, the access to technology, professionalism and sense of team spirit is amazing.

What kind of general training have you gone through in preparation for Afghanistan?

We receive world class training before being sent overseas; this is why our casualty count has been so much lower than in previous wars; it's normal for a soldier to spend about 1 year of "work up" training specifically for the Afghan theatre before being sent overseas. This doesn't even count the six months of training the soldier must initially spend being trained just for his position.

Have you received any advice from people returning from Afghanistan? What has that advice been?

I pick the brains of the guys that have been sent to the AO (area of operation) I'll be going to, every soldier has different tour experiences. Some soldiers will have seen a lot of combat and time 'outside the wire' (a term referenced for being outside a green zone) while others have spent their entire tour of duty 'inside the wire' in safety.

What advice would you have for people thinking about joining the military after high school?

It's a great experience: there are a lot of different jobs that you can be trained for that are not only free to you, but paid during your training. It also gets you out of the house and lets you start a fresh life if that's what you've been wanting now that high school is coming to an end. If you wanted to be a nurse or a doctor for example, you could join the army as a medic and the military would pay for your education to eventually reach the goals that you are pursuing. The military wants their force to be educated. For example, my education is being paid for as I take night classes at the University of Alberta.



“Let us remember that reform is not to please others, but because we value what this Organization stands for. We need reform because we believe in the future. To revitalize our common endeavour is to renew our faith not only in the UN’s programmes and purposes but also in each other. We should demand more of ourselves as well as of our organization.”

Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General



Dead Revolutionaries on UN Reform

Featuring: Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, Genghis Khan, Mao Zedong, Ernesto "Che" Guevara, and Napoleon Bonaparte

By Eemaan Khan and Kaitlyn Grant

Ghandi: The United Nations... ah... I waited for so long to see such unity but never did I expect such little cooperation between nations that vowed to work together for human unity. Where to begin ? So many issues at hand and yet such minimal collaboration on some of the most important topics. Fortunately the option to use this loose coalition of states to create dialogue and solutions is never closed.

Che: How can we ever have solutions when many of the members of this group believe their faults to be acceptable? I’m speaking of the capitalist greed of the elite that use their power to corrupt the government and only to benefit themselves over all others, such was the

case of many nations of my time, some were liberated, and some have yet to be...

Khan: To an extent I agree with your point, peasant, however we need enigmatic leaders to control the general populous otherwise they will run berserk and uncontrolled. There needs to be a power structure in which a few, or one as in my case, knowledgeable leaders rule with an iron fist since we are qualified and know what is best.

Ghandi: You can’t forever force your own opinion over all others my friend. You can never suppress a people for too long before they revolt...

Che: All empires built on blood and bones crumble from the base up, since their foundations were built on unstable ground.

Mao: They speak truth, the governments of man should be used for the people, not against them, they should be made to help all equally and fairly. That is why we need economic reform in this ironically named “United” Nations. Many wealthy nations of the modern age simply use their purse to pursue their own desires over that of the rest of the world-

Che: Their greed is beyond human control, instead of helping the weak, whom are constantly being exploited, they choose to chase their vested interest in a “dog eat dog” economy where you must kill or be killed. They also do not use their power as efficiently as possible. If they were to sell their weapons and armories, they would easily have the budget and surplus to feed the poor of the world, and yet they choose to use non-binding solutions and bicker over useless, irrelevant issues.

Ghandi: I admire your ideology and goals, but you must realize that such a radical request, while morally correct, simple cannot be pursued in the modern times. Simply put, no one will agree to do it.

Mao: Perhaps we should approach it differently. Perhaps a gradual change, like the 5 year plans we use back home.

Che: In 5 years so much can happen, someone starving today might not be here 5 years later...

Khan: I don't see the likes of you with a better solution – it's either this or nothing. The reform therefore should most probably be a gradual change so that finances can be better managed for the poor and the taxes on weapons and such dangerous and/or popular non food goods be raised little by little in binding solutions to the point where the budget is in surplus and we have the resources to share with the people. If we don't, I fear our own power could be in danger. We must make small room for compromise in the grander scheme to retain order and control as we see best. If not, we must prepare for a possible revolt on our own thrones.

Mao: (*whispering to Gandhi*) Wow, he is smarter then he lets on, for a barbarian...

Khan: I heard that ! I will have you know I could have you killed if I wish!

Mao: Try me, because the relatives of all of your soldiers were mostly in my control!

Che: (laughs)

Ghandi: (*snickering*) Okay! Now on to the remaining tasks: this planet, as we know it, is deteriorating in quality. The air is full of smog and poisonous gases, the lands becoming infertile from toxic wastes and the quality of life for many people, especially in my India is deteriorating, we must do something to reverse this long term disaster before it turns into a unfixable catastrophe.

Mao: My people do suffer from the effects of the environment, but progress is progress, we need to keep going or else otherwise we may fall behind the Western nations in terms of economic progress and technological advancement.

Napoleon: Oui, although we are far ahead of you, I agree that the environment must be taken care of, non ?

Khan: Where did the short guy come from? Was he hiding under the table? I didn't see him.

Everyone: (laughs)

Napoleon: Ferme ta bouche! I am correct no matter how much you laugh à moi, if we do not protect mother nature then we risqué ze entire planet not surviving for future generations, do you gentlemen wish to be blamed for the destruction of our bleu planet?

Che: That makes sense, the Frenchman reminds me of the work of the modern environmentalist Alfonso...

Everyone: Alfonso ?

Che: Yes, Alfonso! You know Alfonso? Alfonso gore!

Ghandi: You mean, Al Gore?

Mao: Wow, what a fail.

Ghandi: You are truly a character of your own Che.

Napoleon: This rebel is correct however, for I have too heard of this Alberto Gore-

Che: Alfonso gore!

Khan: Al Gore! Not Alberto or Alfonso! Simply leave it at Al!

Napoleon: Whatever his name is, his work is truly exceptional, and his stance on environmental change should be the basis for resolutions for environmental reform, such as the suggestion and need to eliminate many dangerous by products of production by limiting the pollution limits on companies and corporations and forcing them to pay heavy sums if they exceed their set limits. Over time perhaps we can increase these limits-

Ghandi: (*interrupting*) -there by indirectly forcing the industries to find environmental friendly permanent alternatives and/or solutions ! You're a genius Napoleon !

Napoleon: Merci, merci, no need for additional thanks!

Mao: Must I remind you all that this can have a disastrous backdrop if executed inaccurately even by the smallest calculation, although admirable, perhaps it should not be in our immediate interest...

Che: Would you rather have a world and a decent economy, or no planet and no economy?

Mao: Grrrr... fine, but the limits must be gradual, and they must apply to all the member nations in a binding solution, especially the largest contributor the US.

Khan: (*whispering to Gandhi*) That appears reasonable and, in a long shot, probability of success is high.

Che: Yes, now onto the last major issue, a matter of power struggle: why should the current UN security council consist of its current permanent members ? Why cant there be more permanent, varied by geography and other important reasons, members rather than the current set of WWII victors? Some of these nations aren't even major superpowers anymore, they should be reformed as well-

Napoleon: Arrête! Stop right there, are you suggesting that my country be given the boot? They might not be as powerful as I once made them, but they are still a major

economic player and our history proves when we must, we SHINE.

Khan: If history proves anything, it's that you like to WHINE!

Che: (laughs)

Napoleon: Hey! Zis is not funny! Why are you even here? It's not like you are relevant, Khan. Mao, take your grandpa somewhere else, we need to discuss this without interjections

Mao: Hey, you control yourself, he is just foolish sometim-

Khan: I am not foolish!

Mao: Anyways... he's no more irrelevant than you are, you weren't even alive in the same century the UN was formed either!

Napoleon: Ughhh... whatever... so how do YOU propose we solve this dilemma? Making hysterical remarks can only go on for so long.

Ghandi: Gentlemen please, we mustn't fight, an eye for an eye makes the whole world blind...

Che: Gandhi is correct, Napoleon, you must understand that France no longer exactly deserves to retain such power over world events, especially since they no longer are a major stakeholder, with limited resources and influence-

Left:
Napoleon

Right:
Mao



Napoleon: But you *spaniard* forget the fact that we still have many African and French Americans that see themselves as part of our history, we represent their interests as well !

Che: If that is the case then the ideally there should be a permanent, stable Spanish and Arab member of the security council, also an African for good measure

Mao: Unless anyone wishes to argue, I think it is acceptable that China continues to represent the far

east in the security council, we do have a fifth of the world population you know

Ghandi: So it is agreed then, to hopefully solve this power struggle, we will add an African, Spanish and Arab nation to the permanent Security Council and China will retain its current position, hopefully this will solve the conflicts of interest and represent the views of all the world, hopefully this will not flare up and become a future cause of tension.

Everyone: agreed



Raf Simons 01.jpg



Rag & Bone 01.jpg



Salvatore Ferragamo 01.jpg



Salvatore Ferragamo 02.jpg



Salvatore Ferragamo 03.jpg



Salvatore Ferragamo 04.jpg



Z Zegna 05.jpg



Z Zegna 06.jpg



HSMUN Couture: Dressing for Success

By Fanny Kung

Just as there are styles and iconic pieces that belong on the runway, there are also styles and certain attires that don't belong at HSMUN conferences. Delegates should remember that first impressions are key, especially when they want to garner support from other nations. It is hard to take a country seriously if their delegates show up wearing rumpled T-shirts, washed-out blue jeans and DC sneakers. These fashion and etiquette faux pas can be avoided by following a few guidelines.

The appropriate attire during the HSMUN conference should be between business casual and business formal. This means absolutely no jeans, or sneakers for either gender. Delegates should present themselves in a professional and conservative manner, so no mini-skirts or strapless tops should be worn. In spite of these restrictions, participants are still encouraged to incorporate originality and authenticity. Traditional dress is acceptable if the nation's representatives are often shown to be wearing such.

Not to fret, this does not mean delegates need to rush out to purchase new outfits for the conference. If

there are no ties or blazers available, delegates can easily dress to be presentable in other clothes. The important thing is to show up in an attire so other nations can take them seriously, and so they can achieve their foreign political aims. Accents and cultural dress are always acceptable and are encouraged to present an authentic-representation of the countries and representatives. Plus, an accent is always fun in committee!

Although delegates must dress for work during the three-day conference, the banquet calls for delegates to dust off their fanciest attires to eat and dance away the stress of international negotiations. Just like during the conference, no jeans, sneakers and T-shirts are permitted. Delegates should dress to impress in their frilly, shiny, fancy dresses or suits. Ladies should remember that three-inch heels may look flattering, but may not feel so comfortable after a few hours of dancing around in them. (Seriously, we can't let people have bare feet, so at least bring flats as a back-up pair of footwear if you plan on dancing!)

A Celebration of SOCHUM Missed, but Never Forgotten

By Dallin Mendenhall

It is with sadness that we note the departure of the much-loved Third Committee of the General Assembly (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural). The HSMUN 2011 Invitation Letter, issued by the Secretariat, announced the absence of SOCHUM from this year's conference.

SOCHUM is remembered by delegates past and present with great fondness. Often thought of as the "sensitive" member of the GA family, SOCHUM served for many years as HSMUN's forum for debate on social development, cultural preservation, education, poverty, humanitarian efforts, and, of course, human rights. In recent years, SOCHUM took up such topics as the Legal Status of Women, Access to Education, and Coordination of Emergency Response Efforts. SOCHUM's work and accomplishments in these areas showed exemplary dedication and were impressive in their vision and wide perspective. Always seeking to strengthen the weak and protect the vulnerable, SOCHUM truly embodied the

third purpose of the United Nations of "promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion".

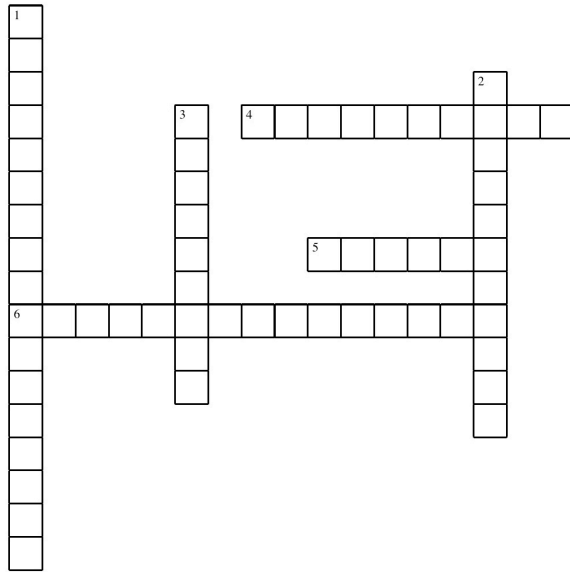
On a personal note, SOCHUM led a quiet yet fulfilling life. Hobbies included soap carving, attending musicals, and impersonating vibrant politicians. SOCHUM also volunteered for many years as a *Daily Delegate* contributor, tirelessly calling for compassion and generosity toward less-fortunate states. The loss of so benevolent an international pillar arouses deep feelings and is mourned by many in the diplomatic world.

SOCHUM is survived by siblings GA1- DISEC and GA2- ECOFIN. Friends of the family, among them UNICEF, UNODC, SC, and WHO, are on hand to comfort the grieving bereaved. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the *Daily Delegate*, or to a human rights charity of your choice.

"In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Daily Delegate, or to a human rights charity of your choice."



Dead Revolutionaries



ACROSS

- 4 "I know you are here to kill me. Shoot, coward, you are only going to kill a man."
- 5 "First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win."
- 6 "The great questions of the day will not be settled by means of speeches and majority decisions but by iron and blood."

DOWN

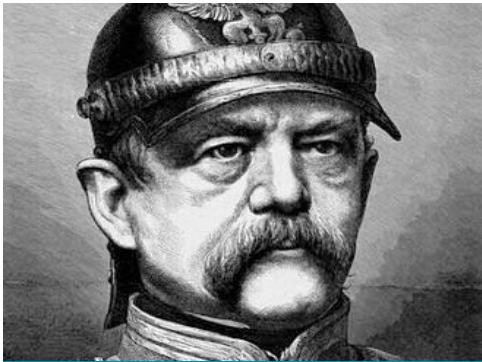
- 1 "A throne is only a bench covered with velvet."
- 2 A HUNgry guy
- 3 "If you want to know the taste of a pear, you must change the pear by eating it yourself. If you want to know the theory and methods of revolution, you must take part in revolution. All genuine knowledge originates in direct experience."

Classifieds

Wanted! Successor to brutal totalitarian regime. Assets include inferiority complex, irresponsible spending of public funds, and cult of personality disorder. Applicants whose names begin with Kim Jong will be given first priority.

Classified diplomatic cables free to first response! Includes diplomatic correspondences from the United States, Middle East, and many more! If interested please contact Julian at Swedish Police Headquarters.

Storage space required for Colombian trade organization. Looking for surveillance free location that will remain private. We will be storing some cargo that is not ours (seriously, we're just holding it for a friend) and if asked by police we have no idea how it got there. Also all of our staff have severe allergies resulting in permanent cases of "the sniffles". If interested be in the park at 11:00 on Saturday and tell the man in the orange coat that you hear it is snowing in the Andes.



An Acrostic Ode to the Iron Chancellor:

- B - Blood
- I - Iron
- S - Svelte
- M - Mustachioed
- A - Armadillo
- R - Ruthless
- C - Conniving
- K - Kingly

Ask Famous Dead Political Figures

By Andrew Douglas

Dear Canada,

As the one and only "Iron Chancellor", I must advise you not to be too nice in your attempt to get a security council seat. The best way to get anything done is to irritate people so much that they attack you, lose miserably, and make themselves look like the pathetic Danish. You could also get rival factions to fight each other (unless this somehow gets you embroiled in a conflict in the Balkans). Remember that "*Die Politik ist keine exakte Wissenschaft*" or in English "Politics is the art of the possible".

In other words do what you have to do to in order to get things done by whatever means necessary. And I mean **whatever** means. Lastly, get yourself an army helmet with a really big spike on the top. They're very stylish, slightly frightening, and surprisingly comfortable. A super cool mustache also wouldn't hurt. The ladies really dig the Prussian Cavalry general look. Heed these words Canada, and you shall Realpolitik your way to a security council seat. But don't ally with the French when you get there or I VILL BE ON YOU LIKE SAUERKRAUT ON BRATVURST! That is all.

From,
Otto