

The Thirtieth Annual

Virginia Model United Nations Conference

Presents...

Death Eaters

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Chair

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Welcome Death Eaters!

My name is Anna Mohan, and I am a third year student at the University of Virginia. I am majoring in Foreign Affairs with a minor in Economics. Additionally, I am pursuing a Master's in Public Policy in the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy. Academically, I enjoy studying politics, economics, languages, and history. In my free time, I love to read, cook, and hang out with my friends. All throughout high school I participated in Model UN, attending conferences around the country. My school participated in VAMUN as well, so I anxiously anticipated involving myself in the UVA conference once I matriculated. I staffed VAMUN my first year, served on Secretariat last year and am excited to chair a committee at VAMUN XXX!

In all of my high school and college MUN experience, I have always vastly preferred small, crisis-based committees to larger GAs. I am also a Harry Potter fiend like many people our age, having read every book multiple times and having seen every movie on opening night. As such, I am thrilled to be able to lead you all in the joint crisis of Death Eaters and Ministry of Magic. While it may be a somewhat unconventional committee (certainly not something you find at the real UN), this committee will draw on the same skills you have honed through past MUN experience. I expect a high level of reasoned and logical debate, cooperation and consensus building (and a little underhanded manipulation) in addition to quick responses to developing crises.

Delegates will need to have an extensive knowledge of their position and be able to faithfully represent them while making distinct choices that may ultimately save their lives. The committee will begin approximately at the end of *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* after Voldemort's rebirth has been revealed to the Wizarding world, and the Death Eaters fail to retrieve the prophecy from the Ministry of Magic (details in the background guide). While delegates may have knowledge of what occurs in the novels following this time, the committee will not follow the exact dictations of the book from this point forth. The committee will primarily be structured around the actions of the crisis staff and the Ministry of Magic committee. Please refer to the Closing Remarks section of the background guide for more details on committee procedure.

This background guide should serve as a summary of the important events in the life and reign of Lord Voldemort as told by the first five Harry Potter novels (so as to alleviate your need to carefully reread them all). The topics provided will give you a preview as to the direction the committee is likely to go. In preparing your position papers, I would prefer minimal regurgitation of background and more creative suggestions of how to restore Voldemort and the Death Eaters' to their former glory.

I look forward to meeting you all at the conference and hope this committee will be a fulfilling experience for everyone. Please feel free to contact me at aom6z@virginia.edu if you have any questions prior to the conference.

Sincerely,

Anna Mohan

Introduction

Lord Voldemort used to be the most powerful man in the wizarding community, commanding fear in the hearts of all those he encountered even amongst his most trusted companions. He reigned supreme as none but a few unfortunate souls dared to contest his kingdom. He drove the strongest wizards into hiding and turned the fiercest witches into cowering messes. He commanded the magical beasts. All this he did and he did it flawlessly until The Boy Who Lived. To understand fully the Dark Lord's ambitions and motivations, it is important to examine his personal background.

A Troubled Childhood

*"I remember she said to me 'I hope he looks like his papa'...and then she told me he was to be named Tom, for his father, and Marvolo, for her father...and she said the boy's surname was to be Riddle. And she died soon after that without another word."*¹

Mrs. Cole (Half Blood Prince)

¹ Mrs. Cole was the woman working at the orphanage when Tom Riddle was born and his mother died. (Rowling, J.K., *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*, 266.)

Tom Marvolo Riddle was born to Merope Gaunt, a witch and heir to Salazar Slytherin, and Tom Riddle, a muggle.² Merope, the unfortunate looking daughter of a local misanthrope named Marvolo, fell madly in love with Riddle when he rode past her house one day on horseback. Her brother, Morfin, upset by Merope's affection for a muggle, cursed Riddle and earned himself and his father sentences in Azkaban. Left alone and crippled by her one-sided love for Riddle, Merope decided to feed the young man a love potion in order to draw him to her arms. She held Riddle in her grasp for some time but eventually grew weary and regretted binding him to her against his will while secretly hoping their time together had allowed a true bond to blossom between them. Unfortunately, when Merope lifted her spell, Riddle left with haste, and the lonely and dejected Merope discovered the only thing that blossomed from their relationship was the child growing within her womb.

This loveless conception may have contributed to young Tom Riddle's

² A Muggle is an individual without magical powers.

early inability to trust or discover meaningful companionship- a trend that manifested itself in his life at the orphanage where he was raised. Merope, enfeebled by the heartbreak she endured and the physical strain of giving birth, was only able to reach a Muggle orphanage before passing away and leaving her son in their stead. Her dying wish: that the boy be named Tom Marvolo Riddle after his father and grandfather. As such, Riddle entered the orphanage where he would spend a large part of his formative childhood years, growing up in a world without magic and thus failing to understand the strange powers he wielded over others. Without the watchful eye of a wizard, Riddle began to use his powers to influence the small children around him, frightening them into doing his bidding or hurting them if they disobeyed him. The other children feared Riddle and his proclivity for torturing their animals or placing them in precarious situations. Riddle, however, did not crave the love and respect of his peers; he thrived off of their fear and took pride in the unique abilities that separated him so wholly from the other children. He similarly came to discover

he possessed a strong power over animals and a rather peculiar relationship with snakes in particular. All this, however, remained a mystery to him, as he knew nothing of his origins and had no means by which to unpack his past.

That is until one day when Albus Dumbledore, then professor of Transfiguration at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry visited the orphanage and informed young Riddle that his strange abilities were not an oddity but the mark of a powerful wizard. Professor Dumbledore extended Riddle an offer to attend Hogwarts where he would learn to practice and perhaps more importantly, to control his craft. Riddle, eager to know this new world and gain an insight into his family background, quickly accepted the offer.

Life at Hogwarts

“Mr. Riddle was a quiet, albeit brilliant boy, committed to becoming a first rate wizard...If there was a monster, it was buried deep within.”³

³ Horace Slughorn taught Riddle when he was a student at Hogwarts. Riddle was a prominent member of Slughorn’s “Slug Club,” composed

Horace Slughorn (Half Blood Prince)

Tom Riddle rapidly adjusted to life at Hogwarts and as a part of the wizarding world. He was sorted into the Slytherin house where he gained the admiration of his peers.⁴ While he excelled at school and earned the favor of many professors,



Hogwarts crest

Riddle never lost the slightly threatening quality that allowed him to influence others. His circle of close friends could more accurately be portrayed as followers, for he never grew to trust or develop real relationships with them, focusing wholly on his own drive for power and advancement. Though he never developed meaningful ties with his fellow students, Riddle did grow attached to Hogwarts as a school. A manifestation of his new life as a wizard, Riddle cringed at the thought of

of the most talented and elite students. ("Tom Riddle," *Harry Potter Wiki*.)

⁴ Salazar Slytherin was one of the four original founders of Hogwarts. His narrow views on the types of students who should attend Hogwarts, however, eventually led to tension with the other founders.

returning to the muggle orphanage over breaks and repeatedly requested to stay at the school. Riddle eventually rose to the ranks of Prefect and ultimately Head Boy.

During school, Riddle discovered aspect of his heritage of which he could be proud. As the last remnant of the Gaunt family, Riddle learned he was the direct heir of Salazar Slytherin. This knowledge ultimately played

an important role in his time at Hogwarts, as after several years, Riddle discovered the Chamber of Secrets, home to a massive Basilisk hidden away by Slytherin himself upon the founding of the school. Riddle found that, as a Parselmouth and the true Heir of Slytherin, he could control the ancient snake and set it loose to fulfill the desire of Slytherin that Hogwarts be rid of all Muggle-born witches and wizards. One unfortunate student eventually met the eyes of the Basilisk and perished, leading families and professors alike to call for the school's closure.

While Riddle possessed an intense desire to fulfill the wishes of his ancestor, he stopped the attacks in order

to avoid the watchful eyes of then Transfiguration professor Dumbledore and to keep the school, his only home, open. He successfully framed another student, compelling Headmaster Dippet to reward Riddle with a prestigious award for service to the school. Riddle graduated, widely acclaimed as the most brilliant student to ever pass through Hogwarts.

Discovering his abilities as a wizard and his status as the Heir of Slytherin ignited in Riddle a zeal for discovering more about his family heritage and from whence his powers came. Ultimately, this curiosity led Riddle to Little Hangleton where he discovered his uncle, Morfin, in the run-down shack all that remained of the disgraced and decrepit, though once-noble House of Gaunt. Riddle tortured his uncle, learning the story of his conception and his disgraceful status as a half-blood.⁵ Enraged by his father's abandonment and his status as a half-blood, Riddle proceeded to town and murdered his father and his father's family without an ounce of remorse. In

the Muggle world, the Riddle family's gardener, Frank Bryce was suspected for the murder while the Ministry of Magic imprisoned Morfin for the deaths. No one looked twice at the young, successful Tom Riddle.

After graduating from Hogwarts, Riddle requested a job, teaching Defense Against the Dark Arts, from then headmaster, Armando Dippet. While Dippet refused due to Riddle's age, he encouraged the boy with prodigious abilities to reapply in the future. In the interim, Riddle began to work at the wizarding shop, Borgin and Burkes, in Knockturn Alley. There, he helped the owners to collect dark artifacts at unreasonably low prices from unsuspecting clients. He quickly grew tired of the work, however, and left Great Britain to travel throughout Europe, where he practiced and pushed the boundaries of the Dark Arts. During this time, he abandoned the name of his Muggle father and adopted a pseudonym, Lord Voldemort, a name that he hoped would some day strike fear in the hearts of everyone.⁶ Eventually, Voldemort returned to Hogwarts where

⁵ A half-blood is a wizard who has one wizarding parent and one muggle parent. Very few wizards know that Voldemort is not, in fact, a pure blood wizard.

⁶ "I am Lord Voldemort" is an acronym formed from Riddle's full name, "Tom Marvolo Riddle."

Professor Dumbledore, the only professor to remain consistently wary of Riddle's intentions, had become Headmaster. He solicited Professor Dumbledore for a position at the school, but Dumbledore suspected his intentions and rejected his application.

The Rise and Fall of Lord Voldemort

*"Terror everywhere ... panic ... confusion ... that's how it used to be."*⁷

Sirius Black (Goblet of Fire)

Upon failing to secure a position at Hogwarts, Voldemort sought to expand his following and amass an army ultimately to challenge the Ministry of Magic. With his prodigious magical skill and close band of Death Eaters, the newly entitled, Dark Lord, quickly rose to power. He courted giants and other magical creatures, using his vast armies to brush aside many powerful wizards who stood in his way. The Dark Lord remained determined to take over the Ministry of Magic and to restore

pureblood wizards to their rightful place of power over half-bloods, mudbloods, and Muggles⁸. Those who stood against him were hunted, tortured for information, and then unceremoniously murdered. It was said the only wizard whom Lord Voldemort feared was his former professor, Albus Dumbledore. Yet while Dumbledore formed the primary resistance organization to Voldemort's rule, the Order of the Phoenix, the Dark Lord and his followers succeeded in killing many of its most faithful members, including the McKinnons, Gideon and Fabian Prewett, and Benjy Fenwick. As Voldemort gained power it seemed as if no one would be able to stop him.

*"The one with the power to vanquish the Dark Lord approaches..."*⁹

Sybill Trelawney (Order of the Phoenix)

While consolidating his rule, Lord Voldemort came to learn of a prophecy made by Sybill Trelawney, the great-great granddaughter of a famous Seer. The informant told the Dark Lord

⁷ Sirius Black, a member of the Order of the Phoenix and cousin of Bellatrix Lestrange, died in the incident at the Department of Mysteries. (Rowling, J.K., *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, 457).

⁸ Mudbloods are wizards with non-magical parents.

⁹ Sybill Trelawney is a Seer and professor at Hogwarts. (Rowling, J.K., *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, 841).

that a boy “born to those who have thrice defied him, born as the seventh month dies...” would ultimately possess the power to defeat him.¹⁰ Lord Voldemort learned of two infant boys who, born at the end of July to members of the Order who escaped him three times, fit the description in the prophecy: Harry Potter, son of Lily and James Potter, and Neville Longbottom, son of Alice and Frank Longbottom.

Soon thereafter the Dark Lord learned of the location of the Potters’ home in Godric’s Hollow from their Secret-Keeper and former friend, Peter Pettigrew, at which point he planned to murder the young Harry and erase any chance of his defeat. He arrived at the house late one evening, and after having killed James Potter, moved on to Lily and the boy. Lily attempted to shield her son, but she was no match for the Dark Lord. He swept her aside and cast the unstoppable Killing Curse on Harry Potter. The curse, however, backfired, destroying Lord Voldemort’s body and turning him into barely more than a spirit. Weak and powerless, the Dark Lord fled to woods in Albania while

wizards everywhere came out of hiding and celebrated the Boy Who Lived.

“I was ripped from my body, I was less than spirit, less than the meanest ghost ... but still, I was alive.”¹¹

Lord Voldemort (Goblet of Fire)

While the Wizarding world rebuilt itself, Lord Voldemort lay in wait in the forests of Albania, plotting his return. Although he remained powerless and could not carry a wand, he was able to possess others. He primarily possessed small woodland animals yet too often found them unable to sustain his life force. One day, his luck changed when Quirinus Quirrell, the new professor of Defense against the Dark Arts at Hogwarts, stumbled through the forest where Voldemort lay in wait.

Voldemort succeeded in possessing him and during this time he learned the location of the Philosopher’s Stone, which could not only turn any metal to gold but also produced the Elixir of Life, allowing the bearer to achieve immortality. The Philosopher’s Stone, created by alchemist Nicholas Flamel, was housed in vault 713 in the

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, 566.

Wizarding bank, Gringotts. When Voldemort attempted to steal it, however, he found that Rubeus Hagrid, Hogwarts' groundskeeper, had removed the Stone had been removed by earlier that same day.

Thwarted at Gringotts, Lord Voldemort planned to use his new servant, Quirrell, and his post at Hogwarts in an attempt to steal the Stone while it remained protected at the school. In the mean time, he drank unicorn blood to sustain himself, keeping him alive but dooming him to a cursed life. When he and Quirrell made their final attempt to secure the Stone, they succeeded in surmounting all but

Rebirth

"The Dark Lord will rise again, Crouch!

Throw us into Azkaban; we will wait!"¹²

Bellatrix Lestrange (Goblet of Fire)

Having failed to secure the Philosopher's Stone, Voldemort returned

one of the obstacles installed to protect it. While Quirrell attempted to unlock the secret of the Mirror of Erised, behind which the stone lay hidden, Harry Potter approached. Voldemort instructed Quirrell to use Potter to remove the stone from beyond the mirror, but Harry lies when he feels it land in his pocket. When Harry refuses to give the Stone to Quirrell, he attempts to touch Harry's skin, only to burn his own flesh. Potter capitalized on the protection in his blood and defeated Quirrell, leaving Voldemort without a body once again and deprived forever of the Stone that would have secured his immortality

to the woods of Albania, waiting for his followers to come to his side and aid in his recovery. Eventually, Peter Pettigrew, or Wormtail as he was known due to his status as a rat Animagus, fled England at which time he discovered Voldemort's existence and returned to him. On his way to his master, Wormtail stumbled across Bertha Jorkins, a member of the Ministry, and took her to Voldemort. After torturing Bertha, the pair learned about the Triwizard Tournament taking place at Hogwarts that year. Additionally,

¹² Bellatrix Lestrange has been one of the Dark Lord's more faithful, prodigious, and wicked supporters. See more on her role in the "Committee Composition" section (*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, 517).

Voldemort discovered that one of his most loyal supporters, Barty Crouch Jr., had escaped from Azkaban and was residing under his father's control. Thanks to this information, Voldemort devised a plan to capture Harry Potter and in so doing restore his body with Harry's mother's protection coursing through his own veins.

In order to capture Potter, Voldemort required a servant at Hogwarts to enter the boy into the Triwizard Tournament and facilitate his success. Crouch managed to overpower Auror Alastor "Mad-Eye" Moody who planned to take up the post of Defense against the Dark Arts professor in the fall. Voldemort, acting through Crouch, used the Triwizard Tournament to lure Potter to his father's gravesite. There, with the help of Wormtail and powerful magic, Voldemort used his father's bone, his servant's flesh, and his foe Potter's blood to restore his body and regain his former powers. Finally able to carry a wand again, Voldemort challenged Potter to a duel in order to vanquish him. Potter, however, managed to escape after his and Voldemort's wands formed a mysterious connection through curses. Enraged,

Voldemort vowed to do whatever possible to find a way to eliminate Potter forever.

The Dark Lord had not counted on Potter's survival of the graveyard encounter and therefore remained inconspicuous so as not to confirm his return to the Wizarding world. His efforts at subtlety were rewarded, for the Ministry of Magic did everything in its power to deny his return. While Potter and Dumbledore insisted the Dark Lord had returned, the Ministry attempted to debase their claims. Further, the Ministry turned its cheek, as the Death Eaters worked to gain the support of all manner of magical beasts and orchestrated a mass breakout of Azkaban. At the same time, the Dark Lord focused his attention on discovering a way to destroy Harry Potter and determined the key to his defeat lay in the remainder of the prophecy made concerning the pair. The matter became especially urgent when Voldemort learned of the mental connection between Harry and himself that allowed Harry access to his thoughts and feelings.¹³ He therefore attempted

¹³ Voldemort realized that Harry could sense his emotions and at some points, even reach inside

to use Death Eaters and others to steal the prophecy from its home in the Department of Mysteries at the Ministry of Magic but soon discovered only individuals about whom the prophecy was made, could remove it. The Dark Lord, accomplished at Occlumency and Legilimency, then capitalized on his and Harry's connection, convincing Harry to enter the Department of Mysteries and remove the prophecy.¹⁴ His efforts, however, were thwarted, many Death Eaters were rearrested, and his return confirmed once and for all to the wizarding world.

History of the Committee

The Death Eater's: Restoring Nature's Nobility

"They were...a mixture of the weak seeking protection, the ambitious seeking some shared glory, and the thuggish gravitating toward a leader

his mind. The Dark Lord ultimately manipulated Potter, using this connection believed to have been established when the Killing Curse was deflected.

¹⁴ Occlumency is the skill of closing one's mind to Legilimency, which involves reading minds and emotions.

*who could show them more refined forms of cruelty."*¹⁵

Albus Dumbledore (Half-Blood Prince)

At school, Tom Riddle was a Prefect and a Head Boy, allowing him to gather a following of like-minded cohorts, who were attracted to the power of the persuasive teen. In his quest for power later in life, Lord Voldemort amassed a circle of loyal followers, who became known as the Death Eaters, expanding their ranks to include not only his peers from school but other, powerful wizards. Some were drawn to his side due to ambition, others truly believed in restoring "Nature's Nobility," or pure-blood wizards, to power, and even more joined him out of fear. Ultimately, however, the goal of the group was and still is to advance the efforts of the Dark Lord to gain control of the wizarding world and in so doing, promote pure blood ideology. During the Dark Lord's rise to power, the Death Eaters have worked to accomplish this goal by infiltrating important organizations, such as the Ministry of Magic and the Daily Prophet, and generally by undermining order in the

¹⁵ "Tom Riddle." *Harry Potter Wiki*.

wizarding community. The Dark Lord also had supporters outside of the loyal Death Eaters, who helped pave the way for his rise to power and fight his enemies. The Death Eaters, however, remained his most faithful and trusted advisors, and were distinguished by the branding of a Dark Mark on their forearms.¹⁶

After his fall, many former Death Eaters claimed they were under the Imperius Curse during Voldemort's reign and attempted to reintegrate into the Wizarding world. Some felt this would be the most efficient means by which to facilitate the Dark Lord's return had he survived, yet many acted so out of cowardliness, revealing the names of fellow Death Eaters in order to gain amnesty from the Ministry. Other loyal followers attempted to glean the whereabouts of their fallen Master, earning themselves life sentences in Azkaban as a result.

When Voldemort regained his body, he summoned the Death Eaters using Wormtail's Dark Mark and was enraged at some of the absences in his

following. While he forgave them for not searching for him, the Dark Lord does not quickly forget insubordination. Following his rebirth, Voldemort orchestrated a mass breakout of Azkaban, releasing many of his most loyal supporters who had continued to pursue his mission despite his disappearance.

The Dark Lord has relied on the Death Eaters to prepare his way to return to power while he himself remained inconspicuous. He sent them to court giants and other magical creatures in order to recreate the army he amassed prior to his fall. He similarly charged them with retrieving the prophecy from the Department of Mysteries and was enraged when they failed to do so. Instead of learning the secret to destroying Harry Potter, Voldemort was forced to facilitate another breakout of Azkaban as a result of the incompetence of his followers.

The Dark Lord first convened this particular group of Death Eaters following the mass breakout of Azkaban. He selected you all based on your past proven loyalty, your accomplishments in the interests of advancing his cause, and your wizarding skills. The Dark Lord

¹⁶ The Dark Mark, in the shape of a skull with a snake protruding from its mouth, allows Lord Voldemort to communicate with his followers, for when he presses the Mark, it burns on the flesh of all the Death Eaters.

trusts you all to generate quickly but carefully specific courses of action he can follow. The committee has been gathering regularly at Lucius Malfoy's manor since Lord Voldemort returned to power. You all meet to discuss the concerns of the Dark Lord and his plans for rising to power once again. You will give him recommendations via the chair, his most trusted advisor, who will then communicate your suggestions to the Dark Lord.

Committee Composition

"How many will be brave enough to return when they feel [the Dark Mark on their arms turn black]? And how many will be foolish enough to stay away?"¹⁷

Lord Voldemort (Goblet of Fire)

The Death Eaters represented this weekend are those who have returned to the Dark Lord's side after his return in addition to those who have escaped from Azkaban following the debacle in the Department of Mysteries. The Dark Lord, however, does not take kindly to defection so those who failed to return

immediately must strive to prove their loyalty.

Alecto Carrow- sister to Amycus Carrow, Alecto is a short, stumpy woman. She, like her brother, believed Lord Voldemort was permanently defeated after his attack on Harry Potter

Amycus Carrow- Alecto's brother who shares her fondness for torture in addition to her short and stocky appearance

Antonin Dolohov- one of Lord Voldemort's oldest followers, Dolohov has stood by his side since his early rise to power. A loyal servant, Dolohov wreaked havoc among Voldemort's opponents, torturing Muggles and members of the Order and murdering Gideon and Fabian Prewett, Molly Weasley's brothers. He was ultimately imprisoned in Azkaban but escaped during the mass breakout at which time he returned to his master's side. Imprisoned again after the failure at the Department of Mysteries, he has been recently released.

¹⁷ *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, 560.

Augustus Rookwood- During Voldemort's initial reign, Rookwood worked in the Department of Mysteries and fed his master inside information on the goings on at the Ministry. He was, however, detained after former Death Eater Igor Karkaroff revealed his identity. He provided the Dark Lord with more accurate information than Avery concerning the prophecy but was captured during the debacle at the Department of Mysteries. He was released once again to return to his master's side.

Avery- the son of one of Lord Voldemort's schoolmates and an original member of the Death Eaters, Avery has a long family history of loyalty to the Dark Lord and his cause. Avery, however, renounced the Dark Lord, claiming he was under the Imperius Curse, and as such Voldemort tortured him upon his return. With his history of disloyalty, Avery must thus work to prove his worth in the Dark Lord's eyes. Furthermore, he provided Voldemort with incorrect information concerning the prophecy for which he was punished.

Bellatrix Lestrange- member of the noble Black family, Bellatrix is the cousin to Sirius Black, aunt to Nymphadora Tonks, and sister to Narcissa Malfoy. While married to Rodolphus Lestrange, she harbors a strong attachment and love for the Dark Lord, attracted by his power and malice. One of his most loyal supporters after his fall, she participated in the torture of Alice and Frank Longbottom in order to discover his whereabouts, an act for which she was imprisoned in Azkaban for 11 years. Released in the mass breakout, she returned directly to Lord Voldemort and participated in the attack on the Department of Mysteries where she killed her cousin, Sirius Black. She was able to escape the Ministry with Lord Voldemort.

Crabbe- while Crabbe returned upon the Dark Lord's rebirth, he made no attempt to find or help him to do so. He aided in the effort to secure the prophecy at the Department of Mysteries and was later released from Azkaban.

Fenrir Greyback- a werewolf with a lust for blood even when not phased, Greyback does not have a Dark Mark to

distinguish him as a true Death Eater.

He, however, has expressed loyalty to the Dark Lord and may prove useful in convincing his kind in addition to other half-breeds to join Voldemort.

Goyle- returned to Voldemort's side when he felt the Dark Mark at his rebirth but did not attempt to find his master after his disappearance.

Jugson- participated in the incursion in the Department of Mysteries, failing to retrieve the prophecy.

Lucius Malfoy- one of the wealthiest Death Eaters, Malfoy's power and influence in the wizarding world has proven useful for the Dark Lord. He did not seek to find Voldemort following his disappearance, suggesting that he would prove more useful to the Dark Lord if he maintained appearances. With connections at both Hogwarts and the Ministry, Malfoy helped to disguise Voldemort's return. The Dark Lord charged him with leading the effort to retrieve the prophecy from the Department of Mysteries and was enraged with his ineptitude upon his failure to do so.

Mulciber- sent to Azkaban following Voldemort's disappearance, Mulciber's proclivity for the Imperius Curse will prove useful in overtaking wizards upon Voldemort's return to power. Mulciber was one of Voldemort's earliest followers.

Nott- one of Voldemort's earliest Death Eaters, Nott helped the Dark Lord greatly in his rise to power. Along with Dolohov, Nott traveled with Voldemort to request a teaching position at Hogwarts from Dumbledore. He did not seek Voldemort after his disappearance but pledged his undying loyalty upon his return. Nott participated in the search for the prophecy in the Department of Mysteries, was injured in the process and subsequently arrested and sent to Azkaban.

Peter Pettigrew- friends with Order members Sirius Black, James Potter, and Remus Lupin, Pettigrew served as a spy for Voldemort during his early reign. Potter ultimately used Pettigrew as his Secret-Keeper and Pettigrew then revealed the location of the Potter home to Voldemort so he could kill Harry.

Pettigrew then framed Sirius Black for the Potters murder and his own, transforming himself into his rat form. Eventually learned of his master's spirit-like existence in the forests of Albania and returned to him to nurse him back to health. Pettigrew helped Voldemort to restore his body and was rewarded with a magically crafted and extremely powerful hand.

Rabastan Lestrage- brother of Rodolphus Lestrage, Rabastan was imprisoned in Azkaban for torturing the Longbottoms to determine Voldemort's location after his disappearance. He returned to Lord Voldemort immediately after his breakout but was detained once again in the Department of Mysteries.

Rodolphus Lestrage- husband of Bellatrix Lestrage and brother of Rabastan, Rodolphus worked with his wife and brother to attempt to find Voldemort after his fall. He met a similar fate and was imprisoned twice.

Travers- one of the Death Eaters who was sent to Azkaban following Voldemort's disappearance, Travers participated in the murder of the family

of Auror and member of the Order of the Phoenix, Marlene McKinnon.

Walden Macnair- After Voldemort's fall, worked as an executioner for the Committee for the Disposal of Dangerous Creatures at the Ministry of Magic. Macnair has a unique passion for torture and murder that will prove useful for the Dark Lord. He returned to his master's side upon feeling his Dark Mark burn after Voldemort's rebirth.

Yaxley- Yaxley is a prominent and useful Death Eater, as he has worked at the Ministry of Magic for some time.

***Severus Snape is not included in this committee or the Ministry of Magic. Please see closing remarks section for details.*

Topics

This committee is first and foremost a crisis committee, and as such the primary responsibility of delegates will be to respond to the actions of the Ministry of Magic. As a general overview, however, the Death Eaters will focus on securing Voldemort's

return to power by gaining control of the Muggle and Wizarding worlds and defeating Harry Potter. The ultimate objective will be to recreate the circumstances that allowed the Dark Lord to flourish during the Wizarding War while avoiding the mistakes that led to his downfall. The challenge of this committee will be in focusing on each topic in addition to developing crises simultaneously.

Topic 1: Muggle World

History of the Problem

One of the core tenets of Voldemort's ideology is that noble pureblood wizards are "Nature's Nobility," and consequently have a right and a duty to lead the rest of both the non-magic and magic worlds. The International Statute of Wizarding Secrecy, however, has governed the interaction between the two worlds, since 1692. The Statute, established by the International Confederation of Wizards, delegates to each wizarding governing body the responsibility of preventing Muggles from gaining knowledge of the Wizarding community

through measures like the control of magical creatures and regulation of underage practice of magic. The ICW originally crafted the Statute to protect wizards, for Muggles were taking advantage of their powers, attempting to learn their magic, forcing them to perform spells, or burning them at the stake for their abilities.

The Dark Lord despises the idea that wizards have been forced into hiding, forced to obey demeaning legislation like this Statute. He and his followers long for the day when pureblood wizards, old and young alike, can practice their craft openly, allowing them to gain true dominion over the non-magic world. They long to seek revenge for the persecution of witchcraft in the 1600s and force current Muggles to answer to the crimes of their ancestors.

Furthermore, control of the Muggle world remains essential to preventing the intermingling of Muggles and wizards, relationships that undermine blood purity and lead to the proliferation of mudbloods and half bloods. During his previous reign, Voldemort and the Death Eaters openly endorsed Muggle torture and murder. This policy was intended to and succeeded in ridding the world of

mudbloods while simultaneously destabilizing the Ministry of Magic as it attempted to maintain the secrecy of the Wizarding world.

altering public opinion and beliefs about the magical world; and

Solutions and Questions to Consider

Possible strategies for gaining control of the Muggle world include:

1. *Infiltrating high-level government offices by placing officials under the Imperius Curse or securing positions for Death Eaters-* this would give Death Eaters the opportunity to influence policies in the Muggle world and pave the way for wizarding control by influencing high-level leaders either through legislation or decrees. This would require a great deal of international cooperation;
2. *Using the media to influence popular opinion in the Muggle world-* this would help pave the way for wizard domination by slowly

3. *Work within the wizarding community to abolish muggle protection measures-* this would involve eliminating Ministry acts that protect muggles and laws that punish those who target muggles. This would have to be done subtly, so as not to seem like a drastic change in policy.

It is vital to note that this is neither an exhaustive nor a comprehensive list of strategies and either one of them will require a great deal more explication. Important things to consider in formulating a plot to gain control of the Muggle world include how to reveal the existence of magic without engaging Muggles in such a way as to harm wizards, how to create a precise strategy to combat Muggle leaders should they mount a defense, and fundamentally how to subject Muggles internationally.

Topic 2: The Wizarding World

History of the Problem

During his previous reign, Voldemort came very close to controlling the wizarding world through fear, coercion and violence. Despite his success, however, there remained resistance cells that undermined his authority and his plans for shaping the community. In order to dominate wholly the population of wizards this time, Voldemort must gain control of institutions of authority and influence, such as the Ministry of Magic and Hogwarts. Similarly, widespread control and influence in all aspects of wizarding society will allow the Dark Lord to gain followers and recruit others more effectively to his cause. This will allow Voldemort and his followers to begin to build a new Wizarding order and structure for society based around the supremacy of pure bloods.

In the past, Voldemort was successful in gaining access to the Ministry through the use of spies, such as Augustus Rookwood who relayed information from the Department of Mysteries and other officials, such as

Ludo Bagman, to the Dark Lord. Similarly, Lucius Malfoy used money to manipulate Ministry officials, developing close ties to the Minister himself, Cornelius Fudge. With the capture of many Death Eaters at the Department of Mysteries, however, it is not certain whether these tenuous relationships and connections will endure.

Additionally, Voldemort experienced difficulty in attempting to influence Hogwarts. With Dumbledore at the helm and a battery of magical protections surrounding the castle, Hogwarts is perhaps even more fortified than the Ministry itself. Yet control of Hogwarts is an essential stepping-stone to control of the wizarding world as a whole. In educating the next generation of wizards, the professors at Hogwarts hone and shape their beliefs and the ways in which they approach the wizarding world. With access to Hogwarts, the Dark Lord and his followers would have the power not only to rid mudbloods and half bloods from within its walls but also to change the curriculum so as to foster a new generation of willing and loyal followers to join their ranks.

Another way in which Voldemort worked to exercise influence over the wizarding world was by allying with and gaining the favor other magical creatures. During the last war, the Dark Lord managed to recruit the giants and werewolves to his side and doing so again would provide the needed manpower should the resistance insight a physical confrontation.

Solutions and Questions to Consider

Based on the successes and failures of the past war, possible strategies for gaining control of the wizarding world include:

1. *Using current sources inside the Ministry and planting more to undermine the governing body from within-* these plants can work to influence legislation and to subvert attempts to unite opposition to the Dark Lord. These individuals can also place ministry employees under the Imperius Curse in order to expand their influence. Any plants will have to be very adept

at deception to avoid their detection;

2. *Infiltrate the Daily Prophet-* As the Muggle world, the media serves as an important outlet for shaping public opinion and behavior. In order to gain influence, the Death Eaters must ensure the press is acting in their best interests, and this can only be done with a connection within the Prophet; and
3. *Remove Dumbledore from his post as Headmaster of Hogwarts-* The Hogwarts Headmaster plays a vital role in guiding the direction of the school's educational structure, disciplinary system, and as a result, the leanings of future generations of wizards. Dumbledore, however, stubbornly continues to resist the influence of the Dark Arts and is molding students like Harry Potter, who resist are resisting our cause.

4. *Court magical creatures to join the Death Eaters-* Useful creatures may include goblins, house elves, ghosts, centaurs, dementors, trolls, werewolves, and vampires. Wooing these beasts could prove difficult as to do so would entail both offering some of the freedoms and luxuries they have been denied by the traditional order in the wizarding world while also ensuring they remain subordinate to pureblood wizard rule. Their assistance could prove useful, however, in advancing our cause.

Regardless of what you decide to prioritize and how you decide to enact it, you must keep several things in mind. First, your strategies must be subtle; any brash action will unite the opposition against our cause and perhaps lead to our downfall. Your strategies should focus on recruiting more wizards to our cause and promoting pureblood ideology. Further, strategies should deal with the issue of Harry Potter and should focus on how to eliminate the Boy Who Lived as a threat.

Closing Remarks

"There is no good and evil. There is only power, and those too weak to seek it."¹⁸

Lord Voldemort (Philosopher's Stone)

Seeing as this committee is based on crises generated by VAMUN staff in addition to the actions of the Ministry of Magic, committee structure will be somewhat unconventional for a Model UN committee. It will proceed in the format of a permanent moderated caucus without a speaker's list and without selecting a specific topic for discussion.

As far as action to be taken within the committee, I will rely on a democratic process, for as a trusted advisor for the Dark Lord, I will only report suggestions to him that are mutually agreed upon by the rest of the Death Eaters. If individuals wish to take action as a group, they must submit a written "directive," so to speak to the chair at which time it will be introduced, discussed and voted upon. I will look favorably upon actions approved by a simple majority of the body but will exercise some discretion. With respect to individual action, you may deploy your

¹⁸ "Tom Riddle," *Harry Potter Wiki*.

assets and manipulate your individual connections as you see fit. At the conference, you will be provided with more detailed dossiers describing some of these capabilities you possess. In order to do this, however, you must send a note to the crisis staff that will either enact it and report back to you, or if it is impossible at the time, tell you thusly.

You will be asked to prepare a position paper for this committee, but as I suggested in the opening letter, avoid simple regurgitation of the background guide. I prefer a paper that is succinct and offers creative and innovative strategies about how Voldemort can gain power as opposed to long summaries of Voldemort's life. That said, you should provide some background on your position in addition to suggestions as to how Voldemort can overtake the Wizarding and Muggle worlds and eliminate Harry Potter.

In preparation for this committee, I ask that you are familiar with the Harry Potter novels although the committee will begin at the end of the fifth novel, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, so do not depend on or refer to any of the events that happen in the two subsequent books. The committee and

the crises will not follow these templates, so you should not either. As you may have noted, Severus Snape will not be represented in this committee, and he will not be present in the Ministry of Magic either. We ask that you simply assume he doesn't exist, as his presence in either committee may have proved prejudicial due to his role in the novels.

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