

CRISIS 2

*Advanced
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TOPIC: The Napoleonic Wars

CHAIRS: Jacob Goldberg, Flora Uslaner

LAIMUN XXIX

December 2-3

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LAIMUN XXIX

December 2-3

Letter from the Secretaries-General

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of our entire staff, it is our pleasure to welcome you to Session XXIX of the Los Angeles Invitational Model United Nations (LAIMUN) conference. LAIMUN XXIX will take place on Saturday, December 2 and Sunday, December 3 of 2023 at the Mira Costa High School (MCHS) campus.

Our staff, composed of over 120 MCHS students, has been working tirelessly to make your debate experience the best it can be. You will find your dais members to be knowledgeable about the issues being debated and MUN procedure. We pride ourselves in hosting a conference that is educational and engaging, and we hope you take advantage of that as you prepare and debate.

At LAIMUN, we value thorough research and preparation. We ask that delegates write position papers following [these directions](#). The deadline to submit position papers to be considered for Committee and Research Awards is Friday, November 24 at 11:59 PM PT. The deadline to submit to be considered for Committee Awards is Thursday, November 30 at 11:59 PM PT.

We also encourage all delegates to read the [LAIMUN Rules of Procedure](#) for conference-specific information and as a reminder of points and motions that can be made during committee.

Feel free to reach out to our staff with any questions or concerns you may have. Delegates can find their chairs' contact information next to their committee profile and the Secretariat's email addresses on the staff page. Any member of the LAIMUN staff will be happy to assist you.

We look forward to seeing you in December!

Sincerely,

Akash Mishra and Lily Stern
Secretaries-General, LAIMUN XXIX
secretarygeneral@mchsmun.org



Introduction to the USG

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to LAIMUN XXIX! I am Abby Simmons, your Crisis Under Secretary General, and with the help of Elliott Laffoon, the Crisis Director, we will be putting on this debate. We are both seniors here at Mira Costa and spent a lot of time researching these topics, so I can not wait to see what y'all have in store for debate!

This topic is incredibly relevant now as more countries focus on expanding influence and power at the expense of the nations around it. I urge you to fully commit to your character's policy to further expand your thinking. I hope that you will get as much out of this experience as possible and while I am committed to running a professional conference and expect our delegates to prioritize diplomacy, that should not hold you back from enjoying spirited debate in each committee. Our chairs intend to hold all delegates to high standards of research, solutions, speech, and diplomacy. With regard to directives, we have a strict no pre-written policy so all work must be created following the start of the first committee session.

If you have any questions, procedural or otherwise, you may direct them to crisis@mchsmun.org. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any inquiries or concerns. We understand the unique nature of a crisis debate, and would be thrilled to go into further detail regarding those exclusive caveats of procedure or additional explanations of your characters and their role within the storylines of our committees.

I can't wait to see what you have in store for December!

Best,

Abby Simmons
Crisis Under-Secretary General

Introduction to the Dias

Hello Delegates!

My name is Jacob Goldberg and I will be your co-chair along with Flora for The Napoleonic Wars. I am a Senior and have been a part of Mira Costa's Model UN program since I was a freshman. Model UN has taught me a lot about public speaking, working with others, and current events. I've gone through a lot in MUN as most conferences were online when I was a freshman and we were required to wear masks when I was a sophomore, but now that we're back to normal, I hope to see some enthusiasm from the delegates.

Outside of MUN, I am a captain on the varsity football team at Mira Costa, and I love to surf. If you've played or seen Costa Football before, I'm number 31 and I play middle linebacker and running back. Despite how time consuming football is, I try to surf occasionally to sustain my non-existent surfing skills. I've also played piano for 9 years and I enjoy playing piano after a long day of school to relax. Although tons of homework stops me from playing piano as much as I would like, I still try to practice and learn new songs as much as I can.

In The Napoleonic Wars Crisis Committee, I would like to see unique directives and creative solutions that are consistent with one's character. I hope that everybody is enthusiastic about their cause because millions of lives are at stake, and each action can have massive consequences. With in-depth and creative solutions, the debate will stay interesting and everyone will add substance. I know you all can do it, see you in debate!

– Jacob Goldberg

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Hello delegates!

My name is Flora Uslaner, and I will be co-chairing for the Napoleonic Wars crisis advanced at LAIMUN XXIX! I am in my Junior year at Mira Costa and have been involved in Model UN for five years now--two in middle school and three in high school. I have done several local conferences and have served as a legal freshman year for the General Assembly and as a backroom staffer for crisis my Sophomore year.

Outside of MUN, I am involved in photography, Link Crew, and tennis at my school. For photography, I am currently doing a variety of different social projects and individual projects to further my passions for photography and Model UN synchronously. During April through June of 2023, I was one of sixteen teen photographers from around LA selected for the Getty Unshuttered program to work collaboratively with mentors to create a photo portfolio.

I am so excited for you all to participate as characters in the Napoleonic War crisis! There is a wide variety of directions in which this committee can go but make sure to have a clear focus on your character's personal goals. Ensure that when you are researching, as well, focus on aligning your policy with the concurrent problems that are happening during the time period. Note that you can individually make decisions for your character as the flow of the committee diverts from the original history of the Napoleonic Wars, but make sure it is realistic to your character and their views of Napoleon. Reach out to us at @crisis2.laimun.xxix@gmail.com with any questions you may have pertaining to the date and we cannot wait to see you!

– Flora Uslaner

Committee Description

Welcome delegates! In this crisis committee we will be exploring a plethora of issues which have arisen after a French loss at the Battle of Trafalgar. Set in 1805, delegates will be placed in the middle of a period of shifting borders and confusion. Amidst the uncertainty, Napoleon and his cabinet have the opportunity to reorganize domestic affairs in France, as the French populace have become disenchanted with the ideals of the French revolution. In addition to cleaning up domestic affairs, the French will be able to look beyond their border in hopes of possibly expanding into the territory of neighboring European powers such as Austria and Britain. Delegates will assume the roles of powerful French statesmen, brilliant intellectuals, and military officials who will both collaborate and clash with one another as they vie for power in France. Delegates will differ in policy and each character will have the capacity to take actions that reflect their character's policy in order to create a new future for France.

Topic: Napoleonic Wars

Background:

The Napoleonic Wars were a series of battles that took place during Napoleon Bonaparte's rule over France from 1805 until 1815.¹ Napoleon Bonaparte came into power in France at the tail end of the French Revolution after overthrowing the French Directory government in the Coup of 18th Brumaire--according to the French Revolutionary calendar--and replacing it with the French Consulate. By overthrowing the Directory, Napoleon simply replaced the Jacobin club's dictatorship with his own dictatorship, as he elected himself consul for life in 1802 and made himself Emperor of France in 1804. To elect himself, Napoleon held a plebiscite to become consul, which many people believed to be rigged, and won by a landslide.² Furthermore, Napoleon claimed that there were plots to overthrow the French Republic and return to the Bourbon monarchy so he could hold another plebiscite and crown himself as the Emperor of France. Napoleon constantly used these tactics so he could gain more power while maintaining popularity and support for his goals.

After gaining an immense amount of power, Napoleon codified the law by implementing the Napoleonic Code, which completely reformed French society. The Napoleonic Code embodied the ideals of the French Revolution and called for equality under the eyes of the law. This subjected everybody to the same laws and taxes, which was a complete shift from the rigid

¹ www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Napoleonic_Wars

² www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Napoleonic_Wars

social hierarchy in France before the revolution. Other reforms that were made include freedom of religion, freedom of profession, an improved education system, popular sovereignty, and more. This is extremely significant as it completely changed France on every level and ushered in systems that would continue to be used for centuries. For example, the Napoleonic Code eliminated France's previous guild system and created rules that fostered an environment of economic growth and capitalist market policy. Furthermore, the Napoleonic Code was implemented in countries that France took over, so many foreign people that agreed with it supported France and its efforts.³

The French Revolution and the ideas that came from it were very detrimental to other European powers as it greatly affected the balance of power. The first attempt by other European powers to take down the French Republic came in 1792 when the First Coalition, which was composed of Austria, Piedmont, Naples, Prussia, Spain, and Great Britain, attempted to invade France. However, due to mass conscription and a total war effort, France defeated the First Coalition, and Napoleon, who was still a general at the time, negotiated a peace treaty at the Treaty of Campo Formio.⁴

The Second Coalition was composed of Austria, Great Britain, Naples, the Ottoman Empire, the Papal States, Portugal, and Russia, and was formed in 1798. The French Republic's battles with the Second Coalition were extremely detrimental to the country as the coalition was restored, France was unorganized under the corrupt Directory, and France was missing important

³ www.history.com/this-day-in-history/napoleonic-code-approved-in-france

⁴ www.cs.mcgill.ca/~rwest/wikispeedia/wpcd/wp/n/Napoleonic_Wars.htm

military leadership. However, the war turned around for France when Napoleon took control of the French government and revamped the war effort. By reorganizing the French military, revising strategies, and catching enemies off guard, Napoleon was able to start to win battles.

The French land militia was one of the most expansive and modern militaries in Europe during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Napoleon Bonaparte rose to great power as a respected military officer during the French Revolution and gained the support of allies in the French Directory.⁵ With his title of First Consul, Napoleon gained more control on an autocratic level and was able to centralize power under his authority.⁶ This title of the First Consul avoided the controversy of calling himself a monarch, but it practically gave him all the responsibilities and control of one. Through the Napoleonic Wars, we see how Napoleon used a set of wars to attempt to consolidate all this power under France.⁷ Bonaparte himself was extremely ambitious compared to past Consulates. Before becoming First Consul, Napoleon had created a web of alliances by marrying off several of his relatives to royalty in other countries that surrounded France. This was strategic for the Bonapartes, as these alliances created safety nets for Napoleon's desires for France's European domination. He even annulled the marriage with his first wife, Josephine de Beauharnais⁸, in 1809 for the Archduchess Marie Louise of Austria.⁹ Once Napoleon got exiled to the island of Elba at the end of the series of

⁵ <https://access.historyhit.com/videos/the-battle-of-traffic>

⁶ <https://www.ngv.vic.gov.au/napoleon/revolution-to-empire/the-rise-of-traffic.html>

⁷ <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-hccc-worldhistory2/chapter/napoleons-government/>

⁸ <https://en.chateauversailles.fr/discover/history/great-characters/josephine-beauharnais>

⁹ <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-hccc-worldhistory2/chapter/napoleons-marriage-to-marie-louise/>

wars through the Treaty of Fontainebleau, she moved on from Napoleon and married Adam Albert von Neipperg.¹⁰

This resolution between Napoleon and the leaders of Austria, Russia, and Prussia Napoleon was attached to the mentality of domination of the entirety of Europe and followed the mindset that the resolution's terms would create a sense of unity and purity within Europe. In the initial stages and battles, Napoleon was able to dominate in the Battle of Pyramids on July 21, 1798.¹¹ He showed his land militia supremacy and conquered Cairo, Egypt. He used the tactic of the divisional square during the First Coalition. This was a precursor battle that startled other larger powers, as it showed how Bonaparte was a powerful force.¹² In the subsequent Battle of Marengo on June 14, 1800,¹³ France's 28,000-men army battled an Austrian troop of 31,000 militiamen. Centered in Paris, France, Napoleon secured a close victory during this battle in the War of the Second Coalition. This was another victory for France, which intimidated larger powers and intensified during the Battle of Trafalgar on October 21, 1805. France and Great Britain had strained relations, as France had been trying to take their power for several years. Spain at the time was an ally of the French following the Treaty of San Ildefonso from 1800. This union was an effort to crush their combined enemy of Great Britain.¹⁴ Great Britain was prosperous in exporting goods from the triangular trade and from other nations---their economy

¹⁰ <https://shannonselin.com/2015/01/adam-albert-von-neipperg/>

¹¹ <https://www.historyhit.com/key-battles-in-the-napoleonic-wars/>

¹² <https://study.com/learn/lesson/napoleon-bonaparte-empire-early-reforms.html>

¹³ <https://www.historyhit.com/key-battles-in-the-napoleonic-wars/>

¹⁴ <https://64parishes.org/entry/third-treaty-of-san-ildefonso>

was focused on trade. France was aware of Great Britain's advantage and began the Continental Blockade, which was a large-scale embargo on all trade from Great Britain to France between 1807 to 1811.¹⁵

Another significant battle during the Napoleonic Wars was the Peninsular War, which lasted from 1807 to 1814.¹⁶ Despite being strictly established by the French, the Continental Blockade had major economic ramifications for all other countries, as Great Britain was an important commercial trading ally.¹⁷ Napoleon's French soldiers invaded the Iberian Peninsula through Spain due to Portugal's resistance to following the Continental Blockade. Napoleon saw Portugal's continued investment with Great Britain as a major foil to his plan to decimate the British economy, as continued trade with other large parties such as Portugal would cause the embargo to have the reverse desired effect and cause economic depression in France.¹⁸ King Charles IV of Spain allowed for their ally France to go through Spain to acquire the capital Lisbon, Portugal in 1807. Charles IV was a very unstable leader and was soon overthrown by his own son for the crown, King Ferdinand VII of Spain in 1808. Strategically, Napoleon forcibly removed the weak Ferdinand for his brother Joseph as King of Spain, so France's invasion became powerful. The fighting consisted primarily of Spanish, Portuguese, and British militia against the French. The Spanish revolted against the invading force, yet due to Joseph's pacifism,

¹⁵ <https://www.britannica.com/event/Napoleonic-Wars/The-Continental-System-and-the-blockade-1807-11>

¹⁶ <https://www.britannica.com/event/Peninsular-War>

¹⁷ <https://www.britannica.com/event/Continental-System>

¹⁸ <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/e/embargo.asp>

they were defeated at Bailen, Spain. The Spanish called for 14,000¹⁹ men from Great Britain and subsequently, defeated a small French force near the French-invaded Lisbon.

The Treaty of Fontainebleau suspended the War of the Sixth Coalition from 1812 to 1814²⁰--another period of battles within the Napoleonic Wars--and exiled Napoleon to the island of Elba to live his life in solitude. Napoleon was able to escape from this island and return to France. He was finally defeated by the coalition of forces in the Battle of Waterloo. Napoleon was then forced to sign the Treaties of Paris from 1814 to 1815 with France and the Allies of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, Russia, Sweden, and Portugal--and later with Spain.²¹

The Napoleonic Wars concluded in high tensions between France and major allies, as Napoleon's attempt at European domination came to an end.²² Louis XVII from the Bourbon Monarchy was then installed as the King of France in 1814 and established a conservative-style government.²³

II. Current Situation

Two ships were spotted this morning at 6:00 AM on October 21, 1805 off the coast of Cape Trafalgar. Admiral Horatio Nelson, one of the most respected naval commanders of the century, alerts British ships to "prepare for battle." These two ships were not of much surprise to the British militia, for their masts and large frames were clearly the ships of Napoleonic France

¹⁹ <https://www.nam.ac.uk/explore/peninsular-war>

²⁰ <https://social.vcoins.com/twih/the-treaty-of-fontainebleau-april-11-1814-r321/>

²¹ <https://www.britannica.com/event/Treaties-of-Paris-1814-1815>

²² <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-hccc-worldhistory2/chapter/france-after-1815/>

²³ <https://byjus.com/ias-questions/what-happened-in-france-after-napoleon/>

and Spain. These ships took orders from Admiral Pierre de Villeneuve.²⁴ Suddenly, a loud, audible gasp emerges from HMS Victory.²⁵ Admiral Nelson, pacing around the quarterdeck of the ship, talking with Captain Thomas Hardy, takes a fatal blow to the chest from a French Sniper at around 1:15 PM and dies at around 4:30 PM due to severe wounds. The battle intensifies and continues until 6:45 PM, when the French ship Achille is destroyed. With the loss of 19 Spanish and French ships, and no British ships lost, the winner of the battle is clear: the British. British naval supremacy is clearly demonstrated, and Napoleonic France is disheartened by this reality. The British had come with a vengeance to defeat their greatest enemy of France and made their power dominant towards the ambitious ruler. Angered, Napoleon requests a removal of all ships in Cape Trafalgar and requests a month to collaborate with current navy admirals and heads of the militaries. With a total of 4,408 Spanish and French dead and 6,953 wounded,²⁶ the French failed in their effort to invade Great Britain. France's navy was no match for the powerful and better-equipped British navy and was crushed by their opponents in a swift defeat. This contained Napoleon's naval power and showed British supremacy at sea. This battle also is the reason why Napoleon is unable to invade England and conquer territory.²⁷

The day is October 22, 1805, and the Battle of Trafalgar has ended in French ruin. Napoleon now must figure out with his cabinet what to do about the fatal loss and how to re-strategize to conquer more of Europe. The British are conspiring after their large win to plan

²⁴ <https://www.britannica.com/event/Battle-of-Trafalgar-European-history>

²⁵ <https://www.rmg.co.uk/stories/topics/what-were-nelsons-last-words>

²⁶ <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nelson/gallery7/trafalgar.htm>

²⁷ <https://www.britannica.com/event/Battle-of-Trafalgar-European-history>

for the possible continuation of Napoleon's attempt to conquer all of Europe. Napoleon's right hand men must ensure that they can trust Napoleon's leadership too, for the loss at Trafalgar was a major setback in the French public's confidence in Bonaparte. During this period, there is also great uncertainty from major countries about Napoleon's next invasions and whether his allies are able to trust his actions. He had shown massive shifts in his campaign through establishing the Napoleonic Code as well as deeming himself First Consul. Many allies such as Spain under the ruling of Charles IV show concern for France's prosperity, but also for how these aggressions towards Great Britain will affect how the masses support leaders like Charles.

France is also seeing several disputes domestically over these large and fatal wars. Many civilians in France were enlisted to serve and came back disfigured or not at all. Napoleon is avoiding communication with the public because of personal discrepancies with the deaths caused during battle, but his avoidance cannot remain unresolved forever. These concerns domestically have also caused individuals in France to publish documents against Napoleon through the use of the Gutenberg printing press. However, unfortunate for the publishers, there have been reports of Napoleon having a secret police force that has been burning what his cabinet deems malicious or treasonous out in the streets of Paris. These violent attempts at overstepping against Napoleon's reign are no match for Bonaparte.

III. Topics to Consider

A. Maintaining the Balance of Power

Napoleon's ambitious goal of conquering as much of Europe as possible severely disrupted the balance of power and angered opposing countries. Prior to the Napoleonic Wars, a

small group of extremely powerful countries, including France, Prussia, Austria, Britain, and Russia, had significant control over Europe and established order.²⁸ However, Napoleon's advanced military tactics led to an enormous amount of military success, which came at the expense of other European nations. This is illustrated by the enormous coalitions that were made to stop Napoleon and his success on the battlefield. Seven coalitions composed of numerous European nations were formed to defeat Napoleon, and Napoleon's defeat was brought about by the combined efforts of all the European powers. The committee should consider how each alliance and political initiative affects the balance of power and how that might affect each character's country.

Napoleon's territorial gains significantly weakened the other European powers, which greatly tipped the balance of power. Napoleon's military victories allowed him to form satellite states, which worked to improve Napoleon's military strategies and serve as an outlet for Napoleon's ideas to spread. With new ideas and rules being forced upon millions of people across Europe, many nationalist movements formed.²⁹ Nationalism also greatly affected the balance of power because these resistance movements were often times against autocratic rule, which was extremely prevalent in Europe at the time. The committee should consider how the second-hand effects of Napoleon's military aggression affect the balance of power and how that might affect each character's country.

B. Domestic Resistance to Napoleon

²⁸ www.pbs.org/empires/napoleon/n_politic/people/page_2.html

²⁹ <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-hccc-worldhistory2/chapter/napoleons-government>

With controversial decisions being made every day by Napoleon, he accumulated massive resistance. This resistance was composed of many different types of people, who disliked Napoleon for various reasons. Within France, there was a large group of royalists who wanted the monarchy to be restored. These royalists saw Napoleon as someone who disrupted the order within France and wished to reestablish their traditional regimes. There were also groups of intellectuals, political thinkers, and liberals that opposed Napoleon.³⁰ They felt as if the progress done by the French Revolution was being destroyed by Napoleon, who ruled autocratically. In the territories ruled by France, there were a large number of nationalist movements popping up that sought to achieve self-determination and protect their national identity. The committee should consider how domestic resistance to Napoleon affects them and how it can be used to gain an advantage.

The massive amount of groups opposing Napoleon began to be used militarily as a number of quasi-wars popped up across Europe.³¹ Countries such as Britain, Prussia, Russia, Austria, and Sweden funded opposition groups in order to gain an advantage in the war. This was especially seen with Spanish and Portuguese guerrillas as these groups significantly benefited from the support of other countries. The supplies, funds, and military support given by numerous countries to opposition groups significantly weakened Napoleon and his empire. Each character in the committee should consider how they can work with opposition groups to gain an advantage in the war.

³⁰ www.napoleon-empire.net/en/first-empire-domestic-politics.php

³¹ <https://pressbooks.nsc.ca/worldhistory/chapter/chapter-4-the-politics-of-the-nineteenth-century/>

C. Rapidly Spreading Liberal Ideas

Napoleon is known for spreading numerous liberal ideas that quickly spread all around Europe. Napoleon's Napoleonic Code emphasized principles of equality before the law, protection of private property, and protection of various rights.³² Furthermore, Napoleon made various meritocracy, administrative, and educational reforms, and reshaped the government to make it as efficient as possible. As the Napoleonic Code and other reforms were implemented in several territories that Napoleon captured, these liberal ideas spread rapidly and greatly disrupted many traditional and conservative people.³³ Extremely powerful people across Europe despised the call for rights and equality and worked to stop the spread of these ideas. Furthermore, conquered territories where these codes and reforms were implemented generated resistance to them as many people felt that these ideas were foreign impositions and that they should return to traditional institutions. However, while these ideas generated resistance, they also adapted current ideas and inspired new ones. Other countries looking to modernize and introduce liberal changes used these ideas to create new reforms that incorporated various elements of Napoleon's political ideals. Each character in the committee should consider their view on these ideas and how the spread of them is affecting them. Furthermore, each character should consider how they can interact with these ideas to benefit them and their agenda.

III. Guiding Questions

³² <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/napoleonic-code-approved-in-france>

³³ www.pbs.org/empires/napoleon/n_politic/people/page_2.html

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1. Is your character loyal to a certain country or group? Or do they have the mobility to make decisions that benefit them instead of a larger body?
2. What are your character's political beliefs--ie. more conservative and traditional or liberal? Do their political beliefs affect their relationship with other people/groups?
3. How does the balance of power affect your character? Does your character want to maintain or tip the balance of power? Why is the balance of power significant and is it truly beneficial for Europe?

IV. Character Profiles

Jean-Jacques de Cambacérés

During the Napoleonic era, Jean-Jacques-Régis de Cambaceres, also known as Jean-Jacques de Cambaceres, was a well-known French statesman and legal authority. He was born in Montpellier, France, on October 18, 1753. Under Napoleon Bonaparte, Cambacérés was a critical player in the political and judicial management of France. Despite not playing a direct military role, he made a considerable impact on the Napoleonic Wars' government and legal system. After the coup that toppled the Directory government in 1799, Cambacérés was appointed as one of Napoleon Bonaparte's three consuls. He was instrumental in the creation of the Napoleonic Code. Cambacérés was named the Arch-Chancellor of the Empire in 1804, the year Napoleon proclaimed himself Emperor of the French. He was in charge of directing the legal and judicial operations of the French Empire in this capacity. He oversaw the Council of State and was instrumental in establishing legal guidelines and seeing that the Napoleonic Code was carried out. During the Napoleonic Wars, Cambacérés participated in diplomatic discussions and the writing of treaties. The Treaty of Amiens, which put a temporary halt to hostilities between France and Great Britain in 1802, was negotiated with his participation. Although Jean-Jacques de Cambacérés played no direct role in the Napoleonic Wars, his impact as a statesman and legal expert was significant in influencing the legal system and government of France at the time. His engagement in law and diplomacy, as well as his work on the Napoleonic code, had a big impact on how the French Empire was run during the wars.

Charles-Maurice de Talleyrand-Perigord

During the Napoleonic era, Charles-Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord is a well-known French diplomat and statesman. He was born on February 2nd, 1754, in Paris, France. Talleyrand is currently serving as Napoleon Bonaparte's minister of foreign affairs. He is in charge of formulating French foreign policy and leading diplomatic discussions in this role. Talleyrand negotiated alliances and treated them while promoting French interests. He also negotiated the political landscape of Europe. He is instrumental in securing territorial gains for France and preserving the balance of power in Europe during the peace talks with Austria, Russia, and Prussia. Talleyrand also backed Napoleon's deployment of the continental system, a trade embargo intended to isolate Britain. Talleyrand contributed to the development and implementation of the Continental System despite its limited success. Talleyrand is an incredibly influential diplomat and plays a large part in the political and governmental side of the Napoleonic wars.

Charles-François Lebrun, duc de Plaisance

Charles-François Lebrun, duc de Plaisance, was a prominent figure during the French Revolution and the Napoleonic era. He was born on March 19, 1739, in Saint-Sauveur-Lendelin, France. Lebrun is best known for his political career, serving as 67th statesman, diplomat, and administrator. Lebrun began his political journey in the French Parlement, an advisory body, before the Revolution. However, he embraced the revolutionary ideas and became a member of the National Convention in 1792. During this time, he supported the trial and execution of King

Louis XVI, serving as treasurer of Napoleon's Empire for 10 years, from 1804-1814. He also played a significant role in drafting the French Constitution of 1795 and was appointed to the Directory, the executive branch of the government.

Joachim Murat

Joachim Murat was a prominent military general and political figure during the French Revolution and the Napoleonic era. He was born on March 25, 1767, in La Bastide-Fortunière, France. Murat is best known for his military prowess, his role as a Marshal of France under Napoleon Bonaparte, Napoleon appreciated his service. Murat desired to modernize the administration and legal system of France. As king, Murat wished to implement various reforms, modernizing the administration and legal system of Naples. He also pursued an ambitious foreign policy, aiming to expand his kingdom's territory and influence in Italy.

Marshal Jean Lannes

Marshal Jean Lannes was a celebrated military commander during the French Revolution and the Napoleonic era. He was born on April 10, 1769, in Lectoure, France. Lannes is remembered for his exceptional skills on the battlefield, his unwavering loyalty to Napoleon Bonaparte, and his contributions to numerous military campaigns. When Napoleon seized power in 1799, Lannes became one of his most trusted and loyal marshals. He played a crucial role in Napoleon's early victories, including the Battle of Marengo in 1800, where his decisive actions contributed to the French triumph.

General Christophe Duroc

General Christophe Duroc was a general during the French Revolutionary Wars also known as the Napoleonic Wars. Duroc was an acquaintance and aide of Napoleon who was additionally the 1st Duke of Frioul, and a Grand Marshal of the palace, after being promoted by Napoleon himself. Duroc lived from October of 1772, to May of 1813, where he died in battle. Duroc was in charge of Napoleon's personalized safety and well being, as he helped control the imperial family.

General Jean-Andoche Junot

General Jean-Andoche Junot, was born in September 1771. The general is most currently known as being a secretary in general for Napoleon, when they first met during a siege in 1793. Being a military officer during the Napoleonic as well as the French revolutionary wars, Junot, received and earned many honorary roles.

Charles Tristan

The Count of Montholon refers to Charles Tristan, Marquis de Montholon-Sémonville, a French diplomat and military officer. He served as a trusted aide and confidant to Napoleon Bonaparte during his exile on the island of Saint Helena. Known for his loyalty and dedication, Montholon played a significant role in Napoleon's daily life, assisting with administrative matters and providing companionship.

Lucien Bonaparte

Lucien Bonaparte, the younger brother of Napoleon Bonaparte and French statesman, played a significant role in the French Revolution and, later on, the Napoleonic Era. He participated in the Coup of 28 Brumaire, allowing Napoleon to rise to power as the First Consul. Lucien Bonaparte also served as the Minister of the Interior and oversaw the Council of Five Hundred during the French Revolution. Despite having a steady relationship with his brother, Napoleon Bonaparte, Lucien disagreed with many of his decisions, including Napoleon's desire to become Emperor of France, and as a result of this, he was forced to spend time in exile. Lucien had an astute interest in the arts and patronized many artists and writers including Andre Chenier.

Louis-Alexandre Berthier

Louis-Alexandre Berthier had a distinguished military career, rising to prominence during the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Era, serving as a French military officer and Marshal of the First French Empire. Berthier served as Napoleon Bonaparte's chief of staff, playing key roles in planning and executing many of the military strategies used during this period. He participated in major battles including the Battle of Marengo in 1800, and he also contributed heavily to the French occupation of Egypt. Berthier accompanied Napoleon during his exile in Elba, however, his loyalty wavered during the Hundred Days period in 1815.

Martin-Michel Charles Gaudin

Martin-Michel-Charles Gaudin, a French statesman and economist (1756-1841), is currently serving as Napoleon Bonaparte's Minister of Finance. Gaudin played a vital role in stabilizing France's economy through financial reforms, such as tax collection streamlining, treasury system modernization, and budgetary process improvements. Additionally, he held various administrative positions, including Minister of the Interior and Minister of State, contributing to the establishment and maintenance of Napoleon's centralized governance. Gaudin's influence extended beyond Napoleon's reign.

Joseph Fouche

Joseph Fouche was a French statesman and politician, who played a significant role in the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Era. He initially supported the French Revolution and became a prominent figure in the Jacobin Club, however, after the fall of Maximilien Robespierre, Fouche adapted to the changing political scene. He was able to serve under varying regimes, such as the Directory, the Consulate, and the Napoleonic Empire. He served as the Minister of Police under both Napoleon Bonaparte and Louis XVIII, allowing him to maintain internal security during the Napoleonic Era. Fouche faced moderate scrutiny for his past connections to the Bourbon Restoration and was briefly exiled, however, he was able to return to France and engage in political activities shortly after. In 1799, Fouche became minister of police and organized a secret police force within France, however, in 1802, after making efforts to prevent the Senate from making Napoleon Bonaparte consul for life, his ministry was suppressed. His departure from this department caused disorganization within the police force,

however, after his support for the Senate's proclamation of the empire, his ministry was reestablished.

Hugues-Bernard Maret

Hugues-Bernard Maret, also known as Duc de Bassano, was a prominent French statesman and diplomat during the Napoleonic era. He was born on May 1, 1763, in Dijon, France. Maret is renowned for his long-standing service as Napoleon Bonaparte's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and his contributions to French diplomacy. In 1799, with Napoleon's rise to power, Maret rejoined the political scene and became a trusted advisor to the Emperor. He was appointed as the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in 1804, a position he held for over a decade. As Napoleon's chief diplomat, Maret played a crucial role in negotiating treaties, managing alliances, and conducting diplomacy on behalf of the French Empire.

Joseph Fesch

Joseph Fesch was Born in Corsica, and became of great prominence in France after Napoleon's takeover in 1799. Joseph had great roles as a French Creek priest, as he became an archbishop, then a cardinal, and an ambassador to the Holy See. He also had a few political roles as a French senator in 1805, and was prince of France in 1807, as he was a half brother of Napoleon's mother.

Gaspard Monge

Gaspard Monge was a French mathematician. Monge is most known for being the inventor of descriptive geometry as the mathematical basis of technical drawing. He was born in Beaune, France on May 9th 1746. Monge's contributions are most recognized in the descriptive geometry subfield of mathematics, which deals with the representation of three-dimensional objects on two-dimensional surfaces. Monge made noteworthy contributions as an engineer and scientist throughout the Napoleonic wars. He was appointed by the French revolutionary government to be the Minister of the Marine in 1792. In this field, Monge was in charge of expanding and modernizing the French navy. He has made numerous contributions to naval engineering, including the creation of new naval academies and ship designs. Monge made a huge contribution to the improvement of French artillery as well. Monge utilized mathematical techniques to calculate and predict the trajectory of artillery projectiles. He created artillery schools as well where the goal was to train and produce skilled artillery personnel. His contributions to ballistics and artillery were crucial in boosting the French military's strategic and offensive prowess during the wars. Monge made friends with Napoleon Bonaparte while he was in Italy, which was very significant with his involvement in the wars. The pact of Campo Formio, which Napoleon signed on October 17, 1797, after defeating Austria, was a very advantageous pact for France because it preserved the majority of its gains. The Campo Formio treaty's text was carried back to Paris by Monge. Gaspard Monge's contributions to physics and engineering and his application of mathematical ideas to the military were crucial to the Napoleonic wars.

Francois Joseph Lefebvre

Francois Joseph Lefebvre was born in October of 1755, and rose to become more prominent as a military commander during the Napoleonic wars. After becoming injured as a sergeant, he enlisted in the National Guard, but was later promoted to a higher general position. Famously, after supporting Napoleon with troops during his takeover, Napoleon appointed him a senator.

Jean Baptiste Jourdan

Jean Baptiste Jourdan was a French military commander who rose through the ranks of the French army, becoming well-known for his leadership abilities and strategic skillset. He played a significant role in the French Revolution, commanding armies in several major campaigns such as the Battle of Fleurus in 1794, and was instrumental in the successful French invasion of the Netherlands. Jourdan also played a significant role during the Napoleonic Era, commanding the Army of Danube. Despite facing defeats in the battles of Stockach and Wurzburg, Jean Baptiste Jourdan was able to remain a respected figure in the French military, serving as Minister of War under the Directory and later under Napoleon's Consulate and Empire.

Joseph Bonaparte

Joseph Bonaparte, the older brother of Napoleon Bonaparte (1768-1844), was a French diplomat and statesman who became King of Naples and later King of Spain. He supported

Napoleon during the French Revolution, serving as a diplomat and negotiator. As King of Naples, Joseph implemented reforms and modernization initiatives. However, his most notable role was as King of Spain during the Peninsular War, where he faced strong resistance from Spanish nationalists. Despite his attempts at reforms, Joseph's rule was met with guerilla warfare and opposition.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821) was a French military and political leader who rose to prominence during the French Revolution and became Emperor of the French. His military career was characterized by impressive victories and strategic brilliance, leading to his ascent as a general and later Emperor. Napoleon implemented the Napoleonic Code, a set of domestic reforms aimed at modernizing the legal system and promoting equality. He centralized administrative structures, introduced educational reforms, and fostered economic development. Through military campaigns, he expanded the French Empire across Europe. He exiled twice in his lifetime, once to the island of Elba and later to the island of Saint Helena.

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