



### NORTH KOREAN CRISIS EXACERBATED BY US

SARAH FLOWERS

As the food shortage in North Korea grows to become a national crisis, protests have spread throughout the republic. Protests are reported to have turned violent, and the republic seemed to be on the verge of collapse as thousands turned out to protest the growing famine. In an attempt to control the rioters – some of whom have managed to take over entire towns – the North Korean military turned out in full force, killing hundreds of people and arresting thousands more.

The crisis turned international when it was discovered that forty-seven of the protestors are current members of the American Special Forces. While the American government refuses to comment, Major Leroy Jenkins of the First Special Forces (Operation Detachment, Delta) made the following statement: “We were instructed by the highest authority – the United States government – to help and support the revolution against the Democratic Republic of Korea. We were fully implicated in this plot against North Korean sovereignty and it is completely the fault of the American government. We take full responsibility.”

In retaliation, the government of North Korea called the American involvement in the attempted revolution “an affront to national sovereignty



everywhere”, leaving South Korea fearing that their northern neighbor will seek revenge for the incident. The south’s fears were confirmed as shells began to rain down on the South Korean capital of Seoul shortly after the American Special Forces revealed the involvement (of the American government) in the revolutionary plot.

Across the globe, nations are aligning themselves and taking a stand in response to the crisis. China has made the statement that the People’s Republic of China “will not hesitate to defend North Korea” if the nation is threatened by American aggression. As the crisis continues to develop, the world’s eye is turned to the Security Council to see how delegates will attempt to solve this global predicament.

### DETERMINING RIGHTS OF JOURNALISTS

KIM LEWIS



Thursday in the Human Rights Council the delegates quickly turned to the topic of the Rights of Foreign Journalists and Aid Workers. This topic was narrowed down even more to the topic of Journalists rights in foreign countries. A popular view on these reporters was that they provide accurate helpful information about otherwise unknown problems in third-world or deceitful countries. A common country that had the finger pointed at them for restriction of information was the Russian Federation. The sore spot of Stalin and Lenin was brought up a few times. Another controversial country was the United States of America; the U.S.A. delegate was very vocal about the USA’s beliefs on the subject of foreign press. Many country’s delegates believed that the country that dispatched the reporters should protect the reporters. There was however a problem addressed with this theory by Egypt saying sending troops with reporters could be called an “invasion of

sovereignty” especially if the journalists are being treated with special rights.

More delegates were of the belief that both international and domestic action should be taken to protect journalists. There was the point brought up by numerous countries that no one asked them to be there. However a very good common counter point was that it was “the Human Rights Council” and therefore they were responsible to protect the rights of all people, which of course reporters are (people I mean). Still other countries argued that the journalists should just ask the government what is going on and be satisfied with the answer. Another very well thought out point that countered this was the fact that many governments lie about what is happening in their countries. The Russian Federation delegate was called out about Stalin and the famines. Another important use for the journalists was addressed by the South African delegate reminding us that journalists are an “ear to the developing world. Bringing attention to the inhumane living conditions in third world countries.

Even through the bickering and finger pointing a possible resolution was presented by the delegate of Chile. This was the suggestion that journalists should be trained to defend themselves. After this suggestion the delegate from China brought up the possibility of “sleeping soldiers”. This was the point at which the delegate from Chile coined the term “stay safe” in relation to the training of the journalists. He pointed out that if there were a grenade at your foot would you not want to know whether to kick it away, throw it, or just stand there? There is still much time left for debate and the so called “sleeping soldier / stay safe” resolution may prove not to be much of a resolution at all.

### FROM TURKEY WITH LOVE

SARAH FLOWERS



While most delegations are concerned with creating alliances during the HSMUN conference, the delegates from Turkey appear to be more interested in uniting with one another. Sparks seem to be flying early, as the potential lovebirds were spotted strengthening their alliance via whispering flirtatiously and gazing into one another’s eyes. Keep an eye on this well-matched pair as this may turn into a Turkish delight of a Security Council romance!

### HSMUN COMMENCES

REBECCA THOMAS

After months of preparation, delegates and HSMUN staff finally gathered in ETLC on Thursday evening. The evening commenced with an inspirational message delivered by Secretary-General Amy Sanderson, who encouraged delegates to “participate in the proceedings to the fullest extent possible.”

The message was followed by a mock debate to demonstrate the rules of procedure. Positive reviews were received post-debate, with the ceremonies touted as “well-orchestrated and entertaining as always” by the DISEC Delegate of Peru.

### N. KOREA GOES GREEN?

ELZBIETA MYLAK

With bold comments from North Korea, Tunisia, and the United States alike, the UNEP committee jumped headfirst into debate last night on the highly controversial topic of biohazardous waste disposal.

While developing states cried for assistance, the US firmly insisted that it cannot sponsor the cleanup of the entire developing world and hinted that importing waste may actually benefit impoverished nations. The debate quickly turned to economics, with the Russian and Tunisian delegations suggesting an imaginative proposal – the annulment of the world’s economic debts, which would enable states to fund the waste disposal of other countries. After a moderated caucus on the topic, the Chair reminded UNEP that such economic measures are beyond the UN’s jurisdiction.

Perhaps the most interesting comment of the evening, however, came from North Korea, who happily proposed that the world’s nuclear and toxic waste be sent to them, so that they may manufacture nuclear weapons.

## A LUGER FOR A SECRETARY-GENERAL?

ELZBIETA MYLAK

Amidst the chaos and enthusiasm of HSMUN's first evening, I sat down with the conference's Secretary-General, Amy Sanderson, for a quick chat about her plans, favourite political scandals, and the Olympics.

**What's your favourite part of HSMUN?**

I really like the mock debates.

**Iran says their nuclear development is for peaceful purposes... do you believe them?**

No... well, I suppose one hopes for the best, but we should always remain vigilant in the face of danger. That's why I have my ninja force.

**This year's conference quote was from Winston Churchill, what do you admire most about him?**

Winston Churchill was a true leader; I think his life story is very fascinating. He started out as a journalist, but politics fascinated him. He was just really focused on bringing his people through the war, his speeches in particular when London was being blitzed are so inspiring because he treated them with so much respect, he thought better of people than they thought of themselves. He always thought the best of the British, that kind of optimism is needed today.

**Rumor is you like pastry cooking... what's your favourite pastry to snack on?**

A poppy-seed butterfly.

**What would you like to see happen at HSMUN this year?**

I hope that we have some really great resolutions with some good ideas for the future of how to solve these problems.

**If you were in charge of Haiti relief operations, what would be the first thing you'd do?**

Set a central command for all the NGOs that are coming in, because I think every time we do one of these huge relief efforts they get in there and realize that it's just a huge mess. With a country like Haiti, which has no central government to speak of, the UN should have stood up and set up a central command to control the relief operations.



**What recent political or celebrity scandal caught your attention most?**

The scandal with the Irish prime minister who had to resign because his wife gave her way younger lover money to start his own coffee shop. It became this huge deal, because they had just stabilized the government in Ireland; they're barely hanging on to peace....

**The Olympics are in full force this week – who are you cheering for? And what events do you watch?**

Of course I cheer for all nations... I'm a neutral observer, but Canada remains close to my heart. I always find the Olympics kind of hypnotizing – with luge, and the moguls, when they say “this guy had four herniated disks” – oh my god I think they're going to die.

**Is this a sport you pursue in your free time? If not what do you enjoy doing when you're not directing Model UN?**

Actually we have a luge at home, a plastic one that my dad got from Germany. Good times - those things have high manoeuvrability.

**What did you think of the opening ceremonies of the Olympics, and the way Canada has represented itself?**

I thought they were quite the spectacle, and I think there were some parts that could have been cut short, but KD Lang's amazing performance totally made up for everything. And as mind-numbing as it can be to watch all the athletes to come in, I actually think it's kind of fun – like the one athlete from Jamaica.

## DISEC OFF TO FUN START

REBECCA THOMAS

Late Thursday evening, a series of moderated caucuses in DISEC were held to brainstorm potential UN solutions on custom and borders regarding the illicit trade and traffic of nuclear material. While the evening was peppered with discussion of the viability of nuclear material as a power source, the evening took a lighter tone near the last half hour.

Temporary suspension of a moderated caucus commenced when DISEC Chair Steve Graham pulled up TSN to reveal that Canada maintained their ice supremacy. When questioned by a delegate on an issue of relevance, Graham jokingly replied, “It's all about bringing countries together, and cheering for everyone but Switzerland,” much to the amusement of the DISEC Assembly, Switzerland included.

Resumption of the debates brought up comedic moments, with the delegate of Iran imploring his fellow delegates to “imagine a world free of imperialism, tyranny and self interest.” Supported by peals of laughter, Iran then invited all delegates to “come along in promotion of world-wide peace”, and then turned to motion to socialist South-American states.

While the evening was productive and efficient, the atmosphere of the room was light and upbeat. If you are not having fun yet, better start! DISEC is way ahead of you!

**In a fantasy UN committee, what topic would you like to see discussed?**

I guess I'm lucky because I get to push my own agenda in HSMUN as it is, but... butter versus margarine – I don't understand why people persist... butter in baking is clearly a superior thing, I don't understand people who use margarine... unless you have allergies, then I understand – but if possible, butter is always better.

**Any exciting future plans?**

I'm going on a Europe trip this summer. I'm going to law school in the fall... I'm graduating – that's big!

## WHO: DEFINING A HEALTH CRISIS... AND QUOTING STAR TREK?

LISA KAWASAKI

The World Health Organization (WHO) began with an amazing start last night with the delegate of Brazil, Alex Seifert, humourously quoting the famous line from Star Trek during a discussion of the United Nation's role in access to medication: “These are the voyages of the World Health Organization. Its continuing mission: to seek out and explore new possibilities in times of crisis, and to boldly go where no delegation has gone before.”

Foolery aside, the delegates familiarized themselves with the rules and procedures of HSMUN. At first, some delegates were reluctant to contribute to the discussions. Jitters of participants on opening night are not a new phenomenon. An unmoderated caucus to “break



the ice” had been proposed in order to relax these delegates. Immediately, the quiet, serious room became filled with lively chatter and laughter as the delegates introduced themselves to each other amicably. This proved to be effective as more and more delegates became part of the topic at hand: the access to medication during health crisis.

Health crises affect at least one in five WHO member states every year. Availability of medication during these times is essential in protecting the health of the people. The delegate of Ireland recognized the difficulty of determining the fine line between health care

Ireland recognized the difficulty of determining the fine line between health care crisis and health care issue. A moderated caucus to discuss this definition was proposed, resulting in a heated debate on how this definition is dependent on long-term and short-term health care crisis. Delegate of Denmark proposed that the definition should be restrained to short-term, as the definition of long-term health crisis varies from crisis to crisis. Ireland, however, proposed that health crisis alludes to how many are affected globally or locally. Despite the disagreement over the definition of health crisis, these delegates have taken a necessary step towards a draft resolution. Readers stay alert! Watch the divided opinions of the developing and the developed countries on this contentious topic that will inevitably ensue.

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