

HOSTS and SPONSORS

The Rt. Hon. SIR WINSTON SPENCER CHURCHILL SOCIETY

In Conjunction With
The Alberta Debate and Speech Association

PRESENTS



THE 2016
Sir Winston Churchill High School
Debate Competition

Saturday, November 26, 2016 8:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.



SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL HIGH SCHOOL, CALGARY

THE 2016 Sir Winston Churchill High School Debate Competition

Saturday, November 26, 2016
8:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 8:00-9:00 | Registration in front foyer Breakfast in cafeteria |
| 9:00-10:00 | Briefing for chairpersons and time keepers in room 121 Opening ceremony and training for judges in theatre Opening ceremony and planning for debaters in cafeteria |
| 10:05-10:50 | Round One – prepared topic Judges stay in the same assigned room all day. Draw for debaters posted in cafeteria. |
| 11:00–11:45 | Round Two – prepared topic |
| 11:45-12:30 | Lunch in cafeteria |
| 12:45-1:00 | Announcement of impromptu topic in cafeteria Preparation of impromptu round Proposition <u>in</u> their designated room Opposition in the hall <u>outside</u> their designated room |
| 1:10-2:00 | Round Three – Impromptu Round |
| 2:10-3:00 | Final Round Between the two top Open teams Location: Theater Final Round Between the two top Beginner teams Location: Rm 121 |
| 3:15-3:30 | Presentation of Awards Location: Theater |

RESOLUTION

THBT “Operation Unthinkable”, proposed by Sir Winston Churchill, should have been supported and implemented on July 1, 1945.

STYLE OF DEBATE

Canadian National Parliamentary Style will be used. For both open and beginner teams, constructive speeches will be a maximum of 8 minutes long and rebuttals 4 minutes long. Every attempt will be made to enable each team to debate both sides of the prepared resolution. In addition, each team will debate only one side of an impromptu topic which will be based on one of Churchill’s speeches.

REGISTRATION

Register via e-mail to nbrehder@cbe/ab.ca by Friday noon, November 18th.

The cost is \$30/debater and includes breakfast and lunch for debaters and their judges and coaches. Each debater must register and bring one judge or forfeit their registration. Please indicate any dietary restrictions for all judges and debaters when registering.

NEW ADSA RULES

1. No definitions will be shared in impromptu debates before the debate begins.
2. No electronic devices will be used or in the possession of debaters or judges during a tournament for the benefit of debate. No electronic devices will be used as time keepers by debaters. Time keepers will be provided.

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL 2016 DEBATE TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION FORM

Registration must be received no later than noon on Friday, November 18 via e-mail at nbrehder@cbe.ab.ca.

Enrolment is capped at 30 teams per category (i.e. 30 beginner teams and 30 open teams). We want to have a tournament that fits in our physical plant and provides all participants with a quality event. Remember, when submitting your registration, rank your teams and submit a judge's FIRST AND LAST name for each debater. We respect the integrity of all debaters and assume all required judges will be provided. Please indicate any dietary restrictions when registering.

The entry fee of **\$30.00 per debater** is required in order for registration to be complete. Each school participating should bring **one** cheque on the morning of the tournament, to include registration costs for all teams from your school, made **payable to Sir Winston Churchill High School**. No refunds for withdrawals after November 18 will be provided.

To register teams, please e-mail the following Information to nbrehder@cbe.ab.ca

School: _____ Coach: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

| Beginner Teams | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Rank | Student First and Last Name | Judge First and Last Name | Dietary Restrictions |
| 1 | | | |
| | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| | | | |
| Open Teams | | | |
| Rank | Student First and Last Name | Judge First and Last Name | Dietary Restrictions |
| 1 | | | |
| | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| | | | |

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL 2016 DEBATE RESOLUTION BACKGROUND

RESOLUTION

THBT “Operation Unthinkable”, proposed by Sir Winston Churchill, should have been supported and implemented on July 1, 1945.

BACKGROUND

This resolution will introduce you to “one of the great *what if’s* of modern times.” (Walker, 2013). In 1998, Sir Winston Churchill’s plans for “Operation Unthinkable” were finally released to the public. This plan involved a surprise Allied attack into Soviet-held Europe in the Dresden area commencing July 1, 1945. The United States would support Britain to “impose upon the Soviet Union the will of the United States and British Empire” (Walker ,p 44). A to secret 17 page document is now released, describing and assessing Churchill’s plan. An excerpt from this plan, along with relevant maps follow in the Appendix.

In a May 12, 1945, letter to Roosevelt (Walker, p 13), Churchill explains that, because the Soviets weren’t responding to his friendship, military action needed to be taken to reduce the land they occupied, to hold them accountable to the Yalta agreement regarding the Polish government, to stop them from invading Romania and other Balkan countries and to stop them from causing more trouble in Vienna. German supplies and armies (which were not being destroyed) and those of the Americans (which had not yet been demobilized or sent to Japan) would be used in the attack. Due to its surprise and secrecy, the attack would be successfully completed and won before winter, when conditions would be more difficult. Similar plans to attack the Soviets were shelved and reconsidered several times during the cold war, including the 1946 American “Pincher” plan (Walker, 2013) and the 1948 joint British and American “roll-back” plan (Aldrich, 1992). The Americans themselves reinvented Churchill’s “Unthinkable” plan later in March of 1946, dubbing it the “Pincher” plan. (Walker, p 136).

Carefully consider whether Churchill’s “Unthinkable” invasion would have benefitted the world? Could this have prevented the iron curtain from descending over Europe? Was it the correct time to attack the Soviets? Is the time ever right for war?

REFERENCES

- Aldrich, R.J. (1992). *British Intelligence, Strategy and the Cold War, 1945-51*. Routledge. . p. 347.
- Costigliola, F. (2011). *Roosevelt's Lost Alliances: How Personal Politics Helped Start the Cold War*. Princeton University Press.
- Gibbons, J.C. (2009). *The Empire Strikes a Match in a World Full of Oil*. Bloomington, IN: Xlibris Corporation.
- Lewis, J. (2008). *Changing Direction: British Military Planning for Post-war Strategic Defence*, 2nd edn., Routledge.
- Norton-Taylor, R. (1998). *Churchill plotted invasion of Russia; Richard Norton-Taylor on allied blueprint to crush Soviet system after the end of the war in Europe*. The Guardian, 2 October 1998.
- Reynolds, D. (2006). *From World War to Cold War: Churchill, Roosevelt, and the International History of the 1940s*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Russia and India Report. (2016). *Operation Unthinkable: Churchill's plan to start WorldWar III*. http://in.rbth.com/blogs/2013/06/13/operation_unthinkable_churchills_plan_to_start_world_war_iii_26091. Retrieved July 12, 2016.
- Walker, J. (2013). *Operation Unthinkable: The Third World War*. The History Press.

APPENDIX (source: Walker, 2013)

Figure 1: One page from the war cabinet assessment of “Operation Unthinkable”

WAR CABINET

JOINT PLANNING STAFF

OPERATION “UNTHINKABLE”

Report by the Joint Planning Staff

We have examined Operation Unthinkable. As instructed, we have taken the following assumptions on which to base our examination:

- (a) The undertaking has the full support of public opinion in both the British Empire and the United States and consequently, the morale of British and American troops continues high.
- (b) Great Britain and the United States have full assistance from the Polish armed forces and can count upon the use of German manpower and what remains of German industrial capacity.
- (c) No credit is taken for assistance from the forces of other Western Powers, although any bases in their territory, or other facilities which may be required, are made available.
- (d) Russia allies herself with Japan.
- (e) The date for the opening of hostilities is 1st July, 1945.
- (f) Redeployment and release schemes continue till 1st July and then stop.

Owing to the special need for secrecy, the normal staffs in Service Ministries have not been consulted.

OBJECT

2. The overall or political object is to impose upon Russia the will of the United States and British Empire.

Even though “The will” of those two countries may be defined as no more than a square deal for Poland, that does not necessarily limit the military commitment. A quick success might induce the Russians to submit to our will at least for the time being; but it might not. That is for the Russians to decide. If they want total war, they are in a position to have it.

Figure 2: German occupation zones in May, 1945

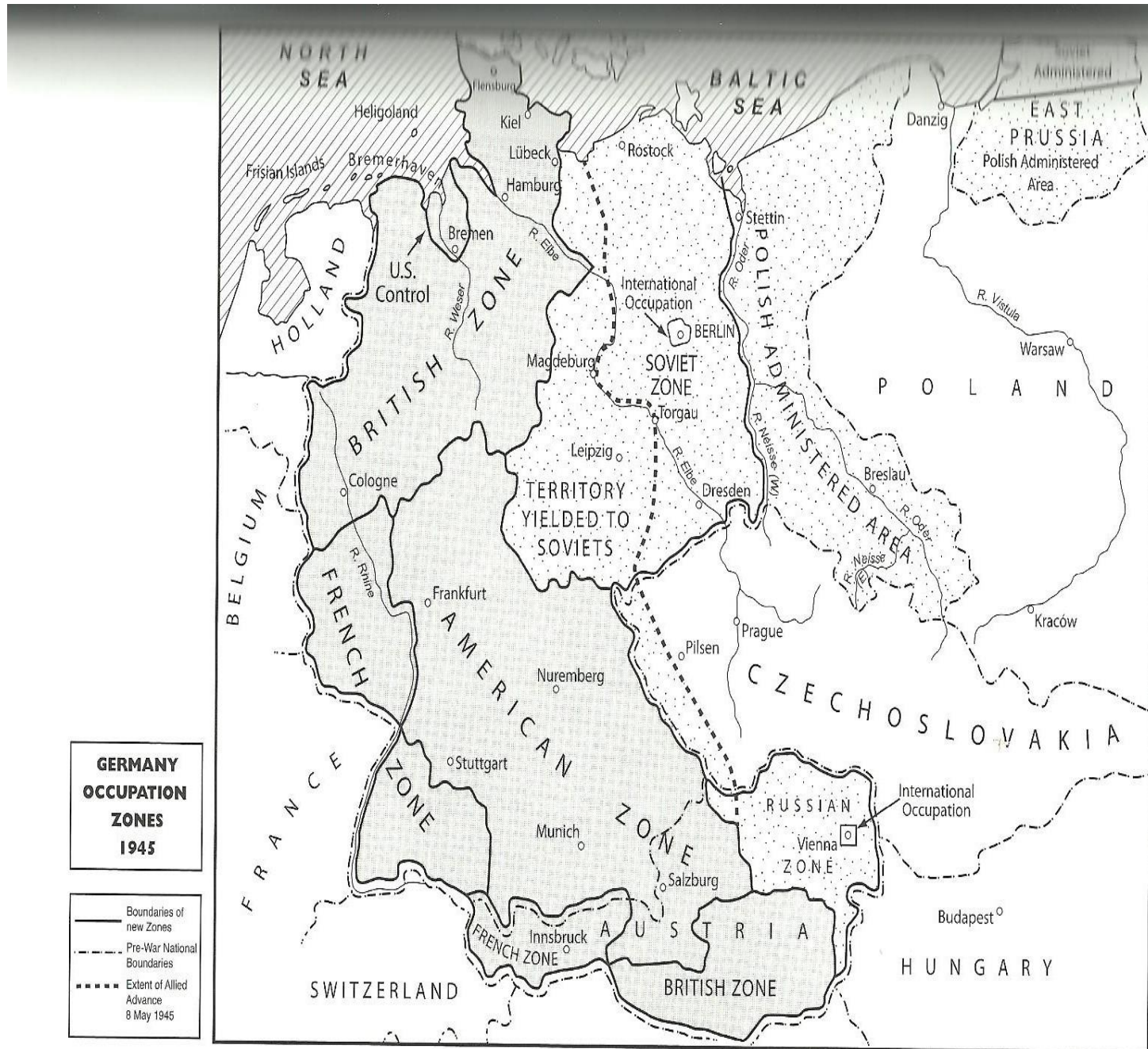


Figure 3: Operation Unthinkable Quick Success Phase, July 1, 1945

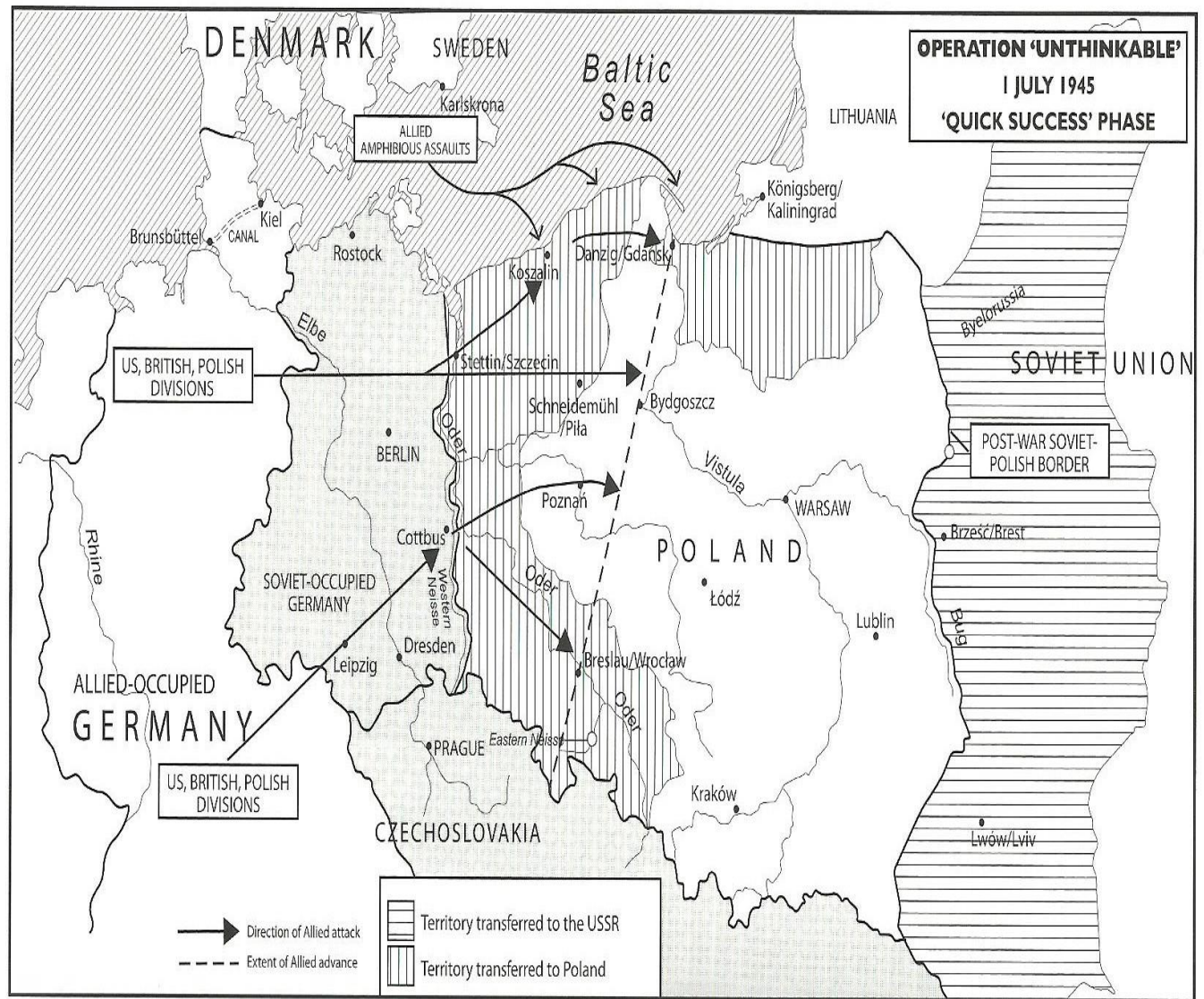


Figure 4: Operation Unthinkable Total War

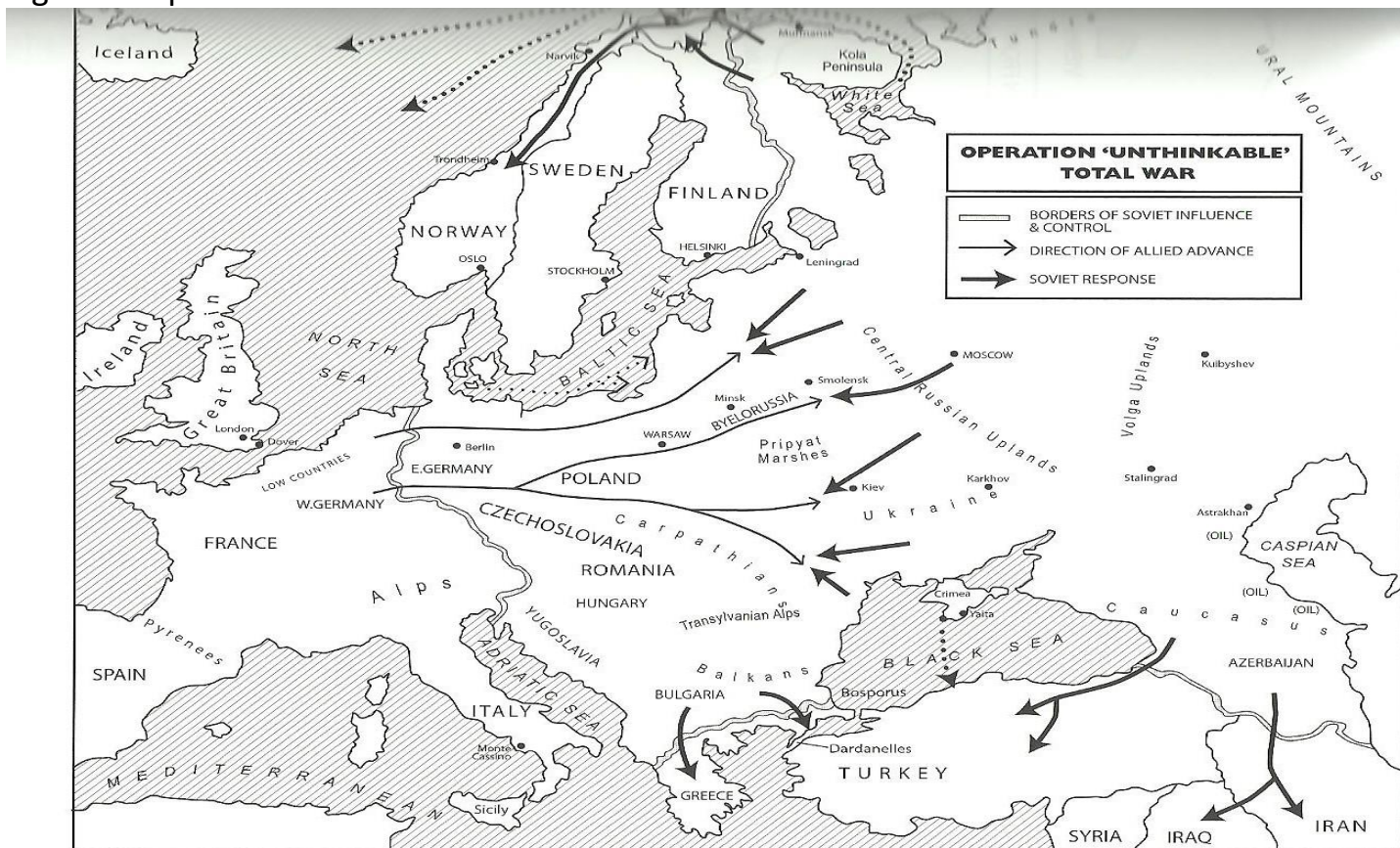


Figure 5: Venezia Giulia Region in May, 1945

