

BACKGROUND GUIDE

COULDN'T ESCAPE IF I WANTED TO: NAPOLEON'S WAR CABINET, THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO

Composed by Laila Hall & Kelson Lowrie



WMIDMUN-XXII

DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to WMIDMUN XXII and Napoleon's War Cabinet. I am Laila Hall and it is my pleasure to be your In-Room director for this committee. I am a freshman and history major from Arlington, VA. I hope to use my combined love of Gribeauval artillery systems and Model UN to present a fun and interesting committee to you all this spring!

I'm so excited to chair this committee, one of my first MUN conferences was WMID XVI in 2018. I remember being blown away by the conference, and I hope to give you all that same experience. On campus, I am also an active member of William & Mary's International Relations Club (IRC) where I serve two Secretariats; Service Board and our high school conference, WMHSMUN. Outside of MUN, I participate in colorguard and perform with Drum Corps International during the summer. Recently, I've been binge watching Doctor Who, and definitely didn't have it on in the background while I was writing this.

When considering the Napoleonic Wars, it is important to remember just how revolutionary and consequential these conflicts were. At its height, Napoleon's Empire of the French spanned most of Continental Europe, with most states either directly conquered or made into vassals. While Napoleon's rule brought a more centralized government and the Napoleonic Code to Europe, it also led to a massive loss of life through his brutal military conquests. I encourage you all to think creatively and thoughtfully about the Battle of Waterloo. It is up to you all as Napoleon's War Cabinet to debate, propose, and devise solutions that could potentially change the course of history.

Please feel free to reach out to Kelson and I with any questions, clarifications, or just to say hi.

Sincerely,

Laila Hall

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DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Delegates.

Get WMID hype!! I am Kelson Lowrie and I will be serving as your Crisis director for the Napoleonic "Battle of Waterloo" committee. I am a freshman majoring in International Relations and Economics from Somerset, NJ. I have done MUN for 5 years now, mostly focusing on crises. I can't wait to see the amazing directives, crazy crisis arcs, and memorable debate that this committee will bring. I am excited to bring the rich and complex history of the Napoleonic wars to life with this committee.

I have done countless crisis committees as a delegate but this will be my first time Crisis direction, hopefully I can bring the same fun and educational environment that I had as a delegate. On campus, I am a member of W&M's International relations club(IRC), serving on the secretariat for &MUN(our college conference). I am also a member of club swim (Butterfly is the worst), as well as a member of William & Mary's Historical European martial arts clubs (Sword fighting). Outside of WM, I have tons of pets, Fish cats, dogs, Snakes, An alpaca, and more!! I also enjoy watching sports, Curling is my favorite.

The Napoleonic Wars were a pivotal point in European history, not only defining borders and politics, but defining how wars were fought and how countries governed. Napoleon pushed sweeping changes across Europe that are felt today, from common laws(the Napoleonic code), to historic discoveries(the Rosetta Stone), or cultural impact (Goya or Tchaikovsky). I am excited to see all of your takes on this topic, working collaboratively as a committee to address Frances issues. I would like to encourage all of you to take an active role in the committee, using crisis notes to further the agenda of your characters.

Finally, I look forward to seeing everyone in March!! As Laila said, feel free to reach out with any questions!!

-Kelson Lowrie
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HISTORY



Napoleon's Rise to Power

Born in 1769 on the island of Corsica, Napoleon Bonaparte's youth was shaped by the French occupation of Corsica, which had been purchased from the Genoese in 1768. Despite his extensive education in French military schools, Napoleon considered himself a Corsican first, and hoped to free Corsica from French rule with his revolutionary hero, Pasquale Paoli. Upon graduating the prestigious *École Militaire* in Paris in 1785, he received a commission as a Second Lieutenant in an artillery regiment. In 1789, Napoleon returned to Corsica in an attempt to join Paoli, but was rejected by Paoli and considered a traitor for joining the French Army. Abandoning the Corsican cause, Napoleon embraced his role in the French Army, rising to the rank of major.

Napoleon first gained national recognition at the 1793 Siege of Toulon, where his innovative command of artillery was crucial to the French victory. For his efforts, he was promoted to brigadier general at the age of 24. In 1795, Napoleon thwarted a royalist attack on the National Convention, for which he was rewarded command of the Army of Italy and married Josephine de Beauharnais in 1796. In his first Italian Campaign, Napoleon gained eighteen victories, wherein he marched his army from northern Italy to Vienna, Austria. He returned to Paris a national hero, worrying the French Directory government, who sent him on further expeditions to Egypt and Syria (1798-1799) in order to curb the young general's ambitions. The campaign was not hugely successful as Napoleon suffered losses at the Battle of the Nile and the 1799 Siege of Acre, despite successes in Malta and Abukir. However, Napoleon reframed his campaign to focus on more than one hundred sixty scholars he employed to explore Egypt, including Jean-François Champollion who deciphered the Rosetta Stone. Unfortunately for the Directory, Napoleon's popularity only increased among the French people.

Napoleon befriended Emmanuel Joseph Sieyès and together they overthrew the Directory in the *coup d'état* of 18 Brumaire in 1799. Establishing a new Consulate government, Napoleon positioned himself as the First Consul and began to accumulate and consolidate power. During this period Napoleon introduced many reforms to the French government including centralized banking, the Napoleonic Code of laws, and the Concordat of 1801, which reestablished French relations with the Catholic Church. Napoleon's reign as First Consul aimed to synthesize the *ancien régime*-the traditions of monarchical France- with the reformative ideals of Revolutionary France. Napoleon established temporary peace through the Treaty of Lunéville, which adjusted France's natural borders to include the Rhine, Pyrenees, and Alps, and the Treaty of Amiens, which achieved peace in Europe for fourteen months. However, internally Napoleon worried about potential *coup d'états* to thwart his meteoric rise. Police chief Joseph Fouché advised Napoleon to transform the current government into a hereditary empire. On May 18, 1804, Napoleon proclaimed the Empire of the French, ending the Consulate government.

HISTORY



Later that year, Napoleon was coronated in Notre-Dame, wherein he crowned himself Emperor of the French in front of Pope Pius VII. This action was considered an affront to the Papacy and other monarchs of Europe, as by crowning himself, Napoleon rejected the 'divine right to rule.' Furthermore, Napoleon's coronation marks the end of peace and Europe as the war renewed.

Napoleonic Wars

Wars of the Third Coalition (1805-1806) and Fourth Coalition (1806-1807)

Britain broke the Treaty of Amiens in 1803, and became allies with Russia, Austria, and Sweden. The British gained a naval victory at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805, but Napoleon received historic victories at the Battles of Ulm and Austerlitz. Additionally, Napoleon formed *La Grande Armée* at Boulogne and struck out on a Second Italian Campaign, successfully occupying Naples. The war ended with the Treaty of Pressburg after the Battle of Austerlitz, which dissolved the Holy Roman Empire.

However, mere months after the end of the previous war, Prussia took up arms against the French. Forming the Fourth Coalition with Russia, Prussian forces marched through Saxony. However, Napoleon destroyed the Prussian forces at the Battle of Jena-Auerstedt and took the city of Berlin. Napoleon also fought Russia forces at Eylau but took a decisive victory at Friedland. Because of the Fourth Coalition's failure, Prussia suffered major losses and were unable to fight against the French again until the Sixth Coalition. Additionally through the Treaty of Tilsit, Russia now fell under the Continental System, Napoleon's embargo against the British Empire.

HISTORY



Peninsular War (1807-1814)

Coinciding with the War of the Fourth Coalition, the French and Spanish armies launched a joint invasion of the Kingdom of Portugal. Napoleon ordered his French Army to march through Spain to Portugal in order to complete his 'Continental System.' The Portuguese royal family fled to Brazil, and the French forces began to occupy Spain and the city of Madrid. Spanish king Charles IV and his son Ferdinand VII were forced to abdicate and Napoleon installed his older brother, Joseph Bonaparte, on the Spanish throne. However, the Spanish people rejected the new king, and rebelled, starting the Spanish War of Independence. Spanish forces employed *guerilla warfare* tactics and drove the French forces out of Valencia and Andalusia. Britain sent forces under the command of Arthur Wellesley, the future Duke of Wellington, who achieved victories at Vitoria and Salamanca. Coalition forces finally secure victory and restore Ferdinand VII to the throne after Napoleon is exiled to Elba in 1814. The Peninsular War remains one of the bloodiest conflicts of the Napoleonic era.

War of the Fifth Coalition (1809)

The War of the Fifth Coalition marks a turn in Napoleon's conquest of Europe. Austrian forces invaded Bavaria, separating Napoleon's *La Grande Armée* into two wings. Provoked, Napoleon began his Landshut campaign seizing the Austrian capital of Vienna. However, Austrian forces ambushed Napoleon at Aspern-Essling, marking his first major military defeat in ten years. Napoleon responded by demolishing Austrian forces at the Battle of Wagram, and Austria surrendered under the Treaty of Schönbrunn, and peace was sealed with Napoleon's marriage to Austrian Princess Marie-Louise. Additionally, major rebellions in Tyrol and Italy break out.

Failed Invasion of Russia (1812) and War of the Sixth Coalition (1813-1814)

Napoleon next set his sights on invading Russia. It did not go well... Of the 600,000 men brought to Russia, only 300,000 survived. The Battle of Borodino caused Napoleon to lose 30,000 men in a single day. Additional losses were incurred through exposure to the harsh Russian winters, disease, and mass starvation as a result of the Russian *scorched earth* strategy, wherein Russian forces in retreat would burn farmland and supplies.

Napoleon's failures in Russia and the Peninsular War also came to fruition in the War of the Sixth Coalition. Prussian, Swedish, Russian, and British forces, including Wellington. Napoleon's forces suffered a series of catastrophic defeats including the Battle of Leipzig, where his *Grande Armée* was demolished. The Treaty of Paris in 1814 saw Napoleon's exile to the island of Elba, the restoration of the Bourbon monarchy under Louis XVIII. In addition, the Coalition victors restored France's borders to their pre-revolutionary state.

ORGANIZATION



Escape from Elba and the Hundred Days

Less than a year after the Bourbon Restoration of France, Napoleon escaped Elba to the South of France on March 1, 1815. Napoleon amassed troops and landed in Cannes to begin his march to Paris. Fearing a violent Napoleonic reoccupation, Louis XVIII and his court fled to Ghent on March 13, and Napoleon reclaimed Paris on March 20. However on March 25, Britain, Prussia, Austria, and Russia declared war against Napoleon's Empire. In particular, Britain's Duke Wellington and Prussia's Gebhard Leberecht von Blücher.

However, both the Coalition forces and the French have difficulties mobilizing troops. Napoleon must weed out royalist sympathizers and traitors from his remaining armies and commanders, and British forces have been split due to the War of 1812 in the United States. Furthermore, Napoleon is not as universally popular as he once was. To combat this, Napoleon amended the Imperial Constitution but he still faces pressures from republican and royalist factions.

BACKGROUND 1.0

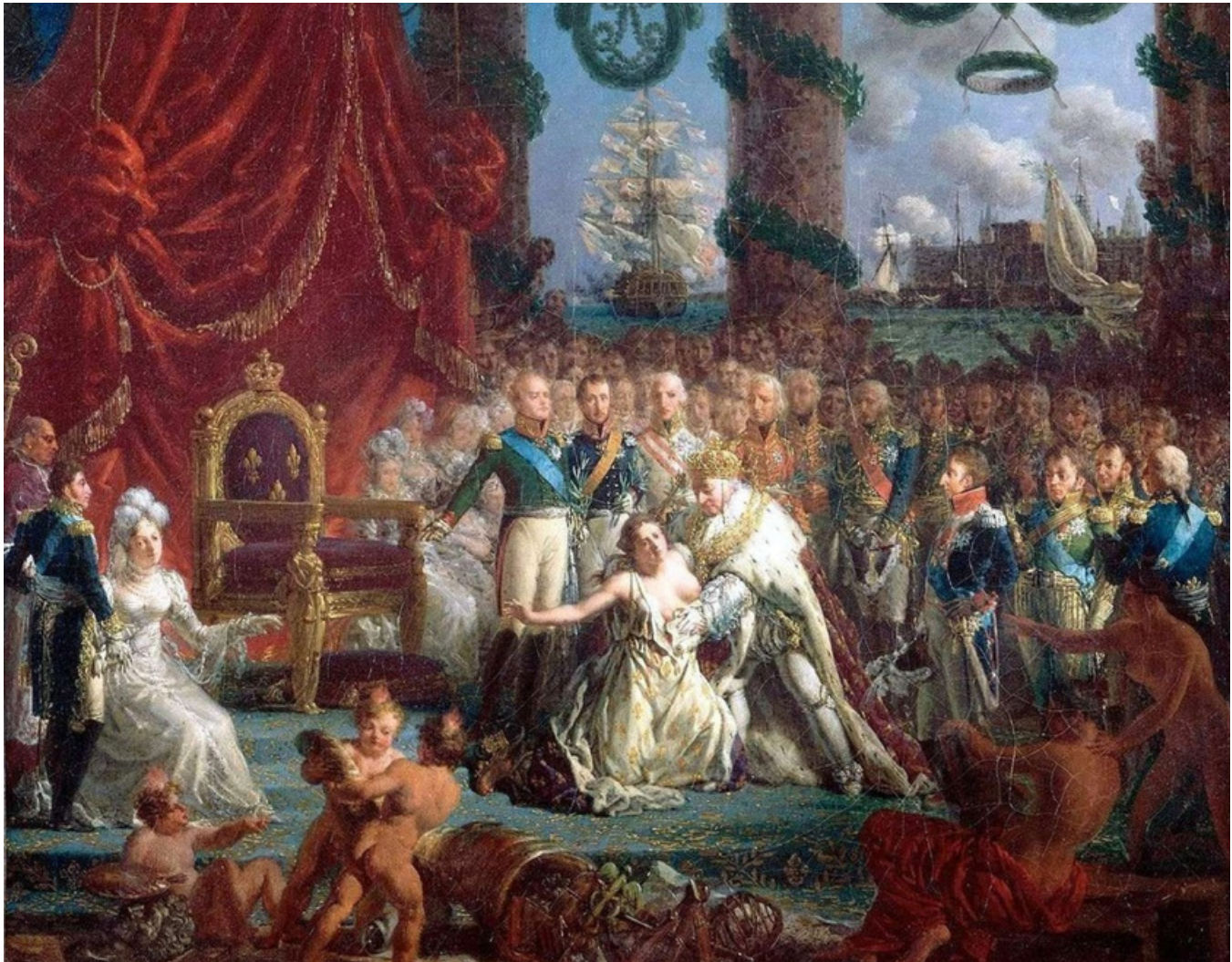


Topic 1: The Seventh Coalition

Napoleon's return spurred mobilization across Europe, as his former enemies prepared to stop his return. Great Britain, Prussia, Austria, and Russia mobilized close to 1 million troops across Europe. A new "7th" coalition had formed against Napoleon. The French military is in disarray, spread across the country, with many veterans of the Napoleonic wars retired. Additionally, supplies and weapons are in low supply, making logistical issues increasingly difficult to address for the French military.

Key Issue:

The 7th coalition provides an external threat to Napoleon's return, how can the French military effectively fight a powerful but spread out coalition? Debating where to open new campaigns in addition to Napoleon's Belgian Campaign. The military needs reorganization and diplomatic measures to try and turn the coalition against itself are also tactics Napoleon has used in the past.



BACKGROUND 2.0



Topic 2: Royalist Restoration

Napoleon's return to power is not universally beloved in France. After his exile to Elba, many of Napoleon's generals accepted royal peerage and declared loyalty to Louis XVIII during the Bourbon Restoration. Additionally, other nations, scared of the possibility of rebellion within their own borders, have been both diplomatically and covertly supporting the Royalists, strengthening them across France. Napoleon fought the royalist factions in Napoleonic France by trying to frame his own family as royalty, working to appoint his close friends and family members to lord ship and trying to marry into other major European families. After overthrowing the Bourbon king, Napoleon instituted sweeping reforms, working to both reform his military and appease the people, however these reforms have yet to be implemented.



CURRENT STATUS



The regions of Vendée (Western France), Provence (South Eastern France), and Brittany (Northern France) all have royalist forces in open revolt. These forces range from unorganized militias and rebels in Brittany to a combination of French deserters and mercenaries in Vendée. These forces vary greatly in size and organization and act as a drain on French resources. Notably, a large garrison is deployed to the Vendée region. If the insurgency is addressed, either through force or diplomatically, it would free up significant French forces to be deployed to other fronts.

What Comes Next?

Delegates, the date is May 18, 1815, exactly one month before the Battle of Waterloo is set to take place. Under the command of Napoleon Bonaparte and his left wing commander Michel Ney, this war cabinet should aim to use this month wisely; debate troop formations, gather intelligence, and curb internal and external threats to Napoleon's rule. However, remember to tread carefully, traitors to Napoleon's Empire may yet be in your midst!



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

How can Napoleon's armies maintain security fronts of the Empire?

What actions should be taken to prevent a Royalist rebellion or another *coup d'etat*?

How can this cabinet attempt to separate the Prussian and British forces in Waterloo?

How can the cabinet gain the support of the French people

Dossier

1. Jean-de-Dieu Soult; Napoleon's Chief of Staff

Soult served as one of Napoleon's key generals throughout the later campaigns of the Napoleonic Wars, leading notable battles at Austerlitz and was appointed Duke of Dalmatia. He then commanded French forces in the Peninsular War. After Napoleon's exile, Soult declared his support for the King, but later switched allegiances during the start of Hundred Days to align with Napoleon once again. At the start of the committee, Soult has become Napoleon's Chief of Staff for the Belgian campaign and serves as a direct link between Napoleon and the wider war cabinet.

2. Louis-Nicolas Davout; Minister of War

Davout served as the Minister of War during the Hundred Days campaign, having previously been a marshal to Napoleon throughout his conquests. At the start of the committee Davout is in command of the defense of Paris and the forces surrounding Paris. Davout is known for his combative and aggressive style of command, creating enemies both internally and externally.

3. Emmanuel de Grouchy; Commander of Cavalry

De Grouchy was considered one of the greatest cavalry commanders of the age. He fought in various campaigns during the Napoleonic Wars including Ulm, Russia, and the defensive campaign of France in 1814. De Grouchy starts the committee near Napoleon's forces, in command of a cavalry component, consisting of the right wing of Napoleon's forces. One Hallmark of de Grouchy's leadership is his ability to improvise and act quickly and rationally.

4. Jean-Baptiste Jourdan; Commander of Besançon Garrison

Jourdan served as a commander in the war of the First and Second Coalitions, before commanding various French forces during the Peninsular War. He initially supported the restoration of the King, but came to Napoleon's aid at the start of Hundred Days, serving as the commander of Besançon; a major fortress near the Swiss border. Jourdan is also a personal favorite of Napoleon's and is immensely loyal to Bonaparte.

5. Charles-Étienne-François de Ruty; Commander of Artillery

Graduating from Châlons-en-Champagne artillery school, de Ruty rose to prominence for his artillery command in many key battles. He is known for his innovative tactics and designs, with a unique Howitzer style named after de Ruty. At the start of the committee de Ruty was appointed head artillery commander of the Belgian campaign. Napoleon is known for his use of artillery and is sure to rely on de Ruty during the Hundred Days.

6. François Joseph Lefebvre; Marshal of France

Lefebvre was a major infantry commander of Napoleon throughout the Napoleonic wars, serving as a senior infantry commander throughout the Russian and German campaign. After Napoleon's first defeat, Lefebvre was appointed a "Peer of France" by the King. Upon the start of the Hundred Days campaign he betrayed Louis XVIII and returned to his post as a Marshal of Napoleon. At the start of the committee, he was positioned in the Belgian Campaign. Lefebvre also holds the distinction of being one of Napoleon's original marshals of the Empire.

7. Louis-Gabriel Suchet; Commander of Army of the Alps

Suchet was highly regarded as one of the best generals in the Napoleonic Wars, rising to prominence in Napoleon's Italian campaign. He also served in the Prussian, Spanish, and Russian campaigns. Suchet gained military distinction during the Peninsular War where he defended eastern Spain until 1813. At the start of the committee, Suchet was positioned as the commander of the Army of the Alps, protecting the southern border, leading some of the more experienced troops in the French military.

8. Édouard Mortier; Commander of the Imperial Guard

Mortier was one of Napoleon's senior commanders throughout the Napoleonic Wars, and eventually earned command of the Imperial Guard, some of the most well trained and equipped French troops. Mortier fought in the Russian and German campaigns, even being appointed as the French Governor of Moscow. After Napoleon's escape from Elba he initially supported Louis XVIII, but switched to Napoleon's side at the start of the Hundred Days, reclaiming his Imperial Guard regiments including the elite Old Guard, also known as the "Immortals."

9. Joachim Murat; King of Naples

Murat gained fame as one of the most daring cavalry commanders in the French military, rising up the ranks to become one of Napoleon's top generals. He is close to the Bonaparte family, and married Napoleon's sister, Caroline Bonaparte, in 1800. In 1808 he was appointed the King of Naples, a Napoleonic puppet state at the time. Murat aligned with France throughout the Napoleonic Wars, but betrayed Napoleon in a secret agreement with Coalition allies to maintain his rule in Naples. Currently, Murat is in danger of losing his throne, unpopular with both the people of Naples and Napoleon's supporters, and hopes to reclaim lost Italian territory to improve his standings.

10. Guillaume Brune; Commander of Army of Piedmont

Brune served as a key commander in the Revolutionary wars, later falling under Napoleon's command. He later was appointed commander of the occupation of Swedish Pomerania in 1808. He was dismissed from his post after Napoleon considered him to be too Republican as he attempted to negotiate with the Swedes. At the start of Hundred Days he rejoins Napoleon, taking forces for the defense of southern France and Piedmont. Although to Napoleon, Brune remains a republican idealist and pushes for reform in the Empire.

11. Charles Mathieu Isidore Decaen; Commander of Catalonian Garrison

Decaen had minor commands before being "exiled" to Indian Ocean French territories in 1802, defending these territories including Pondicherry against all odds for seven years, before finally being overwhelmed by British forces. He returned to France and took command of the Army of Catalonia, and upon the Hundred Days he betrayed Louis XVIII and rejoined Napoleon. At the start of the committee, Decaen commanded forces in southern France. Napoleon has always harbored a strong dislike for Decaen as he was close friends with Napoleon's rival Moreau.

12. Bertrand Clauzel; Commander of Army of the North in Spain

Clauzel served throughout the Napoleonic wars, fighting in the Caribbean and later Naples. He commanded the army of Portugal until its defeat in the Peninsular War. After the War of the Sixth Coalition, Clauzel submitted unwillingly to Louis XVIII and when Napoleon returned, he hastened to join him. At the start of the committee, he commands an army on the Spanish border. Clauzel remains one of the few fiercely and undisputedly loyal generals to Napoleon.

13. Jean Maximilien Lamarque; Commander of Vendée Garrison

A jack of all trades, Lamarque served as the Chief of Staff for Joseph Bonaparte and Murat among other roles from 1807-1810. He served as a French Baron in Spain, but was slowly pushed out by the British and Spanish forces. At the start of the committee, Lamarque rejoined Napoleon for the Hundred Days and was placed in command of an experienced division stationed in Vendée. (Fun Fact: If the name Lamarque sounds familiar, it might be because his death sparked the 1832 June Rebellion which *Les Misérables* is based on)

14. Karl Ludwig Schulmeister; Spymaster

One of the most prominent spymasters throughout Europe, Schulmeister served Napoleon throughout his campaigns. Schulmeister was initially an Austrian spy before switching to the French, becoming a double agent. He gained a strict reputation, policing and managing French occupations of Allied territories. At the start of the committee, Schulmeister is in command of the French Secret Service.

15. François Nicolas Benoît Haxo; Military Engineer

One of most famous military engineers in Europe, Haxo rose to prominence after his success in the Siege of Zaragoza. Haxo massively improved French fortifications throughout the early Napoleonic wars, and made French defenses comparatively superior. During the Russian campaign, Haxo was Louis-Nicholas Davout's chief engineer. At the start of the committee, Haxo was stationed in the Belgian Campaign as Napoleon's chief military engineer.

16. Joseph Bonaparte-Governor of Paris

Napoleon's older brother, Joseph was Corsican and French politician and statesman. Napoleon shared a close bond with Joseph, and appointed him King of Naples in 1806 and later King of Spain in 1808. However, Joseph was an unpopular leader in Spain, which heavily favored their own Spanish royal family. During the Peninsular War, Joseph was forced out by Spanish and British forces. Joseph returned to his brother's side at the start of the Hundred Days. At the start of the committee, Joseph has just been appointed Governor of Paris and is worried about potential Royalist uprisings in the capitol city.

17. Charles de la Bédoyère; Aide-De-Camp

A minor officer before the Hundred Days campaign, Bédoyère's regiment defected en masse to join Napoleon at Hundred Days. He was promoted to general, and later aide-de-camp. At the start of the committee he was present with the Belgian Campaign. Bédoyère has been known to be a bit of a loose cannon, and has trouble following orders.

18. Jean Rapp; Aide-De-Camp and Commander of the V Corps

Rapp served in major roles in both the Egyptian and Prussian campaigns. Rapp was also appointed governor of the Free City of Danzig in Poland from 1807 to 1814. Rapp was promoted to aide-de-camp at the start of the Hundred Days Campaign. At the start of the committee Rapp is in command of the V Corps in the Belgian campaign, working in support of Napoleon's main forces. Notably, Rapp is one of the few high ranking French commanders to come from a working class background.

19. Charles Claude Jacquinet; Commander of the 1st Cavalry Division

Serving as a cavalry officer throughout the Napoleonic wars, Jacquinet gained honors for his commands in the Russian and German campaigns, and earned a reputation for bravery in battle. Jacquinet rejoined Napoleon after the Hundred Days, commanding the 1st Cavalry Division in the Belgian campaign. Jacquinet also commands a section of the French Hussars, an advanced cavalry unit.

20. Madame d'Oettilinger; Napoleon's Court Spy

A spy for the French army throughout the Napoleon wars, d'Oettilinger was known to have spied in German and Swedish courts, notably in the court of the Duke of Enghien; a member of the Bourbon dynasty and a supporter of the French monarchists. At the start of the committee she starts in Paris, supporting counter intelligence operations during Napoleon's unsteady occupation of the capitol. Although not much is known about Madame d'Oettilinger, she holds the distinction of being one of the few high level female spies during the Napoleonic Wars.

21. Armand-Augustin-Louis de Caulaincourt, duc de Vicence; Minister of Foreign Affairs

First a general, de Caulaincourt was appointed to be one of Napoleon's chief advisors and diplomats. He knows several languages, including Russian and German, making his diplomatic skills critical for Napoleon. He strongly opposed the Russian invasion, advising Napoleon not to waste resources in Russia. After the Hundred Days, de Caulaincourt was appointed as Minister of Foreign affairs. De Caulaincourt is also aware of Napoleon's more aggressive nature; he was a witness and 'accomplice' to Napoleon's execution of the Duke of Enghien.

22. Martin-Michel-Charles Gaudin; Minister of the Treasury

Serving as a minister of finance for Napoleon from 1799-1814, Gaudin managed the French finances for close to two decades. He reformed the French tax system, introducing direct taxation into the French system while creating the French national bank and auditing system (French equivalent of the modern IRS). At the start of the committee, Gaudin was reappointed Treasury Minister. French finances have been in disrepair since the Bourbon Restoration and Gaudin hopes to secure the economy enough to sustain Napoleon's Belgian campaign.

23. Jean-Jacques-Régis de Cambacérès; Minister of Justice

Rising from a formerly noble family, de Cambacérès supported Napoleon from the start of the French revolution. He eventually served as a second consul alongside Napoleon, helping the governance of Napoleon's territories. He created the Napoleonic code during this period, a code of laws and procedures governing Napoleonic France. He was appointed Minister of Justice at the start of Hundred Days. De Cambacérès is a man used to the finer things in life, and is known for his extravagant parties, wealth, and liberal values.

24. Lucian Bonaparte; Imperial Prince of France

Napoleon's younger brother, Lucian was a Corsican and French politician in a variety of positions throughout the Napoleonic Wars. Lucien had republican leanings and often disagreed with his brother's style of rule, and eventually went into self imposed exile in Rome. In 1809, he attempted to flee to the fledgling United States, but was captured by the British along the way and held in England for several years. When his brother returned from exile in Elba, Lucien rallied the cause and returned to France and was appointed to the title of Imperial Prince. A bit of a wild card, Lucian's ideals may be both a help and hindrance to committee.

25. Denis Decrès; Minister of the Navy

Serving as one of France's most important admirals from the start of the French Revolution, Decrès fought in the Egyptian and Italian campaigns of Napoleon. He was appointed Minister of the Navy in 1804, where he served until 1814, a position he took again during the Hundred Days. At the start of the committee, Decrès is in command of what remains of the French fleet.

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