

# PROMETHEUS COUNCIL

## Conventional Attack

In every form of existence warfare has happened. It continues to happen, and will happen to all things. The human species is no different. Contrary to popular opinion, war and its violence does give a solution to a problem – though it may not be the best or correct solution.

Reasons for Wars					
Reason	Inclusive Years				
	1648-1714	1715-1814	1815-1914	1915-1941	1942-1989
Territory expansion	55	67	42	47	24
Strategic territory (mountain pass, river access, etc.)	23	17	13	30	21
Territory boundary dispute	-	1	-	-	7
Secession/State Creation (American Revolution)	2	3	10	4	11
National unification/consolidation (Spanish American)	-	1	26	-	17
Empire creation (American Indian wars, etc.)	-	11	10	20	-
Commerce Navigation (rivers to ocean access, oceans)	36	36	13	-	3
Commerce Resources (needing metals, wood, etc.)	4	-	-	20	9
Colonial Competition (British vs. French colonies, etc.)	9	11	3	-	-
Protect National/Commercial interest (fishing areas, etc.)	-	-	3	17	9
Protect religious doctrines (Catholic vs. Protestant, etc.)	14	11	10	-	-
Protect ethnic doctrines (Black vs. White, etc.)	-	-	16	7	9
Ethnic/Religious Unification (creation state Israel, etc.)	-	-	6	17	12
Defend/Support ally (U.S. supports England WWII, etc.)	4	11	-	10	16
Ideological Liberation (Bolshevik revolution, etc.)	-	1	10	10	14
Government composition (Democracy vs. Communism)	-	14	13	17	28
Maintain Integrity of State (Civil war)	-	8	55	30	28
Enforce Treaty Terms	14	8	3	30	7
Maintain Regional Dominance (N. vs. S. Vietnam)	-	-	10	7	5
Dynasty/Succession (King, Queen bloodlines, etc.)	31	22	10	-	-
State Regime survival (China vs. Taiwan, etc.)	23	17	6	37	22
Autonomy	-	-	6	7	7
Balance of Power	9	1	3	3	1
Economics	-	-	1	1	3

The table above gives numerous reasons for wars that the human species has waged and will continue to wage. When a nation attacks another it will be for one of the reasons above and at times for several of the reasons listed.

“The object in war is to attain a better peace, even if only from your own point of view”

-Unknown

Oddly enough the war is the apex of a long list of precursors and without these, the attack will falter and the attacker will become the attacked. An attack upon one country implies the other country is on the defensive. Additionally, the country on the defensive does not want the benefits of the attacking country. Following is a list of questions that will provide many of the precursors to launching an attack.

Those who are in a defensive posture need to study these as well. In both cases, offensive or defensive, not knowing the answers to these questions can bring disaster.

1. Why is this war needed? See above table
2. What is the geography of a land war? Highways, weather patterns, seasons, railroads, waterways, natural barriers, terrain for primary battlefield strategies and tactics, resupply, staging areas, etc.
3. What is the status of your armed forces? Active duty, reserves, inactive reserves, prior service veterans, civilian population pool of draft pool range, draft pool range in age, nationality, ethnicity, race and religious characteristics, the equipment on hand, its age, effectiveness, ability to repair or replace.
4. What is the air dimension of an air war? Battlefield strategies and tactics for area, assembly lines to produce and or replace aircraft, pilots on hand and ability and speed to produce new pilots, location of airfield, resupply and support, depth, range and flight time to target aspects, anti-aircraft defense of targets and cities, aircraft and equipment on hand, its age, effectiveness, ability to repair or replace.
5. What is the naval dimension of a naval war? Battle area strategies and tactics for area, oceanography elements of the various seas and oceans volatility, shipping supply life lines for critical imports and resupply exports, air power at sea, types of ships and equipment on hands, their age, effectiveness, and ability to repair or replace.
6. What is your economic ability? War production potential, stockpile and wartime reserves of metals, textiles, food, chemicals, etc., industrial capacity, capacity to retool and re-die, time from concept to delivery of new systems, availability of industrial labor pool, exposure of industrial complexes and centers of industrial activity to attack, sabotage, industrial espionage.
7. Can you be blockaded or have trade sanctions imposed against you? Is there another country you can conquer prior to you main engagement to serve as a wartime material reservoir, an ally who can provide wartime supplies uninterrupted, strong enough to destroy blockades? Can you destroy the blockages or have enough assets to protect the shipments of critical supplies?
8. What are your strategic raw materials, without which the war is lost?
9. What are your vital weaknesses in raw material imports critical to the war?
10. What are your current stored national food supply and the effects that a war will have on seed availability, fertilizer, planting, growth, harvest and movement of food to population? One month, six month, one year, three year, five year and ten year projections.
11. How current is your merchant shipping fleet? Do you have enough ships, worldwide purchasing power sufficient for merchants? How will a war affect these?

Who will blockade you and is your fleet fast enough to run them? Do you have sufficient staff to negotiate with neutrals?

12. How do you plan to pay for this war? Controlling inflation or deflation, maintaining the value of your currency, distribution of the financial burden to industry, corporate, banks or taxes. Who will carry the burden of the debt? What will your national, state and local tax bases be?

13. Do you have an adequate propaganda campaign strategy planned? The home front, the enemy front and the world front. Established elementary rules, identified the noble cause, developed a vicious enemy perception, established certain victory, boosted morale on the masses, undermined the enemies position with allies, won over the neutrals, plan to enlist the clergy, academia, business owners, blue collar and white collar workers, plan to deal with citizens who are opposed to the war, plan to evoke the patriotic zeal of the nation, plan to enable the mass media to your cause and mastered the art of the political lie.

14. How is your wartime industry base? Labor including health and welfare of workers, medicine and surgery including general sanitation, engineering and public education, munitions manufacture and industrial relations between companies, raw material, minerals and metals supply and availability.

15. What are your material requirement and available resources? Mining, transporting, refining, production, delivery, recovery, repairs and scrap metal.

16. How will you discipline your nation? Priorities of food, metal and materials, essential vs. non-essential of manufacture and industry, military needs and wants vs. civilian wants and needs, policy of industry, corporation and manufacture awarding bids and contracts, design competition, industrial standardization of parts, components, systems and delivered items.

17. How will you control prices? Public justice and price fixing, production for war; raw materials are needed at expense of civilians, price regulation, checking rising prices, black-market issues, rationing and items to be rationed.

18. How will you balance supply and demand? Essential vs. non-essential, psychologically soothing “needs” like jewelry and cars, augmenting male dominated trades who are called up to war such as construction, mechanics, law enforcement, etc., seeking out hoarded goods, controlling transportation interstates and railroads.

19. What conservation programs should you establish? Reduce surplus by moving closer to the front, encourage voluntary cooperation, curtailing spendthrift and materialistic mentalities, encourage paper, metal etc. drives by children, scouts and schools, establish salvage areas by convenience and ease to the masses.

20. How easy can your industry convert? Including moving to another region and even retooling to manufacture different items.

21. How can you control labor? Avoiding or suppressing strikes, obtaining workers for war industries from women, handicapped and prisoners, salvaging wasted manpower and materials from welfare, unemployed, collage students and military rejections, controlling the commodity sections of trade, controlling the stock market, controlling war critical industries.

22. Can you enter price agreements on metals, minerals and resources? Can you procure these by purchasing, taking or smuggling from various countries and control the supply?

23. Can you control basic building materials for warehouse, docks, concrete and construction equipment?

24. Can you establish control over industry and corporate leaders to avoid price gouging, price manipulation and black-marketing?

25. What is your gearing up for war (mobilization plan) including propaganda, industry, draft, formation of reserve forces, placement of forward supply elements, forward bases, etc?

26. What is your gearing down from war (demobilization plan) including propaganda, industry, indoctrination of soldiers back to civilian life, including intimate relations, financial/job opportunities, veterans assistance, housing, educational opportunities, etc?
27. What is your national defense plan (in case you screw up and loose the offensive), including protection of critical industries, critical resources, critical imports, shipping lanes, coastal areas, 5th columnists, spies and saboteurs?
28. What is your Civil Defense plan including full time, part time, mandatory adult and child training, voluntary training and the equipment issued?
29. What is your protection from international sanctions including political exclusion from international bodies, diplomatic isolation, economic isolation, trade sanctions, arms embargos, no fly zones, freezing monetary assets in foreign accounts, merchants not able to purchase on credit world wide, threat of other nations joining to enemy as protection?
30. How will you handle the hidden results of war including inflation, fiscal deficits, proposed/imposed new taxes, labor shortages, civilians becoming insubordinate and unruly, veterans returning to find little work and the dramatic increase of crime and despotism?
31. How effective is your transportation system to move equipment, resources, supplies and personnel from one end to another in your nation, and to other areas including roads and railroads, waterways, air transportation, and ocean systems?
32. What nation(s) provides economic aid, foreign assistance, and military aid to the country you are attacking?
33. What would the diplomatic, trade, economic and treaty obligation repercussions be for attacking the country?
34. How will you deal with the refugees in the area and those fleeing the area?
35. How will you deal with prisoners of war, including their repatriation after the war?
36. How will you rebuild the country after it has been defeated?

These questions need to be answered preferably before you invade another country. Attacking, or more correctly, invading, a country is as much an art as it is a science. Entire books have been written dealing exclusively on conducting wars that describe all aspects in some detail.

Conducting an invasion has its own specific mission concepts and they are given here in sequential order.

### **Invasion Mission Concepts**

#### **Spy Missions**

Identify targets, recruit 5th columnist, and identify Major Supply Routes (MSRs), tides and underwater geography, other covert activities.

#### **Special Operations Group Missions**

Outfit and train 5th columnists

Clandestine activities for reconnaissance and other missions

Collect and analyze intelligence ferreted by spies, 5th columnists and other special operations groups in area.

Increase 5th columnist loyalty by building clinics, fresh water, crop growth, medical aid, etc.  
Link up with 5th columnists for sabotage of key C<sup>3</sup>I facilities  
Assassination of key leaders  
Destruction of key bridges, railroads, airports

### **Aircraft Missions**

Close support-destroy Air Defense Artillery sites, Air Defense Missile sites and supporting radar sites.  
Fighters-destroy key enemy fighters, interceptors and airfields  
Drive/draw away or destroy enemy warships  
Bombers-hit military and civilian airfields, bridges, and roads, financial centers, fuel terminals, power relays, communications relays, food production, food storage, medical storage, medical equipment production (NOT hospitals), ground forces, law enforcement centers and prisons, and bomb beaches for beachhead.

### **Naval Missions**

Preliminary bombardment by heavy cruisers and battleships  
Minesweepers clear lanes into beachhead  
Aircraft (close support) strike targets of opportunity  
Aerial carpet-bombing  
Airborne and Air-mobile troops secure strategic points  
Shelling by destroyers, cruisers and battleships coming as close as drafts allow  
Assault by landing craft  
Clear beach of enemy troops  
Marine and naval forces secure beachheads and ports

### **Land invasion force**

Subsequent waves bring more equipment, logistics, supplies and personnel  
Resupply of ammunition, water, food, casualty removal to hospital ships  
Artillery rolling barrage  
Armor/tank assault  
Infantry  
Self-propelled artillery, engineers and medical  
Provide fire support, build or repair roads, bridges and airfields  
Establish land supply dumps  
Transportation units to move supplies from docks to land supply dumps, and then forward to division supply points.  
Establish railroad operations to move supplies.  
Security teams to secure, maintain and transport refugees and POWs  
Reconstruction teams to rebuild governmental infrastructure, establish Continuity of Government operations (COG).

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