

Cordell Hull: Father of the United Nations

If the National Security Act of 1947 were accurately named, it would have been called the National Subversives Security Act because it established the administrative framework for subversives to the U.S. Constitution and our country to operate under the color of law within the U.S. government. The beauty of this arrangement is that there is a public face to it that is ostensibly diplomatic and open dealing with foreign nations, but there is also a dark and covert side and while they allegedly are not allowed to operate domestically, they do act domestically through the big private Foundations - implementing the policies of the United Nations Organizations. Understanding that explains how United Nations policies are coordinated and implemented in the United States.

From the beginning of this country's history, there have been two factions - Internationalists and Nationalists. The Nationalists were our Founders. The Internationalists were the Tories - enemies of independence from England. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State from 1933-1944, was one such Internationalist. For his entire career in public life, he worked to subvert the sovereignty and independence of the United States. From the 1913 Federal Reserve Act, the lowering of tariffs on imports and replacement revenue in the form of income taxes on the American people to the Dumbarton Oaks conferences where he led the effort to write the draft charter¹ for the United Nations, Cordell Hull betrayed his country and fellow Americans. In 1945 he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1945 as "The Father of the United Nations"².

*"From 1936 on, foreseeing danger to peace in the rise of the dictators, he advocated rearmament, **pled for the implementation of a system of collective security** . . .*

. . . his major effort during the later stages of World War II was that of preparing a blueprint for an international organization dedicated to the maintenance of peace and endowed with sufficient legislative, economic, and military power to achieve it."

Dumbarton Oaks History

"In the late summer and early fall of 1944, at the height of the Second World War, a series of important diplomatic meetings took place at Dumbarton Oaks. Their outcome was the United Nations charter that was adopted in San Francisco in 1945. At these meetings, officially known as the *Washington Conversations on International Organization, Dumbarton Oaks*, delegations from China, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States deliberated over proposals for the establishment of an organization to maintain peace and security in the world. Among the representatives were Soviet Ambassador to the United States, Andrei Gromyko (1909-1989); US Secretary of State Cordell Hull (1871-1955); Wellington Koo (1887-1985), Chinese Ambassador to the United Kingdom; and Edward Wood (the Earl of Halifax) (1872-1959), British Ambassador to the United States, each of whom chaired his respective delegation."

State Department History – Founding of the UN⁴

President Roosevelt recognized the inherent weaknesses of the League of Nations, but faced with the reality of another world war, also saw the value of planning for the creation of an international organization to maintain peace in the post-World War II era. He felt that this time, the United States needed to play a leading role both in the creation of the organization, and in the organization itself. Moreover, in contrast to the League, the new organization needed the power to enforce key decisions. The first wartime meeting between British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and President Roosevelt, the Atlantic Conference held off the coast of Newfoundland in August 1941, took place before the United States had formally entered the war as a combatant. Despite its official position of neutrality, the United States joined Britain in issuing a joint declaration that became known as the Atlantic Charter. This pronouncement outlined a vision for a postwar order supported, in part, by an effective international organization that would replace the struggling League of Nations. During this meeting, Roosevelt privately suggested to Churchill the name of the future organization: the United Nations.

[Roosevelt died before the San Francisco conference creating the United Nations. Truman took over.]

The San Francisco Conference, formally known as the United Nations Conference on International Organization, opened on April 25, 1945, with delegations from fifty

countries present. The U.S. delegation to San Francisco included Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., former Secretary of State Cordell Hull, and Senators Tom Connally (D-Texas) and Arthur Vandenberg (R-Michigan), as well as other Congressional and public representatives...

*At San Francisco, the delegates reviewed and often rewrote the text agreed to at Dumbarton Oaks. **The delegations negotiated a role for regional organizations under the United Nations umbrella** and outlined the powers of the office of Secretary General, including the authority to refer conflicts to the Security Council. Conference participants also considered a proposal for compulsory jurisdiction for a World Court, but Stettinius recognized such an outcome could imperil Senate ratification. The delegates then agreed that each state should make its own determination about World Court membership. **The conference did approve the creation of an Economic and Social Council and a Trusteeship Council to assist in the process of decolonization, and agreed that these councils would have rotating geographic representation. The United Nations Charter also gave the United Nations broader jurisdiction over issues that were “essentially within” the domestic jurisdiction of states, such as human rights, than the League of Nations had, and broadened its scope on economic and technological issues . . .***

Oral history given by **J. Wesley Adams**, Technical Advisor to the U.S. Delegation at the UN Conference on International Organization, 1945⁵

MCKINZIE: *The issue that you mentioned that as an overriding issue at the Conference -- namely, **the veto -- was originally insisted upon by the United States as a means of making the Senate feel that the United States would not be dragooned into any kind of international action.** The veto -- even though the Soviet used it most the first years -- was nonetheless a necessary thing for the United States.*

ADAMS: *I was never personally involved in discussions within the American Government on this particular point and obviously it was decided at the Presidential level. But I always assumed that the United States would itself have insisted upon the veto, and of course agreement on the veto was reached at the Yalta Conference. The feeling, I think, at the San Francisco Conference was that this system was not going to work unless the big powers agreed... **So, the veto was built on this assumption that the two powers must agree.** Three other countries also had the veto but militarily they were very weak, had been practically prostrated by the war (the British, and the French, and China). **What we are really talking about was the United States and Soviet Union.***

...You had a feeling in the Department at that time that the shots were being called by Edward Stettinius? Or was it more of a committee operation? Did you think Stettinius was strong?

ADAMS: *No. **I had the feeling that Mr. Stettinius was taking his directions from the White House,** and relying heavily on bureaucratic advice. Mr. Stettinius, of course, came into this picture very late in the game. Cordell Hull had been Secretary right up to about the time of the Conference. Hull had been at Dumbarton Oaks the fall before. I would say that below the President it was a committee operation. Yes. Because there were very strong advisers to the U. S. delegation, as I mentioned, the Senators and the Congressmen, the top people in the State Department, Defense Department, Treasury, and Mr. Stettinius. I think they worked as a team.*

MCKINZIE: *When you came back to Washington after the San Francisco Conference, did you immediately start work then on other international conferences?*

ADAMS: *Yes. The whole inter-departmental staff then got to work on preparing the actual U. S. participation in the United Nations itself. In the following winter the first meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations met in London. **Our Bureau then became the Office of United Nations Affairs, our job being to backstop the U. S. delegation to various U. N. bodies and help prepare the U. S. position on various issues.***

ADAMS: *To change the subject, I would mention the prominence or notoriety subsequently achieved by members of the Office of International Security Affairs in which I worked at that time. It was quite remarkable. **In charge of the whole U.N. office in State was Alger Hiss, who had been the Secretary General of the United Nations Conference and was subsequently to be a key figure in the McCarthy era, the pumpkin papers and Whittaker Chambers. Our immediate chief was Joseph Johnson who was later to become head of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace .***

¹ UN Draft Charter, Dumbarton Oaks, October 7, 1944, <http://www.ibiblio.org/pha/policy/1944/441007a.html>

² Cordell Hull, Nobel Peace Prize, 1945, <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1945/hull/biographical/>

³ U.S. History, Yalta Agreement, February 1945, <http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h2066.html>

⁴ State Department, Office of the Historian, Bureau of Public Affairs, *The United States and the Founding of the United Nations, August 1941 – October 1945*,

<https://web.archive.org/web/20090226140437/http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ho/pubs/fs/55407.htm>

⁵ Truman Library, Transcript of Oral History given by J. Wesley Adams, Technical Advisor to the U.S. Delegation at the United Nations Conference on International Organization, 1945

<http://www.trumanlibrary.org/oralhist/adamsjw.htm>