

ŞHRMUN'24

HJCC

STUDY GUIDE

Second Schleswig War

USG; EKİM DEVRİM ŞAT



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LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Esteemed Participants and Respected Advisors,

Welcome to the Eskişehir Şehir Schools Model United Nations (ŞHRMUN) conference, happening this April at Eskişehir Şehir Schools. As Secretary-General, I'm honored to address you.

ŞHRMUN'24 is our second annual gathering, where students from around the world come together to explore diplomacy, international relations, and how the United Nations works. This year's theme, "For a Better World," aims to spark insightful discussions and find real solutions to global challenges.

Our committee sessions offer workshops led by experts in different fields, providing valuable insights and skills. We'll also delve into various global issues to enrich your understanding.

As we look forward to ŞHRMUN'24, I encourage you to prepare by researching your assigned countries and topics, learning the rules of procedure, and honing your speaking and negotiation skills. Your active participation is key to our success.

I'm excited for the lively discussions, meaningful connections, and memorable experiences that await us at ŞHRMUN'24. Let's seize this chance to inspire positive change and make a difference in our global community.

Warm regards,

Zeynep Tururkor

Secretary-General

Eskişehir Şehir Schools Model United Nations

Letter from the Under-Secretary-General

Esteemed participants,

I would like to express my deepest gratitude and welcome you all to ŞHRMUN '24. I am Ekim Devrim Şat, the under-secretary-general responsible of the HJCC-1 committee, The Second Schleswig War. And I feel very blessed to be able to make this committee a reality and be working with you in my first experience as an under-secretary-general.

The topic of this committee may seem insignificant at first, but the results of it, which will be decided by you, shall have significant influence on both Denmark, Germany and Europe as a whole. As it is known, the Second Schleswig War is a part of the German Unification Wars, even considered to be the first spark in said unification wars.

During this committee the participants shall need expansive knowledge of their characters, nations, cabinets, etc. To achieve such knowledge this study guide shall provide more or less sufficient information, however, since the greater knowledge you have, the greater power you will have inside the committee, I highly urge any and all participants to conduct their own research. If you have high ambitions in your committee, I would suggest going out of your way and using the study guide as just a starting point. I must remind all of you that the information packed in this document neither started here, nor will it end here. The further research you conduct on your own, the further your knowledge will aid you in your ambitions during the committee.

My sincerest hopes are that you will have as much excitement and much enthusiasm as I have when I meet you all during the conference. I expect all of you to be great leaders and commanders during the conference, but most important of all, I expect you to have fun. If you need further assistance, or have any inquiries regarding the study guide, the committee or any topic else, I would be happy to of assistance through e-mail: sovyetdevrim@gmail.com

Sincerest regards,
Ekim Devrim Şat

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I. Introductions

1. Introduction to Joint Crisis Committees

A crisis committee, especially a joint crisis committee such as this one differs notably from a General Assembly (GA) committee due to numerous reasons or factors. One of and arguably the most significant factor of all is the difference of procedures. While in a GA committee, delegates debate upon topics, find and or recommend what might be the solution to the issue at hand, and finally put it in order in a resolution paper but in the end, there can be no true action taken. On the other hand, with crisis committees; delegates must respond swiftly to the crises, updates and debate fiercely with little time being wasted to act upon the events arising during the sessions. Crisis Committees are often loud, fast-paced, chaotic, and at times overwhelming experiences that require the delegates to take initiative and adapt at any moment within an instant.

A Joint Crisis Committee is conducted between at least but not limited to two opposing cabinets and/or parties. In most JCCs enemy cabinets/parties will be taking action to defeat the opposing group, through many ways, including but not limited to; head on warfare, espionage, diplomatic affairs and debates. Each cabinet has a leading commander, which usually happens to be the chairman of said cabinet. Delegates in a JCC most often represent characters rather than a country, that is why delegates must act accordingly to their personal attributes, and the gains of their countries. As mentioned before, a joint crisis committee requires the participants to be quick-thinking, deliberate and swift with their decisions, knowledgeable and creative. Nearly all issues the participants will face shall demand effective teamwork and cooperation.

The procedure of a crisis committee is much simpler than a General Assembly due to the inherent repetitive and swift-paced nature of crises arising and demanding quick and adaptative solutions through directives which would be near unattainable in a strictly rule-enforced environment. Be that as it may, no crisis committee is a rule-free haven, discipline and order are a necessity no matter the committee type.

Similar to General Assembly committees, Joint Crisis Committees alter amongst themselves as well, such as Historical Crisis Committees (HCC), Futuristic Crisis Committees (FCC), and other uncommon types of crisis committees. In this regard, this committee is a Historical Joint Crisis Committee (H-JCC).

2. Introduction to the Second Schleswig War

The Second Schleswig War, also known as the Dano-Prussian War, is the second military conflict over the Schleswig- Holstein Question, which was caused by the rising nationalist unrest in the duchies of Schleswig, Holstein, and Saxe-Lauenburg as well as the Prussians' aggressive reaction to the Danish King Christian IX's signing of the November Constitution which Prussia perceived as a clear violation of the London Protocol. With a decisive Austro-Prussian victory, this war was the first vital step for the Unification of Germany led by Prussia. Although minor, this war proved Prussia to be a fierce player within the diplomatic scene of Europe, as well as a substantial military power.

The Second Schleswig war would also provide a platform for a newly appointed minister-president Otto von Bismarck to prove his worth as a diplomat and a statesman, as he would work to gain public support of Prussians by "liberating" Schleswig and resolving the 60-year-old Schleswig-Holstein Question.

Participants of this committee are expected to be of utmost seriousness and preparedness in order for this committee to run smoothly throughout the conference. Since the main issue being entertained by the nations of Denmark and Prussia is the Schleswig-Holstein Question, although unlikely, it is not a necessity to declare war. The results of this committee will not be derived from military achievements and victories alone, participants must be able to use their diplomatic minds as well as their military thinking to ensure both a victory on land and on paper.

Despite the fact that the study guide is a strong source of academic research and materials regarding the committee, participants are greatly advised to conduct their own research since greater information will be of greater use in the committee.

II. Background Information

The Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein were a conflict between the Germans and the Danes long before the Schleswig Wars ever began. The Holy Roman Empire was dissolved and the remaining German kingdoms, mainly The Kingdom of Prussia, were in an effort to unify the separated German states into a Greater Germany, beginning with the Second Schleswig War. Although the conflict was existent due to an ethnic dispute, The Prussian Kingdom held an underlying motive of uniting the German states together by starting the Second Schleswig War.

Schleswig had been Danish territory since the Viking ages and became a duchy and fief of Denmark, until the Second Schleswig War. It had a mixed population between Northern Schleswig and Southern Schleswig, in the 19th century, while Northern Schleswig had an overwhelming majority of Danes in its population, Southern Schleswig shifted its language and its culture to mostly German, Danish becoming a language of only the minor rural territories. Holstein on the other hand assumed a German culture and German as its language, while also having an overwhelming majority of people of German ethnicity.

After a decisive Danish victory in the First Schleswig War, also known as The Schleswig Uprising, it was decided in the London Protocol that the territories of Schleswig and Holstein were to retain their positions as duchies of The Kingdom of Denmark. This however, did not put a decisive end to the Schleswig-Holstein question. During the First War, Denmark more or less faced an equal in terms of diplomatic influence and military power, but during the twelve years between the First and Second Schleswig Wars, The Kingdom of Prussia had both gained political and diplomatic influence as well as military power. Furthermore, Prussia had The Kingdom of Austria on its side,

a member of the German Confederation at the time. In the Second Schleswig War the powers were far from equal, with a superior military and a powerful ally, the Kingdom of Prussia posed a great threat to Denmark. At the end of the war, the Treaty of Vienna was signed, effectively handing Prussia and Austria the ruling rights of Schleswig, Holstein and Lauenburg. Consequences were dire for the Danes, while the Germans celebrated their victory.

1. The Schleswig Question

With the dissolving of the Holy Roman Empire in 1806, Schleswig, Holstein and Lauenburg were left in a space of uncertainty until the Congress of Vienna in 1815, which saw the establishment of the German Confederation, the most notable members being; The Kingdom of Prussia, The Kingdom of Austria and Holstein which was then a personal union with the Kingdom of Denmark. As a result of the Congress of Vienna and the establishment of the German Confederation, Holstein was included in the Confederation, yet still remained a Duchy of the Kingdom of Denmark, thus never being under direct rule of the Prussians.

On March 27, 1848, The King of Denmark, Frederik VII announced the people of Schleswig a proclamation of a liberal constitution under which the Duchy would retain local autonomy, it would become an integral part of The Kingdom of Denmark, thus putting Schleswig under direct rule of Denmark. This caused great stress and unrest in Schleswig, especially on the German population. After said decision by Frederik VII, the German population of Schleswig-Holstein struck back at Denmark with an uprising. Such an uprising would help Prussia in their wishes to expand their territories and end the Schleswig-Holstein question once and for all. Henceforth, Prussia assisted the rebels in the uprising, thus beginning the first war. At the time, the German Confederation was somewhat an equal to the Kingdom of Denmark in regard of military power, however, Denmark had gained the support of Russia, Sweden-Norway, France and the United Kingdom and had the means to end the war in her favor, consequently, the war ended with a decisive Danish victory, putting a temporary end to the Schleswig-Holstein question. The defeat of the German Confederation brought with the London Protocol of 1852 which reaffirmed Denmark's place as a "European necessity and a standing principle". And the situation with the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein was to remain as a status quo ante bellum. Additionally, the

duchies of Holstein and Saxe-Lauenburg were joined into a personal union with the King of Denmark.



Figure 1: Danish soldiers return to Copenhagen in 1849, Otto Bache, 1894

This defeat had affected the German Confederation greatly, but its effect on Prussia was even greater, who had a means to integrate both of the Duchies into the Kingdom. During the twelve years between the two wars, The Kingdom of Prussia had made and had been a subject to an

abundance of changes, the King of Prussia was Wilhelm I, who ascended the throne on 2 January 1861, upon his brother's death after ruling in his stead as Prince Regent. Wilhelm I, appointed Otto von Bismarck as chancellor and minister-president of the Prussian Kingdom, thus introducing to Europe a fierce politician and statesman who would carry Prussia into glory.

Thanks to Wilhelm I, Bismarck was not the newly appointed minister, there were many more ministers and politicians appointed by the king, most notable being, Helmuth Von Moltke, also known as Moltke the Elder, as Chief of Staff of the Prussian Army and Albrecht von Roon as Minister of War. Moltke the Elder brought with him many reforms to the Prussian army. And is also known for pioneering the modernized army concept within the Prussian Army.

The Second Schleswig War was far from similar to the First Schleswig War, it was a decisive Austro-Prussian victory, and it saw the cession of Schleswig, Holstein and Saxe-Lauenburg by the Kingdom of Denmark after a violent defeat in the battlefield.

It began after the Kingdom of Denmark tried to pass the November Constitution of 1863 which tied the Duchy of Schleswig much closer with Denmark while leaving the Duchy of Holstein separated. Prussia viewed that as a clear violation of the London Protocol and acted accordingly by crossing the border in Schleswig with Austrian forces which meant that military conflict was about to commence. The Prussians had made considerable efforts to increase their diplomatic status and said efforts proved useful. Denmark, at the beginning of the war, had no allies, since Great Britain was upset that the London Protocol was violated, France had colonial problems, and Russians were in no rush to help the Danes. Prussia on the other hand proved her worth by making an alliance with the Austrians, thus proving her importance and power in the German Confederation. And after two years of offensive from the Germans and defensive from the Danes, the war came to an end with the Treaty of Vienna. With the treaty, Denmark ceded the Duchies of

Schleswig, Holstein and Lauenburg, it was also stated that Prussia and Austria would have a joint rule over the Duchies.

The war proved to be a great national trauma for Denmark, while glorifying the German Confederation, especially Prussia.

2. The Schleswig Rebellion (The First Schleswig War)

With the outbreak of the nationalist revolutions of 1848, the rulers in almost all of Central Europe faced basic demands: a constitution and national unity. For the Danish King Frederik VII a constitution was difficult, but "national unity" was almost impossible.

More than a third of Denmark's population resided in the duchies of Schleswig and Holstein. These regions accounted for a third of Denmark's economic strength. After the Napoleonic Wars, nationalist ideology and movements had a greater effect on the European powers. The Kingdom of Denmark wanted a united Denmark incorporated with Schleswig. While the Prussians and the German population of Schleswig and Holstein thought the region as an indivisible federation.

Although both Schleswig and Holstein were a significant part in the conflict, the focal point of the struggle was Schleswig. Holstein's population consisted mostly of Germans, on the other hand, Schleswig had a very mixed population, varying from German, Danish, Frisian and more.

It should also be added that the issue was caused by a succession crisis in The Kingdom of Denmark. When the king of Denmark Christian VIII died childless in 1848, automatically, the duke and the ruler of the Duchies was also gone and Schleswig and Holstein needed a new duke.

In 1846 the Christian VIII had decreed a change in the succession law that allowed a line to continue through the female line. Not only was this illegal, it also received major backlash from the people of Schleswig and Holstein. And thus, sparking the fire of rebellion in the duchies for the upcoming war.

On March 24 1848, Prince Frederik of Noer, a former Danish major-general, a group of soldiers, and a group of university students from Kiel staged a coup in Rendsburg. The coup was effective and swift, due to the fact that most troopers stationed in Rendsburg were Germans. This however, did not mean all complied, a majority of the officers were Danish and so, were not so thrilled by the coup. Prince Frederik of Noer, a leading figure, gave an inspiring and patriotic speech, and thus the infantry battalions and the artillery regiment stationed in Rendsburg went over to the side of the provisional government.



Figure II: Rendsburg just after the provisional government had been proclaimed. On the left, with the German flag, is Rendsburg's civil corps. On the right, with the green uniforms and black czakos, you can see the 5th Lauenburger Riffelkorps.

As open rebellion broke out, it was expected that Danish reinforcements would come soon, and the provisional government had neither the resources nor the military strategy to engage with said reinforcements. For support, the provisional government started an enrollment program to enlist both local and "foreign" (i.e German volunteers). Once the Danes came, they would have been at a serious disadvantage, the reason for this was that they lacked manpower; they barely had a garrison full of men, let alone an army.

The artillery and the cavalry would also prove ineffective in actual combat; since the terrain of Denmark were not so open for cavalry charges, and there were not enough men to man the guns nor were there enough horses to mobilize said artillery batteries.

Starting in such a disadvantaged position didn't help their cause during the later years of the war either. The Danes' support from the major powers of Europe and the Prussians' support decreasing towards the end of the war were two core reasons why the Danes emerged victorious from this occasion.

The London Protocol followed quite shortly after the end of the war. Under the agreement the German Confederation agreed to give Schleswig to the Kingdom of Denmark. Also in the agreement, Denmark accepted to not tie Schleswig more closely to Denmark than to its sister Duchy of Holstein. Thus, putting an end to the conflict temporarily.

3. Military Technology

a. The Dreyse Needle Gun

The Dreyse Needle was a 19th century breech-loading rifle. And also the first breech-loading rifle to have a bolt-action chamber system. It was invented in 1836 by the German gun-smith and gun manufacturer Johann Nikolaus von Dreyse.



Figure III: Dreyse Needle-gun, m/1841, Prussia.

One of the main differences between the powers at play in the Second Schleswig War was the significant development of military technology. Prussia in the recent years had revolutionized her army, also revolutionizing the instruments of war in the process. There were many developments, however, two of the most significant reforms in military technology proved to be of the most significance. One of said recent developments was the popularization of the Dreyse needle gun in between the First and the Second Schleswig Wars.

The Dreyse needle gun was invented even prior to the First Schleswig War, although its ultimate utilization and popularization wouldn't come until late 19th century. It was put to a trial by the British Army and was deemed "too complicated and delicate" for service use. In spite of the fact that it was deemed practically unusable in actual service, with an increase to funding for the army when Wilhelm I came to the rule, the Prussian government was able to make adjustments and changes to the rifle that would enable it to be mass-produced and more practical in terms of usability.

Although a Prussian invented and developed rifle, it must be said that both the Danes and the German Confederation had the gun in their inventories, although the Prussians would have the modernized versions sooner than their Danish counterparts, seeing as Prussia pioneered the reforms necessary to enable mass-production and increase practicality in combat. This would prove to be a great advantage for the Prussians, as they would have easier to handle, accurate rifles that would come in bulk to the army thanks to mass-production.

b. Krupp C64/67

The other of said developments, was the Krupp branded C64 and C67, artillery guns. These artillery models, especially the C64 was on the early stages of development during the Second Schleswig War, although they were tried in the war, and had showed significant potential. This would prove the guns effective after the Second Schleswig War.



Figure IV: A Krupp C/64 gun on display.

c. Miniérifle

While the Prussians used their locally designed Dreyse needle-guns, the Danes were using French Miniérifles. Miniérifles were pretty much an equal to that of a Dreyse needle-gun, thanks to its design which provided for high accuracy. Although the rifles were of near equal, the Miniérifle had one fatal flaw, which was that it was a muzzle-loader, which meant slower loading speeds, which in turn meant less rounds fired per minute. When compared to the Prussian Dreyse needle-gun, the accuracies and the effective ranges were similar, however, because the loading system Dreyse had quite an advantage over the Miniérifle.

d. Lorenz Rifle

Lorenz Rifles were used by the Austrian Forces in the war, they had a similar design to that of the Miniérifle, being a muzzle-loader rifle. Which put the Lorenz in the same disadvantage when compared to the Dreyse rifles. These gaps of technological advancement would overshadow the Austrians' performance in the war in comparison to their allies, the Prussians.

III. Second Schleswig War

1. Beginning of the conflict

After Frederik VII died, the throne of The Kingdom of Denmark was ascended by Christian IX. In 1848, Denmark had transitioned from an absolute monarchy to a constitution, which proved to be an advantage in the first war, although it would not be so in the second one. After the passing of Frederik VII, the liberal cabinets of the Denmark constitution were readying a certain November Constitution, which would put the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein directly under the rule of the kingdom. The King, with public pressure, and a desire to make Denmark whole, signed the constitution, thus giving Prussia reason to start a war.

The fact that Denmark had violated the terms of the London Protocol of 1852 were not taken lightly by the people of Schleswig and Holstein, there was constant unrest within the regions and it was obvious that the situation called for war.

Thus, minister-president of Prussia Otto von Bismarck, issued an ultimatum to the Kingdom of Denmark; which stated that the November Constitution be abolished within 48 hours, politically, this was near impossible, specifically due to the tight deadline. It was declined by the Danish government. With the refusal to mediate from the Danes, the Prussians saw that they had a righteous cause for occupation and the war began.

2. The Battle for Mysunde

The battle at Mysunde on 2 February 1864 was the first actual battle between the allies and the Danish army. The Mysunde position was part of Dannevirke's eastern wing, and it was therefore of great importance that the position did not fall to the Prussians. Seen from the enemy's side, a breakthrough here could mean that the Prussian-Austrian forces could bypass the Danish army and destroy it in its positions.

Early in the morning, the Prussian 1st corps under command of Prince Friedrich Karl, began advancing, with the aim of threatening the Danish, who were thought to be positioned at Kokkendorf. Upon encountering none, Friedrich Karl ordered the 1st corps to advance further, towards Mysunde, hopefully to capture the position.

The leading Prussian forces encountered the Danish Outposts at Langsø. After a fierce exchange of fire between the Danish and the Prussian forces, the Danes retreated to Mysunde.

On the morning of February 2, there was a dense fog over the Mysunde that made it significantly difficult for each side to assess their opponents' positions and/or strengths. Only a few shots were fired from the Danish side. At 11.30, the 3rd Regiment's I. Battalion under Captain Arntz arrived in the town as reinforcements.

Opposite the Danes, the German vanguard with 3 battalions was advancing, and the Danish companies were immediately fired upon fiercely. Several officers were killed or wounded, and Captain Arntz ordered the companies to withdraw to the redoubts. Only now did the Danes realize that this was not just an enemy reconnaissance, but a regular attack on the city.

The Germans continued onwards with their advance. At 12, the German general Albrecht Gustav von Mannstein had arrived and had taken command of the German forces. His plan was to force the Danes back from the city with a heavy bombardment. The forces at his disposal consisted of parts of 3 regiments and a considerable amount of artillery.

At 12.45, the German artillery went into position 500 meters from the Danish positions. Howitzers and 6 pounders were shooting continuously towards the Danes, and shortly after the reserve artillery batteries came. By the time all artillery were being used, the Prussians had more than three times as many as on the Danish side.

Now a fierce battle was at play, but due to the heavy fog, the shots being fired were of little effect, troopers fired at the light of muzzle flashes, and since nothing could be seen, the continuous and fierce artillery attack convinced the Danes that an advance would come soon.

As the artillery combat was taking place, the Prussian infantry had closed in on the Danish front and were now firing at a significantly close range. Subsequently there was chaos and loss in the Danish front. A company from the Danes were sent to divide and drive out the enemy fire but were met with such strong firepower it became a necessity to retreat again.

Prussians, with their superior artillery and firepower, advanced ever closer to Mysunde, however this would prove ineffective, since most artillery shots went over the Danish redoubts and the most effective and swift way of firepower Prussians had was artillery.

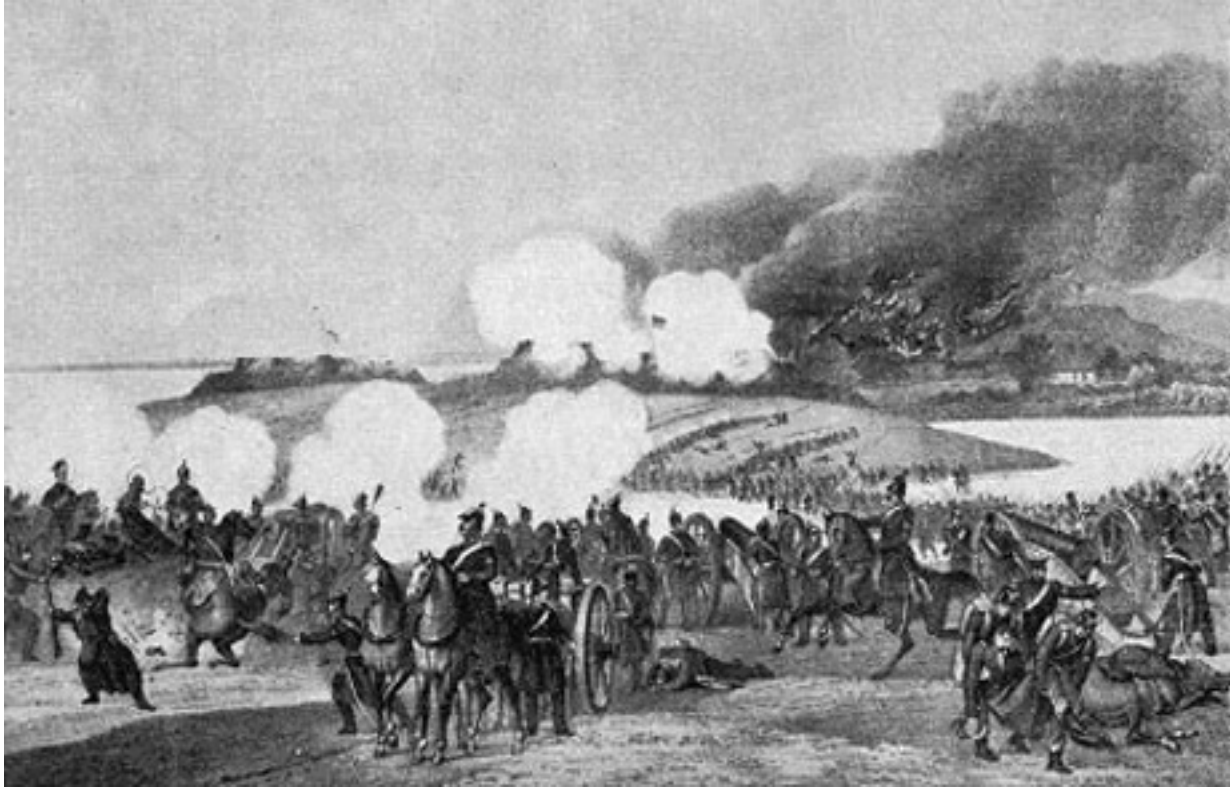


Figure V: The Battle at Mysunde

Towards the end of the battle, it was expected from the Prussians to storm the Danish redoubts, and capture Mysunde. Thus, the Danish forces put two artillery guns on top of the western bank so they could have control over the passing point to Mysunde. Nevertheless, the efforts of the Danes would be in vain, since the rumors of the Prussians retreating would prove to be true.

This was the only victory the Danes had in this war, it boosted morale among the infantry, gave spirit to the people of Denmark. This would also prove that the Danes were capable of withstanding their positions against a superior enemy which was an upset in the eyes of the Prussians and the Austrians.

3. The Battle for Königshügel

The Battle for Königshügel, unlike the other ones, was fought solely between the Austrians and the Danes.

The Austrians had begun to occupy Fahrdorf for due to the fact that there was a gate of the Dannevirke in the region and they wanted to be sure not to hit the flank when advancing against Ober-Selk to be caught. Near noon, the Austrian forces passed Brekendorf and advanced on Ober-Selk when they encountered Danish forces. After the encounter, a battalion with swiftness to the right of the path, while another Battalion moved to the left. The Danes on the other hand, had used the terrain of Denmark for their advantage, positioning themselves in hedgerows, and forming a defensive position.

At 2 after noon a way opened at the Dannevirke and the Danish troops moved out onto the area in front of them. And what waited were a reinforcement of approximately 24 companies. Austria would have to face 24 companies of Danish troops, it would not be a hardship for the Austrians, though, as with a counter attack and an advance towards Ober-Selk proved to be enough to take it.

The ultimate goal was, in the end, achieved, however Major General Gondrecourt realized that it would be a risk to not secure the village by taking Königshügel. The Danes displayed a great amount of resistance, but the Austrians managed to take Königshügel. To secure Königshügel, they faced the Danish forces in Jagel, although the fighting was fierce, the Austrians managed to secure a victory and most importantly, secure Königshügel, which would provide safe passage to Dannevirke.



Figure VI: Die Schlacht bei Oberselk, by Fritz Allemand

The following battle was expected to be in Dannevirke, but General Mezza, the commander-in-chief of the Danish army at the time, in fear the Danish forces would be outflanked by the already superior German forces, ordered an evacuation in Dannevirke to the trenches at Dybbøl. This evacuation resulted in the abandonment of heavy artillery. The actions taken by General Mezza received great backlash from the Danish folk, who once thought Dannevirke as impregnable. Soon after the incident took place, Christian de Meza was swiftly relieved of his command.

4. The Battle of Dybbøl

The Battle of Dybbøl had clearly been a major loss for the Danes, after 11 days of strenuous fighting, it was clear that the Danish army could no longer resist the continuous pressure from the Germans.

The Danish army had retreated from Dannevirke to Dybbøl on the orders of General Meza, in order to prevent the Prussian-Austrian forces from outflanking and destroying them. This meant that both the Germans and the Danes were extremely exhausted, and although morale was higher than usual, the Danes, with their apparent disadvantages would be subject to greater suffering.

By the time all of the forces had gathered in Dybbøl, the Germans had gathered 126 artillery pieces, and was intent on using these to their full potential. And, the heaviest bombardment Denmark faced that century began. All 126 artillery pieces and mortars rained shells on the Danish redoubts. The Danish, in order to decrease casualties, built wooden block houses for housing infantrymen and other troops, their efforts would be in vain though, since mere wooden houses could not stop a shot from a Howitzer.

During the day, Danish soldiers tried to avoid getting hit by an artillery shell and getting some rest, while during the night, they desperately tried to repair the damage inflicted by the enemies' daytime bombardments.

While the German artillery rained fire on the Danish redoubts, the infantrymen dug ever closer to the Danish line, preparing for an infantry charge. At April 5, the Austro-Prussian forces led an infantry charge, but were repulsed by the Danish. At April 18 however, was a very different case indeed, a much heavier attack was carried out and was able to penetrate the Danish line.

At April 18, 04.00 the bombardments began, almost 8,000 artillery shells rained on the Danish front. During the 6 hours the bombardments were continued, fortifications were blown to pieces, the Danes suffered heavy casualties, a large portion of the artilleries the Danes had were obliterated.

To defend the Dybbøl position, there were approximately 5,000 Danish soldiers in the redoubts, trenches and behind the redoubts and 6,000 reserve soldiers were behind the front line. Whereas the Prussians had nearly 37,000 men in their infantry divisions.

Although outnumbered and outpowered, the Danes proved themselves to be formidable soldiers. In spite of the fact that they faced a most certain defeat, they showed that they would not give up without a fight. To conclude; although the Danish had the will to fight, the outnumbering, recently modernized Prussian army with the Austrian army proved to be superior in the battlefield.

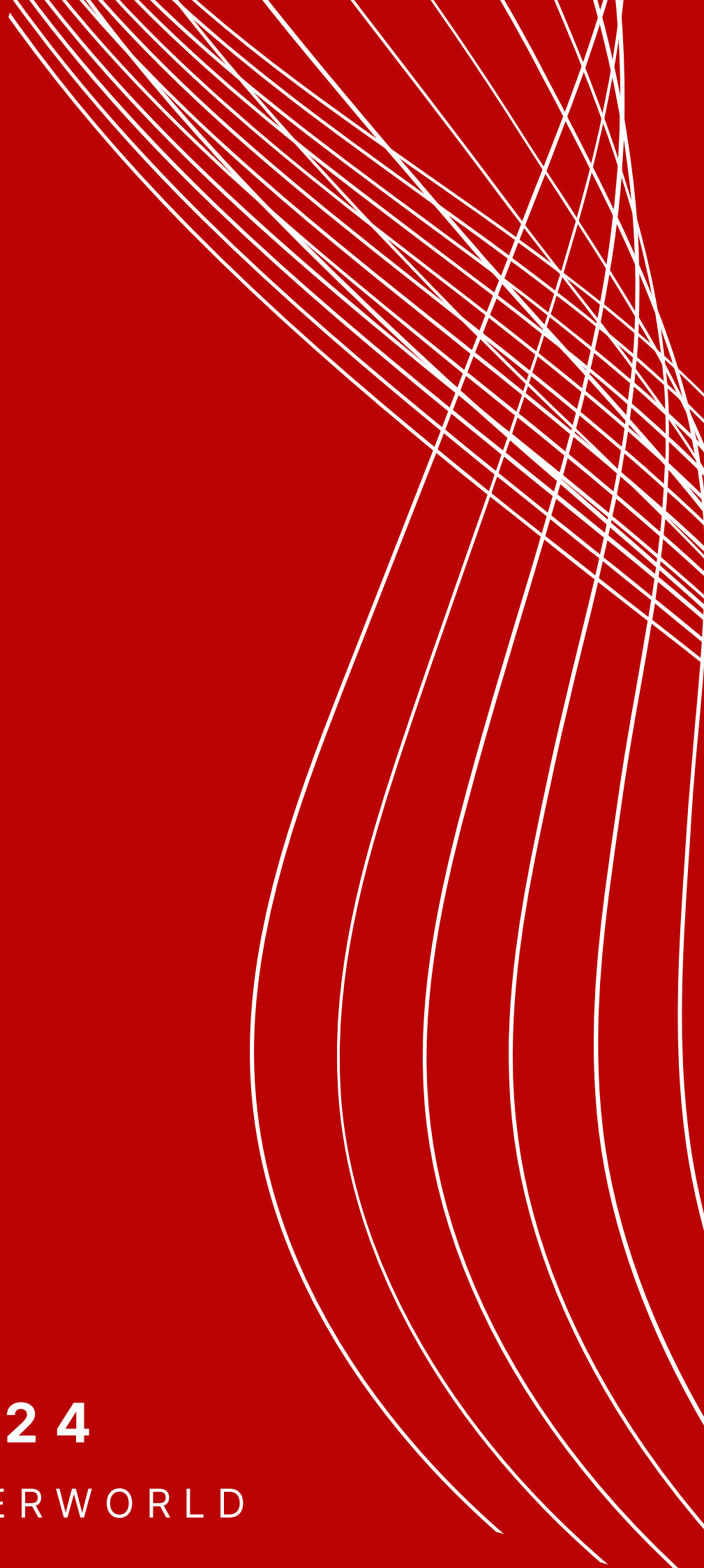
5. Battle of Lundby

The Battle of Lundby was the last battle in the Second Schleswig War, and although minor, this battle was the testament of Prussian military discipline and strategies. After the Danish decided to lead a bayonet charge against the Prussians from Kongehøj, although the commanding officer of the 160 Danish infantrymen was offered help from a local farmer to take them somewhere where they could have cover, Johannes Beck, the officer in question turned down the offer.

After refusing to have cover and charge strategically, Beck led all his men straight into battle, where they met Prussian soldiers wielding the Dreyse Needle-gun. The Prussians fired 3 salvos, and in the end more than half of the Danish men were either dead, wounded, captured or missing. Thus ending the war.

IV. The Treaty of Vienna

The treaty ended the Second War of Schleswig. Denmark ceded the Duchy of Schleswig (except for the island of Ærø, which remained Danish) the Duchy of Holstein and the Duchy of Lauenburg. They would be jointly governed by Prussia and Austria in a condominium.



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