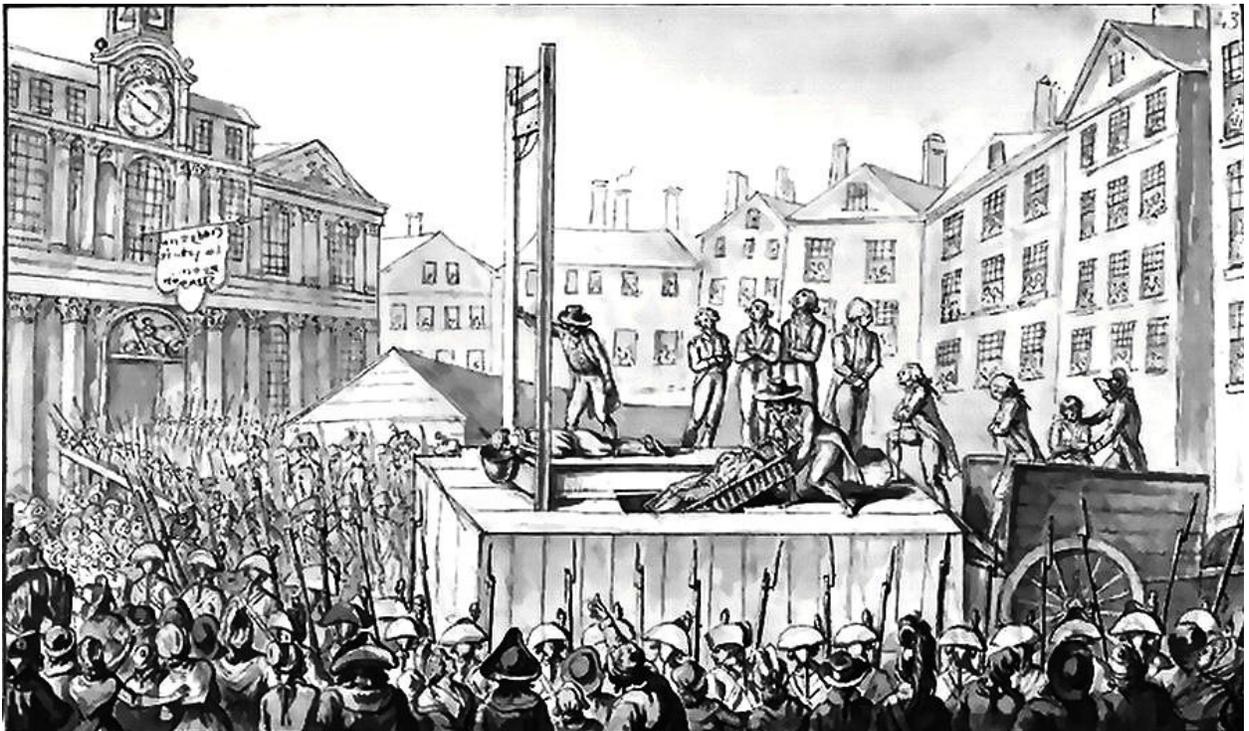


# OSUMTUNT

## The French Revolution: Reign of Terror



## Letter From Your Crisis Directors



Hello! My name is Ryan McDermott, and I will be your Crisis Director for the Reign of Terror Committee at OSUMUN 2019! I am excited because I have never worked as a CD, despite this being my third time working OSUMUN. I will be entering my fourth and final year at The Ohio State University. I am an International Studies and Spanish double major, which is not whatsoever connected to the Collegiate Council on World Affairs. I am on the executive board of CCWA as well as being the President of one of the subsidiary branches– The United Nations Association. I hope you enjoy your time with us here at Ohio State!



Hello! My name is Vince Glidden, and I have the pleasure of being your Deputy-Crisis Director for the Reign of Terror Committee! This is my first time staffing OSUMUN, but I had the pleasure of attending OSUMUN the past three years as a high school delegate. As a high school and college student, I have had the opportunity to attend nearly 20 different conferences across the globe, with extensive experience in both crisis and GA committees. I am currently a first year student majoring in Economics, with minors in Italian and Political Science and a special interest in European Politics, educational policy, and economic policy. As a member of the Collegiate Council on World Affairs (CCWA), I'm extremely excited to be working on this committee with all of you, and I can't wait to see your creative takes on the tumultuous period that was the French Revolution! If you have any questions about the background guide, preparation for the conference, or Ohio State/OSUMUN as a whole, feel free to email me at [Glidden.8@buckeyemail.osu.edu](mailto:Glidden.8@buckeyemail.osu.edu). Best of luck, and I look forward to meeting all of you in April!

### **Historic Background**

“Let Terror be the order of the day!” – Bertrand Barère

Welcome to 1792! Paris has become the breeding grounds for new ideas, after the capture of King Louis XVI. We begin on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 1792, immediately following the declaration of the French Republic and the subsequent bloodshed and general disorder which afflicted the new republic, including the infamous September Massacres in which the Jacobins vanquished the Girondins.

During this time, the Reign of Terror is merely a thought in the minds of French radicals. These radicals, headed by Maximilien Robespierre, were beginning to form a radicalized faction of the

Jacobin party, which would eventually come to be known as the Montagnard. While relatively unknown at this point, it is this party which would eventually come to strike terror into the minds and hearts of citizens and rulers across the European continent. This swift and radical shift would eventually leave nearly 18,500-40,000 French citizens dead<sup>1</sup>, and scar the newly founded republic for decades to come.

## **French Culture**

### Pre-Revolution:

The Pre-Revolution culture in France was largely defined by the traditional French system of the Ancien Régime (Ancient Regime), which split the citizens of France into three “Estates.” The First Estate was composed of the Clergy, or the Roman Catholic Church. Catholicism is the dominant religion in France. The clergy was split into the higher clergy and lower clergy. The higher clergy, while assumed to be the most holy of the First Estate, is actually comprised of members of the Second Estate. Under King Louis XVI, all the bishops of France were members of the Second Estate, a reality which was allowed to come into existence due to the French monarchs absolute control over the appointment of the clergy. The lower clergy is comprised of around ninety percent of the entire First Estate, and lived a life of hard labor and religious devotion. Revolutionary sentiment during the Revolution was largely directed towards the higher clergy, who were known for their excessive wealth and extravagant behaviors.

The Second Estate was composed of the French nobility. Membership in the Second Estate was defined by hereditary land ownership, a stipulation which prevented upward mobility for the up and coming members of bourgeois. These nobles were headed by the French monarchy, and were completely subservient to the King or Queen in power.. Lineage then followed the in descending order of peerage, starting with the Fils de France or the Dauphin, son of the king, and ending with the barons. They are the ruling class of France, and there was no way to enter the nobility except by birth or marriage<sup>2</sup>. In the time before the Revolution, the nobility had lost much of its power as a result of the near-subservience initiated by King Louis XIV, who was notorious for his use of nobles in helping him to engage in daily activities, such as dressing or eating meals. However, regardless of this subservience, the nobility still controlled much of France, owning nearly 20-30% of French land, much of which was worked by serfs, which were practically owned by the Second Estate.

The Third Estate was comprised of two factions– the bourgeoisie and the commoners. The bourgeoisie were doctors, lawyers, business owners, etc., and were members of the middle-class which came about in French society in the 1700s. However, much of the Third Estate was composed by commoners, who were the poorest members of society. These individuals, whether they be urban workers or serfs on estates owned by the nobility, were born with nothing and had

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<sup>1</sup> PBS. Accessed August 24, 2018. <http://www.pbs.org/marieantoinette/timeline/reign.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Velde, Francois. "Nobility and Titles in France." The Arms of Baroness Thatcher. Accessed August 24, 2018. <http://www.heraldica.org/topics/france/noblesse.htm>.

no opportunity to move up in the social hierarchy. Their lives consisted of the use of rations in order to feed their families and relying on abysmally low wages in order to survive . Given this abject poverty, it is easy to understand why these members of the Third Estate were the main instigators of the French Revolution.

### Revolutionary Times:

The French Revolution began on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1789, when revolutionaries stormed the Bastille. The Bastille, considered an ‘impenetrable’ fortress, was found in the French capital of Paris and housed the national jail. In capturing this structure, the French revolutionaries sought to emphasize the shift from the French regime to a budding republic. Following the capture of the Bastille, much of France was quickly filled with revolutionary sentiment, resulting in what UCLA history professor Lynn Hunt describes as a “Cultural Wasteland<sup>iii</sup>.” The French Revolution, unlike more recent revolutions, was a political revolution, rather than a cultural one. The French Revolution largely disregarded the culture developed over previous centuries, primarily as an attempt to separate itself from the culture of excess developed during the reign of King Louis XVI and other previous monarchs. Of the many areas of French culture targeted by revolutionary action and policy, perhaps the most important was the Estate system, which was quickly brought down by the newly radicalized leadership of the National Assembly and other revolutionary bodies. However, this rapid cultural shift was not without consequences: as a result of this threat to the long established status quo, many European leaders turned against the newly formed French Republic, in turn abandoning existing alliances, or, in some cases, declaring war on the Republic.

### **The Warring Factions**

#### The Jacobins:

The Jacobins were the dominant group during the early stages of the French Revolution. The Jacobin clubs had over 900 branches throughout France, all of which were either associated with or run by the main club in Paris. In contrast to their later radicalization, these clubs began as locations for Frenchmen to debate politics and state their opinions with like-minded men.

However, as time progressed, the Parisian branch of the Jacobin club became the breeding ground for some of the most radical and violent policies of the entire revolution . This branch was known for creating some of the more radical revolutionaries, including Jean-Paul Marat and Maximilien Robespierre.

It is important to note that the Jacobins at the time of this committee are relatively splintered, with Robespierre leading his own sect within the Jacobin club. This group, deemed the Montagnard, demonstrated the increasingly radical and violent nature of the revolution, spearheading violent and reactionary policies throughout France for years to come. While not

entirely representative of all Jacobins at this time, history shows that, as time progressed, the Montagnard would eventually radicalize a majority of Jacobins.<sup>3</sup>

#### The Feuillants:

The Feuillants were originally a sect within the Jacobin club, known less for their radical actions and beliefs, but rather for their desire for enlightened political debate. Given the radical, anti-monarchical beliefs held by many Jacobins, the Feuillants would eventually break off from the Jacobins, forming their own pro-monarchy organization. While they were not closely affiliated with the Jacobins, it is important to note that they were not targeted by later attacks and purges orchestrated by the Jacobins.

#### The Dantonists:

The Dantonists were led by Georges-Jacques Danton, a great scholar and politician. His time as a political figure and intellectual fame, ultimately allowed him to create his own revolutionary faction, known for their objection to excessive violence which would come to define the French Revolution. Given his aversion to violence during this period, he and the Dantonists were fundamentally opposed to the Jacobins, leading the Dantonists being one of the main factions heavily targeted by Jacobin attacks.<sup>4</sup>

#### The Girondins:

Similar to the Dantonists, the Girondins were another political faction which opposed the plot of the Jacobins. The Girondins were liberal in nature, known for their pioneering belief in the abolition of the French monarchy; however, their beliefs differed from other anti-monarchy factions such as the Jacobins, largely due to differences in governmental structure. Given this difference, combined with their outspoken criticism of the Jacobins, the Girondins would eventually be purged from the new French government by the Jacobin-controlled national guard.

#### The Hébertistes:

The Hébertistes were a democratic political faction, falling on the same side of the political spectrum as the Girondins. However, this group, lead by the famous populist journalist Jacques Hébert, was not politically aligned with the Girondins, instead being known for their calls for the eradication of the Girondins and the establishment of an anti-Christian government. It was around this time that the Hébertistes were responsible for converting nearly all of France's approximately 2,000 churches to the worship of Reason.

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<sup>3</sup> "Template without Comments." The Future of Wind Power. Accessed August 24, 2018. [https://www.mtholyoke.edu/courses/rschwart/hist255/kat\\_anna/jacobins.html](https://www.mtholyoke.edu/courses/rschwart/hist255/kat_anna/jacobins.html).

<sup>4</sup> "Danton Versus Robespierre: The Quest for Revolutionary Power." Accessed August 25, 2018. <https://www.ucumberlands.edu/downloads/academics/history/vol6/AaronPurcell94.html>.

## **The September Massacres**

Fearing an invasion of Paris by an advancing royalist Prussian army, members of the Jacobin club stormed the Bastille and captured political enemies across France, attacking those they believe to be possible hidden Prussian allies, killing nearly 1,000 prisoners over the course of four days. Utilizing the tense political atmosphere, the Jacobins capitalized on the anti-Prussian sentiment by targeting the Girondins and Hébertistes, along with members of the Clergy.

A firsthand account of the massacres stated, “A man who was not one of the killers, just one of those unthinking machines who are so common, stopped him with a pike in the stomach. The poor soul was caught by his pursuers and slaughtered. The man with the pike coldly said to us, ‘Well I didn’t know they wanted to kill him.’”

Another account stated, “The number of active killers who took part in the September massacres was only about one hundred and fifty. The rest of Paris looking on in fear or approval or stayed behind closed shutters.<sup>5</sup>”

As demonstrated by these firsthand accounts, these few days were remembered for their excessive violence and political motivations, and marked the first of many events which would eventually lead to the Reign of Terror. As revolutionary sentiment and radicalism spread unchecked, it is the duty of this committee to prevent the new Republic from falling apart at the seams, lest it fall prey to the powers of Europe or the murderous French mobs.

### **Character List**

**Adrien Duport** – One of the founders of the “Club de Feuillants,” Adrien Duport was born a member of the nobility, but he denounced his title at the start of the Revolution. Before the Revolution, Duport was a member of the Parliament of Paris, a high court of justice in France. Later, he was elected to the Estates-General in 1789. Between the rise of the Revolution and the fall of the monarchy, Duport was made the President of France’s Criminal Courts, and represented one third of the “triumvirate” of the Estates General.<sup>6</sup>

**Alexandre de Lameth** – A member of the French Nobility, Lameth fought for the American Revolutionaries during their war for independence. He was a true politician, known for his role in helping the National Assembly draft The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen,

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<sup>5</sup> "The September Massacres." The Minstrel Show. Accessed August 24, 2018.

[http://chnm.gmu.edu/revolution/d/392/\\_The\\_September\\_Massacres\\_witnessed\\_by\\_Restif\\_de\\_la\\_Bretonne](http://chnm.gmu.edu/revolution/d/392/_The_September_Massacres_witnessed_by_Restif_de_la_Bretonne).

<sup>6</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Adrien Duport." Encyclopædia Britannica. August 11, 2018. Accessed September 04, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Adrien-Jean-Francois-Duport>.

even going so far as to introduce anti-feudalism measures that would further restrict the King. Akin to Duport, Lameth was also a member of the triumvirate.<sup>7</sup>

**Antoine Barnave** – In alliance with Duport and de Lameth, Barnave was the last member of the triumvirate. He was the only member of the triumvirate to not be born into nobility. Instead, he was born into a well-off protestant bourgeois family. He was a prominent member of the Committee on Colonies and was prominent in his favor of increasing trade to the Indies. During the revolution, he was known to engage in some limited correspondence with Her Majesty, Queen Marie Antoinette.<sup>8</sup>

**Charles de Calonne** – Charles de Calonne was a statesmen and economist who oversaw the restructuring the economic system under the monarchy. This necessary restructuring is what led to the start of the French Revolution. The problem with Charles de Calonne's economic system was the plan would have required a heavier level of taxation against the First and Second Estates, which at the time was unacceptable. Despite this plan's failure to be implemented, his plans to for tax distribution amongst all three Estates helped him to gain some popularity amongst the Third Estate.

**Charlotte Corday** – Charlotte Corday, whose most prominent feat was the murder of Marat, was a disenfranchised noble who wanted to keep her power. When this failed, she became a member of the Girondin party. Following the expulsion of the Girondins following the September Massacres, she utilized in dangerous and risky tactics in order to further their agenda outside of legislation, even if that meant murdering the leaders of other groups.<sup>9</sup>

**Gabriel Riqueti** – Gabriel Riqueti was a famed right winged, pro-monarchy politician of this era. His father was heavily involved in French politics, leading many to view Gabriel's ascension to the political scene as ancestral in nature. As a member of the right, he was ousted from power at the beginning of Robespierre's reign, and he had to work for the rest of his career to regain his lost prestige.<sup>10</sup>

**Georges-Jacques Danton** – Georges-Jacques Danton was the founder and leader of the Dantonists, a moderate political faction. During his time as leader of the Dantonists, Danton was seen as the foremost leader in the push for for democracy, a role which was further by his role as

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<sup>7</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Alexandre, Count De Lameth." Encyclopædia Britannica. March 11, 2018. Accessed September 04, 2018.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Alexandre-Theodore-Victor-comte-de-Lameth>.

<sup>8</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Antoine Barnave." Encyclopædia Britannica. December 09, 2016. Accessed September 04, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Antoine-Barnave>.

<sup>9</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Charlotte Corday." Encyclopædia Britannica. July 23, 2018. Accessed September 04, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Charlotte-Corday>.

<sup>10</sup> Chevallier, Jean-Jacques. "Honoré-Gabriel Riqueti, Comte De Mirabeau." Encyclopædia Britannica. March 26, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Honore-Gabriel-Riqueti-comte-de-Mirabeau>.

the the head of the first Committee on Public Safety. However, he was recently ousted from power during the September Massacres, leaving him wanting for a new role in French politics.

**Gouverneur Morris** – Gouverneur Morris was the American ambassador to France during the Reign of Terror. He was recalled once the Reign of Terror was over, but he gives an interesting viewpoint of a representative of a nation allied to a deposed ruler. He is utterly critical of the French Revolution and gave his history of the Terror in his journal published in the 1880's.<sup>11</sup>

**Isaac René Guy de Chapelier** – Chapelier was a controversial statesman who introduced the “Loi le Chapelier,” which outlawed meetings between employees or between employers. This was mostly used against the employees who could not hide their meetings as well. He was best known for playing a massive role in the creation of what would become the Jacobin club.<sup>12</sup>

**Jacques-Louis David** – David was a painter who partook in the ideology of the Jacobin club. Before the Revolution, his work was widely acclaimed by members of the French public, known for their role in more accurately portraying the situation of the French poor.. His political ideology would eventually lead him to the Jacobin club, where he became a politically themed painter. After the Revolution, he was imprisoned twice and reformed himself into a great teacher for hundreds of students from all over Europe.<sup>13</sup>

**Jacques-Pierre Brissot** – The leader of the Girondins, Brissot's ideology was viewed as the antithesis of those held by the Jacobins. Given this political clash, his faction was the main group targeted during the September Massacres. Prior to the attack's, Brissot was known for his warmongering and his ability to convince the Legislative Body to declare war on Austria. After he was expelled as the representative of Paris, Brissot was elected as the leader from a municipality and convinced the legislation to again wage war– this time on Britain and the Dutch.<sup>14</sup>

**Jean-Marie Roland** – Jean-Marie Roland was a leading scientist before the French Revolution and a member of the Girondist faction. He welcomed the beginning of the Revolution, mostly due to its relatively moderate nature. However, his adamant desire to remain moderate would eventually drive Danton to work with Robespierre, leading to an alliance based on their vehement dislike of Roland. Roland was appointed Minister of the Interior under Brissot, and

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<sup>11</sup> History.com Staff. "Gouverneur Morris." History.com. 2009. Accessed August 24, 2018. <https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/gouverneur-morris>.

<sup>12</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Jean Le Chapelier." Encyclopædia Britannica. June 08, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jean-Le-Chapelier>.

<sup>13</sup> McMullen, Roy Donald. "Jacques-Louis David." Encyclopædia Britannica. August 26, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jacques-Louis-David-French-painter>.

<sup>14</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Jacques-Pierre Brissot." Encyclopædia Britannica. February 12, 2015. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jacques-Pierre-Brissot>.

would be one of many Girondists in Brissot's ministry; yet, he would be usurped from power during the September Massacres.<sup>15</sup>

**Jeanne-Marie Roland** – The wife of Jean-Marie Roland, Madam Roland was known for her frequent manipulation her husband. Through their close personal relations, she was able to control his plans and often helped decide who he would attack. It was this dynamic which would eventually lead to his targeting of Danton, which would force him to move towards the Jacobins and away from the Girondins. At a young age, she was inspired by the writings of Rousseau and became smitten with the ideals of democracy.<sup>16</sup>

**Jean-Paul Marat** – A major player in the beginning of the Revolution, Marat controlled much of the media that radicalized the French Revolution. He started his professional life as a doctor and scientist, but would eventually become a politician when he was not elected to the Academy of Science. Following his entrance into the political arena, Marat would become a journalist, known for his attacks on the monarchy, nobles, and all those he believed was not in favor of the Revolution. He hated the Marquis de Lafayette, the Mayor of Paris, and the Comte de Mirabeau due to their moderate ideologies.<sup>17</sup>

**Marie Antoinette** – The wife of King Louis XVI, Marie Antoinette was a member of the Habsburg family of Austria-Hungary. She was the penultimate child and youngest daughter of Queen Maria Theresa and Emperor Francis I of the Holy Roman Empire. During the early stages of the Revolution, the Queen was not active in politics, yet she was the more decisive of the royal couple. She begged her husband to leave with her to Metz, but he declined. Her greatest feat was to work in secret in order to free the royal family from their imprisonment, which she was almost able to accomplish. However, her ignorance of the suffering of the French poor and inability to adapt to the demands of the revolutionaries would eventually lead to her death in October of 1793.<sup>18</sup>

**Marquis de Lafayette** – Marquis de Lafayette was a French Statesman who famously helped the colonial forces during the American Revolution. After helping the Americans to assure their independence, he returned to France, where he worked to improve the lives of the people. Lafayette became the leader of the “liberal aristocrats,” who were simultaneously pro-democracy and pro-monarchy. His friend, Thomas Jefferson, said that his pro-democracy tendencies would most likely win out in the end. He lost family during the Reign of Terror, and never saw eye to

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<sup>15</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Jean-Marie Roland." Encyclopædia Britannica. February 14, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jean-Marie-Roland>.

<sup>16</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Jeanne-Marie Roland." Encyclopædia Britannica. March 10, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jeanne-Marie-Roland>.

<sup>17</sup> Vidalenc, Jean. "Jean-Paul Marat." Encyclopædia Britannica. July 09, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jean-Paul-Marat>.

<sup>18</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Marie-Antoinette." Encyclopædia Britannica. June 22, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Marie-Antoinette-queen-of-France>.

eye with Robespierre due to their differences in opinion regarding the new government of the French Republic.<sup>19</sup>

**Maximilien de Robespierre** – Robespierre, a Jacobin, was the leader of the Reign of Terror, would act as the catalyst for many of the more extreme and radical events and plans which would occur during his rule. Robespierre believed that, in order to control the nation, one must first control its people. This ideology would eventually lead to the imprisonments of over 300,000 French citizens and the execution of over 10,000 “enemies of the state.” These events and purges occurred during his reign as the leader of the Committee of Public Safety from July of 1793 to July of 1794. Eventually, Robespierre would be ousted from power and arrested, tried, and executed due to his crimes against the state.<sup>20</sup>

**Pierre-Antoine, Count Daru** – A favored general of Napoleon during his time as Emperor of France, Daru was of high standing in the military during the time of the revolution. While he was pro-revolutionary, he largely focused his efforts on military matters, and rarely engaged in any political debate.<sup>21</sup>

**Thomas Jefferson** – The American Secretary of State, former United States Ambassador to France and friend of Marquis de Lafayette, Jefferson’s role in their French Revolution was to guide its people and newly formed government towards democracy. However, despite America’s initial support of the revolution, its increasingly volatile nature would lead to President Washington drafting a notice of neutrality, restricting Jefferson’s role to assisting the more moderate French leaders towards a more stable and sustainable form of government.<sup>22</sup>

**Jacques-René Hébert** – Jacques-René Hébert was born into a bourgeois family but lived most of his young adult life in poverty. His extreme poverty would eventually cause him develop a hatred for the clergy and nobility, with his actions regularly and outbursts targeting the Catholic Church. Once he came into power, he would convert all French Catholic Churches into “Temples of Reason,” effectively seeking to remove all Catholic influence within France. He was one of the most radical of all the revolutionaries, and it was his “mini-revolution” that caused the Committee of Public Safety to consolidate its power.<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> Leepson, Marc. "Marquis De Lafayette." Encyclopædia Britannica. September 02, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Marquis-de-Lafayette>.

<sup>20</sup> Bouloiseau, Marc. "Maximilien Robespierre." Encyclopædia Britannica. July 24, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Maximilien-Robespierre>.

<sup>21</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Pierre-Antoine, Count Daru." Encyclopædia Britannica. September 01, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Pierre-Antoine-Noel-Mattieu-Bruno-Comte-Daru>.

<sup>22</sup> Odom, Jr Leslie., Anthony Ramos, Daveed Diggs, Okieriete Onaodowan, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Phillipa Soo, Christopher Jackson, Renee Elise Goldsberry, Jasmine Cephas-Jones, Thayne Jasperson, Jonathan Groff, Jon Rua, and Sydney James. Harcourt, writers. *Hamilton Original Broadway Cast Recording (CD)*. Atlantic, 2015, CD.

<sup>23</sup> "He." Introduction to the Metaphysics of Morals by Immanuel Kant. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.marxists.org/glossary/people/h/e.htm#hebert-jacques>.

**Jean-Nicholas Billaud-Varenne** – A follower of Hébert, Billaud Varenne was a violent man, known for his aggressive desire to eliminate the royal family. He was one of the only two members of the Hébertistes to sit on the Committee of Public Safety. However, in contrast to Hébert, Varenne was able to outlast many of his political opponents, eventually contributing to the arrest and execution of Robespierre.<sup>24</sup>

**Jean-Baptiste-Joseph Gobel** – The Archbishop of Paris, Gobel one of only a few members higher clergy to support the revolution. Beyond his support of the revolution, Gobel also known for his more progressive policies, such as his advocacy for the marriage of clergymen. After the establishment of the French Republic, Gobel resigned from his religious duties and joined the Hébertistes.<sup>25</sup>

**Pierre-Gaspard Chaumette** – A member of the Anti-Christian cult that served the goddess Reason, Chaumette was known for his role in closing many French Catholic churches. Beyond this, he was able to counteract earlier feminist movements in France by banning women from political participation in debates and demonstrations. He was held a general hatred for the Girondins, yet was not an outspoken supporter of the lower class, unlike many of his contemporaries.

**Jean-Baptiste du Val-de-Grâce, Baron de Cloots** – Also known as Anacharsis Cloots, he was a major proponent of French expansionism into the rest of Europe. Despite his support for French expansion, He was actually born in Prussia; however, he would eventually move to France and become a member of the Jacobin club. As one of the more radical democrats, he titled himself “The Orator of all Mankind,” and he followed the banner of Hébert.

**Louis Antoine de Saint-Just** – A troubled youth, his mother had him placed in a reformatory after he ran away to Paris in 1786. In 1789, he published his first poem “Organt,” which many said was akin to a less powerful “La Pucelle d’Orléans” by Voltaire. He worked with Robespierre in order to move the Revolution toward a restructured society. However, due to his adolescence, he was barred from the National Assembly, preventing him from influencing French legislation and policy beyond his political connections and sphere of influence.<sup>26</sup>

**Marie Jean Héroult de Séchelles** – Born a noble, Marie Jean Héroult de Séchelles was a high-ranking member of King Louis’s legal staff; however, he betrayed his royal counterparts, joining in the storming of the Bastille. During the Revolution, he was elected to the first

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<sup>24</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Jean-Nicholas Billaud-Varenne." Encyclopædia Britannica. May 31, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jean-Nicholas-Billaud-Varenne>.

<sup>25</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Jean-Baptiste-Joseph Gobel." Encyclopædia Britannica. August 28, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jean-Baptiste-Joseph-Gobel>.

<sup>26</sup> Reinhard, Marcel. "Louis De Saint-Just." Encyclopædia Britannica. August 21, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Louis-de-Saint-Just>.

Committee of Public Safety in July of 1793, but was not well trusted due to his previous noble status.<sup>27</sup>

**Yolande de Polastron, Duchess of Polignac** – A close friend of Marie Antoinette, Yolande de Polastron was made a duchess, a situation which would earn her many enemies amongst the nobility. In the period before the revolution, Polastron was also widely known for her beauty, a fact which would allow her to maintain some influence after the fall of the monarchy.

**Georges Couthon** – A leader of the Jacobin club, Georges Couthon was a close associate of Robespierre and Saint-Just. A member of the first Committee on Public Safety, Couthon denounced his ways as a proponent of the poor. He became a military advisor who worked to arrest Girondins during and following the September Massacres. During this time, he also made trips to the outlying provinces, all while being wheelchair bound<sup>28</sup>.

**Lazare Carnot** – A member of the Committee for General Defense and the Committee of Public Safety, Carnot was a major player in both the political and military arenas. Carnot was a major antagonist to Robespierre, and largely focused on developing France's military policies, allowing him influence military rules and hierarchical structure.<sup>29</sup>

**Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyès** – A member of the First Estate, Sieyès was able to become Vicar-General, then the Chancellor of the Diocese of Chartres. Unfortunately, due to his low-class birth, he was unable to progress further into the Church's hierarchy, leading to his becoming disenfranchised with the Church. In the end, he turned to politics and wrote a pamphlets about the Third Estate, and would eventually go on to play an important role in the First French Empire.<sup>30</sup>

**Napoleon Bonaparte** – During the French Revolution, Napoleon was an up-and-coming general seeking to improve his standing within the French military. During the revolution and Reign of Terror, Napoleon was able to consolidate enough power to eventually take control of France and declare himself Emperor. For a considerable amount of the revolution, Napoleon assisted in ending the civil war in his family's home of Corsica, followed by his return to France as a military advisor.<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Marie-Jean Hérault De Séchelles." Encyclopædia Britannica. March 29, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Marie-Jean-Herault-de-Sechelles>.

<sup>28</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Georges Couthon." Encyclopædia Britannica. July 24, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Georges-Couthon>.

<sup>29</sup> Soboul, Albert M. "Lazare Carnot." Encyclopædia Britannica. July 29, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Lazare-Carnot>.

<sup>30</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyès." Encyclopædia Britannica. June 16, 2018. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Emmanuel-Joseph-Sieyes>.

<sup>31</sup> "Napoleon Bonaparte." The Rise of Big Business | EHISTORY. Accessed September 05, 2018. <https://ehistory.osu.edu/biographies/napoleon-bonaparte>.

