**Chapter 23: American Foreign Policy through the Years**

**Different Forms of Government**

* **Governments** around the world vary.
	+ Some countries have a representative democracy, like the United States.
	+ Some countries are run by just a few people.
	+ Still others are run by just one person.
	+ Some governments control both the government and the economy; others, like ours, try to let the economy play out without much government intervention.
* Forms of Government
	+ **Direct Democracy** is a form of government in which all the people meet together at one place to make laws and decide what actions to take.
		- Example-Ancient Athens
	+ **Representative Democracy** is a form of government in which the people elect representatives to carry on the work of government for them this is also known as a **republic**
	+ **Monarchy** is a government run by a King or Queen; usually hereditary (passed down from parent to child).

-- an **absolute monarchy** exercises ultimate governing authority as head of state and head of government; his or her powers are not limited by a constitution or by the law

* + **Oligarchy** is a government run by just a few people or a small group
	+ **Autocracy** is a government completely controlled by one person who can do anything they want as ruler.
		- Example-North Korea
	+ **Socialism** is an economic and political system that pushes for society to oversee and run the economy and other parts of daily life.
	+ **Communism** is a governmental system that calls for the government to own and run all business and make all economic decisions.
		- Example-Cuba

**U.S. Foreign Policy**

* **Isolationism** is the policy of avoiding conflict with foreign nations by limiting foreign relations. For the first 170 years or so of the history of the United States, the U.S. government tried to stay out of **foreign affairs** and focus on domestic affairs. Instead the nation tried to focus on its own issues and problems. This did not always work out.
	+ - Foreign Affairs – a nations relationship with other nations
		- **Domestic Affairs -**  relations within a country
* **Neutrality** is the idea of the government not getting involved in a foreign conflict -to stay out of a war or not choose sides.
* A **doctrine** in foreign policy is a statement of how the government is planning on acting toward foreign governments in certain situations.
	+ The U.S. implemented the **Monroe Doctrine** for about 100 years. This stated that the U.S. would treat any European involvement in Latin American matters as an act of **aggression and war**.
* To ensure that the Monroe Doctrine was followed, the **Roosevelt Corollary** was established. This statement said that the U.S. would get involved in the matters of any Latin American country if they could not govern themselves.
* **Dollar diplomacy** was the name given to the policy of sending American troops to protect private American financial interests in unstable Latin American countries. (using money to secure relationships)
* Because using American troops in neighboring countries did not make those countries happy, President Franklin Roosevelt decided in 1933 to adopt a “**Good Neighbor Policy**” which stopped American military involvement in Latin American countries.



**The Three Branches of Government and Foreign Policy**

* **The Executive**
	+ The President is **Commander-in-Chief** of the military.
	+ The President’s advisor, the **Secretary of State**, helps manage relations with foreign countries.
	+ The President appoints **Ambassadors** to foreign countries.
	+ The President negotiates treaties with other nations.
* **The Legislature**
	+ The Senate **ratifies** (or confirms) treaties with other countries by a 2/3 vote.
* **The Judiciary**
	+ The Supreme Court has the power to **interpret treaties** ratified by the Senate.

**TIMELINE OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TIME PERIOD | FOREIGN POLICY APPROACH | WAR or PEACE? | RESULT |
| 1776-1783 | **War of Independence** | **WAR** | US gains Independence from Great Britain |
| 1783-1812 | Isolationism (Neutrality) | Peace | Establishing the Nation |
| 1812-1815 | **War of 1812** | **WAR** | U.S. protects its economic & political rights |
| 1815-1846 | Isolationism/ **Monroe Doctrine** | Peace | Westward Expansion |
| 1846-1848 | **Mexican War** | **WAR** | The U.S. gains more territory to allow westward expansion |
| 1848-1898 | Isolationism (Neutrality) / **Monroe Doctrine**  | Peace with Neighbors | Long period of Monroe Doctrine and Isolationism and **distracted by the Civil War**, 1861-1865 |
| 1898 | **The Spanish-American War** | **WAR** | Protected U.S. influence in the Western Hemisphere |
| 1898-1915 | Isolationism (Neutrality) | Peace | Trying to stay out of global conflict (**The Roosevelt Corollary**) |
| 1915-1919 | **World War I** | **WAR** | U.S. pulled into WWI and became a Global Player |
| 1919-1941 | Isolationism (Neutrality) | Peace | Trying to stay out of global conflict (**The Good Neighbor Policy**) |
| 1941-1945 | **World War II** | **WAR** | U.S. pulled into WWII and became a Global Player |
| 1945-1991 | **The Cold War** | **Peace****(sort of)** | The U.S. was in an international standoff and power struggle with the Soviet Union. Tried to **contain** **Communism** and keep the **balance of power**. The U.S. joins **NATO** and the **UN**. |

**The Cold War**

1. The **United Nations (UN)** was created after World War II in order to help **prevent** future wars and conflict. There are 193 member nations and they meet to coordinate **peaceful solutions** to global issues such as war, starvation, disease, poverty, and natural disasters.
2. **Communism** is an economic and political system in which the means of **production** of food and other items are owned and controlled by the government.
	* **Communist** governments came to **power** in Russia (1917, becoming the USSR), China (1949), and other smaller nations after World War II.
3. **Satellite nations** are countries that are controlled by another country.
	* During the Cold War, the **Soviet Union** (USSR) tried to control the countries around it and make them into communist states like theirs.
4. **Containment** was the U.S. policy of stopping the spread of communism by influencing other countries to be friendly to the democratic U.S. and not the communist Soviet Union.
5. **NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)** is a military alliance organization that was originally created to protect against the threat of the Soviet Union and the spread of communism. If one member of NATO is attacked, the other members treat it as **an act of war** too.
6. The Cold War represented a struggle for a balance of power between the US and the Soviet Union. A **balance of power** is when countries are relatively equal in strength. The US and USSR both had powerful nuclear weapons. They use the threat of these weapons to deter the other from engaging in conflict.
7. The balance of power was tested and became very tense after the **Bay of Pigs invasion,** which was an unsuccessful military invasion of Cuba by the U.S. In 1962, tensions caused an almost war during the **Cuban Missile Crisis**. The USSR decided to put missiles in Cuba to threaten the U.S. but President Kennedy threatened military action and the tense situation ended.
8. After varied conflicts with the USSR and other communist nations, finally in 1985 a **détente**, or **lessening of tensions** (between the U.S. and the USSR) was announced by the Soviet Union as their empire began to collapse economically and politically. By 1991, the USSR was no more and was divided into many different nations.

**America: Foreign Policy & International Conflict**

* **World War I (1917-1918)**
	+ Begins in **1914** with a conflict between ***Serbia*** and ***Austria-Hungary***
	+ Due to entangling ***alliances***, over 32 nations joined the fight
	+ These nations split up between the ***Allied Powers*** and ***Central (Entente) Powers***
	+ ***Germany, Italy,*** andthe ***Ottoman Empire*** are the major members of the ***Central Powers***
	+ ***Great Britain, France,*** and ***Russia*** are the major members of the ***Allied Powers***.
	+ The war rages on for 3 years with bloody ***trench warfare*** with new more terrible ***weapons of war***.
	+ In 1917, the ***United States enters the war*** on the side of the ***Allies***
	+ The sinking of the “***Lusitania****”* and the ***Zimmerman note*** by Germanyforce the ***United States*** to take a side
	+ In 1918, the ***war ends*** with victory for the Allies and the signing of the “***Treaty of Versailles”*** (1919)
	+ Terms of this treaty were ***very harsh*** on **Germany**, eventually leading to ***World War II*** *(the U.S. did not sign it)*
	+ In 1920, the “***League of Nations***” was created as a place for nations to come together to ***resolve differences*** or ***disputes peacefully.***
	+ Despite the influence of **Pres. Woodrow Wilson’s** “***14 Points***”, the U.S. never joined the league…
* **World War II (1941-1945)**
	+ In 1939, ***World War II*** begins with **Adolf Hitler** and the ***Germany invasion of Poland.***
	+ The policy of “***appeasement***” by **Britain** and **France** allowed Germany to ***freely annex or conquer*** multiple nations until it was too late to stop them…
	+ ***World War II*** also begins in the Pacific with the rise of the ***Empire of Japan***
	+ With their desire for ***more and more resources,*** Japan makes moves on its Pacific neighbors; the only nation that is strong enough to interfere with this plan for dominating the region… the ***United States***.
	+ The **United States** vowed to stay out of this conflict after growing weary through World War I; despite this vow, the ***U.S. did aid Great Britain*** through various deals and secret treaties.
	+ However, the **U.S**. did seek to ***increase their military*** in the wake of Hitler’s successes and Japan’s expansion…
	+ On **December 7, 1941**; ***Japan*** bombs the U.S. Naval Base at ***Pearl Harbor…Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt asks for a declaration of war*** (Congress approves)
	+ **Germany**, an ally of Japan, ***declares war on the U.S.*** in response…
	+ After 4 years of bloody fighting all around the world, ***World War II ends***.
	+ ***Germany*** surrenders in May of 1945 as ***U.S.*** and ***Soviet troops*** close in on Berlin (*Hitler commits suicide*); ***Japan*** surrenders in August of 1945 after the dropping of the ***atomic bombs*** *(Hiroshima/Nagasaki)*
	+ **World War II** caused the death of over **60 million** people around the world, with over ***400,000 U.S. troops*** killed…
	+ The **United States** takes its place as the ***most powerful nation*** in the world after 1945…With this new power and responsibility, the **United States** is tasked with ***rebuilding Europe*** and ***Japan…***
	+ The “***Marshall Plan***” was the U.S. plan to provide over **$13 billion** in economic aid to the rebuilding of Europe…
* **The Cold War (1945-1991)**
	+ The “***Cold War***” is the unofficial “war” that was waged between the **United States** and **Soviet Union** (*and China*) for over 40 years following World War II.
	+ After World War II, ***Europe was divided up by the Allies***…
	+ Western Europe was controlled by the “**West**” (*U.S., Great Britain, and France*) and Eastern Europe was controlled by the **Soviet Union…**
	+ ***Freedom & Democracy vs. Communist states***
	+ ***Germany*** and its capital of ***Berlin*** became “ground zero” for this Cold War.
	+ “***West Germany***” (*Federal Republic of Germany*) was supported by the U.S. and its allies and“***East Germany***” (*German Democratic Republic*) was supported by the **Soviet Union…**
	+ Despite being in East Germany (*Soviet controlled*), the city of **Berlin** was also divided into “East” and “West”
	+ Several attempts were made by East Germany and the Soviet Union to ***cut off the city*** to the west…
	+ In 1948, East Germany and the Soviets attempted to ***blockade*** the West Berlin.
	+ In response, the “***Berlin Airlift***” began as the U.S. and its allies dropped over ***8,800 tons of food*** and ***fuel*** to the residents of the city
	+ Over ***200,000 flights*** were made between 1948 and 1949
	+ In 1961, after failing to blockade West Berlin, the “***Berlin Wall***” was constructed dividing the city.
	+ The wall was almost 12 feet tall and ***completely surrounded West Berlin*** (96 miles)
	+ The wall was built to “*save the East Berlin citizens from the evils of the West*”…
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	+ In 1989, the “***Berlin Wall***” comes down after almost 30 years.
	+ **Pres. Ronald Reagan** gave his “*Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall…*” speech in Berlin two years before…
	+ The ***Soviet Union collapsed in 1991***, ending the Cold War between them and the U.S.
	+ In 1962, the “***Cuban Missile Crisis***” began as the Soviet Union attempted to place nuclear missiles in ***Cuba*** (*only 90 miles away from the U.S.*)
	+ Cuban dictator ***Fidel Castro*** had welcomed these into his country…
	+ For 13 days, the ***U.S. and Soviet Union seemed on the brink of nuclear war***…
	+ ***Pres. John F. Kennedy*** threatened to ***attack Soviet ships*** carrying these weapons to Cuba…
	+ Soviet leader ***Nikita Khrushchev threatened war*** if he did…
	+ When the Soviet ships encountered the U.S. Navy, they turned back and ended the crisis…
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	+ This “cold war” expanded to ***Asia*** as well as the United States battles the influence of communist **China** in the region…
	+ The U.S. policy of “***containment***” became the main goal of U.S. forces in Asia between 1950 and 1975
* The ***Korean War*** (1950 – 1953) was fought over possession of the Korean peninsula.
	+ In 1950, troops from communist **North Korea** (*supported by the Soviet Union and China*) invaded **South Korea.**
	+ Forces of the ***United Nations*** (*led by the U.S*.), came to the aid of **South Korea**
	+ The **U.S. Army** (*led by Gen. Douglas MacArthur*), pushes the North Korean Army back to the **Chinese** border…
	+ **China** responded by ***sending thousands of Chinese troops*** to aid North Korea…
	+ ***U.S. and U.N. forces retreat back south*** and a stalemate begins…
* The “***Vietnam War***” (1961-1975) was another policy of the “***containment***” of communism.
	+ Communist **North Vietnam** was supported by **China**…**South Vietnam** was supported by the **United States…**
	+ After almost 14 years of war without a real strategy, the ***U.S. military withdraws from the conflict in 1975***…***It was one of the most unpopular wars or conflicts in U.S. history,*** with over ***58,000 U.S. soldiers*** being killed and thousands more wounded…
	+ Prior to the end of the war, the U.S. had been using the “***draft***”
	+ The “***draft***” has been in effect since 1940 and was used ***to increase the number of available troops that volunteer service could not provide***.
	+ During the Vietnam War, the “***draft***” became part of the conflict until it ends in 1973…
* **The US and the Middle East** (The U.S. has been involved in foreign conflicts in the ***Middle East*** in one way or another for decades)
	+ In 1979, the **Shah of Iran** (*Mohammad Reza Pahlavi*) was ousted by a group of over 500 ***militant Iranian students***; Due to U.S. support of the Shah, ***52 Americans are taken hostage*** in Tehran
	+ The ***Ayatollah Khomeini*** seizes control of the nation, forcing ***Islamic rule.***
	+ Despite a failed rescue attempt by U.S. forces, ***Pres. Jimmy Carter*** is powerless to free the hostages. ***8 U.S. soldiers*** were killed in the attempt
	+ These 52 U.S. hostages would be held for ***444 days***…this is known as the **Iranian Hostage Crisis**. The U.S. hostages would be released on inauguration day of the new president, ***Ronald Reagan*** in 1981
	+ Since the crisis, relations between the U.S. and Iran have been strained with a U.S. led ***embargo*** impacting the nation. **Iran** continues to one of the ***biggest threats*** in the Middle East…
	+ In 2011, ***Iran*** has announced its capability of producing **nuclear materials** against demands from the U.N. With protection and support from ***Russia***, the U.S. has been unable to convince the ***U.N. members*** to take action…The U.N. has done nothing at this point…
	+ In 1990, ***Saddam Hussein*** (dictator of Iraq), invades his neighbor **Kuwait** and seizes its oil producing regions. The U.S. and other nations demand that he return this territory, Hussein refuses to leave and threatens war
	+ The “***Republican Guard***” was one of the largest armies in the world. ***Pres. George H.W. Bush*** calls on the other nations of the world to join in the ***liberation of Kuwait***.
* “***Operation Desert Storm***” (Gulf War I) begins in January of 1991
	+ U.S. forces invade and defeat **Iraq** to liberate the nation of **Kuwait**. U.S. forces launched the attack from ***Saudi Arabia***. After 2 weeks of bombing and 4 days of land war, ***Saddam Hussein retreats back to Iraq***…
	+ “***Operation Desert Storm***” (Gulf War I) is a success…
* **The War on Terror**
	+ After “Gulf War I” in 1991, ***U.S. troops remain in military bases in Saudi Arabia***, all at the request of the government of Saudi Arabia.
	+ Saudi Arabia feared another attack by Iraq and Saddam Hussein in response for allowing U.S. forces to attack from their nation…
	+ Saudi born terror leader, ***Osama Bin Laden*** demands the ***removal of U.S. troops from Saudi Arabia.*** Believes their presence desecrates ***Mecca*** and ***Medina*** (holy Muslim cities)
	+ “***Al Qaeda***” is formed by Bin Laden as a terror group ***to attack U.S. military and civilian targets*** around the world.
	+ Bin Laden preached that it was ***the duty of every Muslim to kill Americans any where they are seen*** until they abandon their military bases in Saudi Arabia…
	+ Since their initial attack on U.S. targets in 1993, “***Al Qaeda***” has launched dozens of major attacks around the world. And, over ***4,500 people have been killed*** in these attacks, as well as thousands injured
	+ Their largest and most successful attack came on ***September 11, 2001***
	+ After the September 11th attack, Bin Laden flees to the safety of ***Afghanistan*** and the Taliban government. ***The U.S. demands that the Taliban turn over Bin Laden***, but they refuse
	+ In October of 2001, U.S. begins a ***massive air bombing campaign*** to force the Taliban government of Afghanistan to turn over Bin Laden.
	+ The ***Afghanistan War*** would last from 2001 until 2014 as U.S. forces hunted Bin Laden and helped install a new government in Afghanistan.
	+ It war would involve both ***Pres. George W. Bush*** and ***Pres. Barack Obama***. On May 2, 2011***, Osama Bin Laden is killed in Pakistan***
* **Iraq War (Gulf War II) --** In 2003, the ***U.S. invades Iraq*** again in the “***Iraq War***” (Gulf War II). The Bush Administration accused Iraq of having “***weapons of mass destruction***” (WMDs)
	+ ***Saddam Hussein*** is captured hiding in a small bunker and executed by the new Iraqi government in 2006. No “WMDs” were ever found.
	+ The “***Iraq War”*** (Gulf War II) created a vacuum as ***militants and terrorists from all over the region joined in the fight*** against U.S. troops…
	+ **Iran** is just one of the nations accused of sending soldiers and weapons to attack U.S. troops in Iraq; New terror groups are created with the fall of “***Al Qaeda***” and Bin Laden
	+ The new terrorist group “***ISIS***” (*Islamic State of Iraq and Syria*) has become the new power in Iraq and Syria. This group is led by ***Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi***, the group boasts of over 80,000 members and the goal is to create an Islamic state in Iraq and Syria.
	+ The U.S. considers “***ISIS***” as dangerous as ***Al Qaeda*** and another threat. Without a border or clear identity, it is hard to launch a major attack against ***ISIS***
	+ In 2014, American journalists and aid workers were kidnapped and murdered and the U.S. has been the target of several attacks
	+ **Pres. Barack Obama** declares that “***ISIS***” is NOT an “*Islamic*” group and sets up a strategy to “***degrade & destroy***” the group and that ***No U.S. troops will be sent to the region to fight***, only advisors. ***ISIS*** has a global plan to dominate the region as a “***caliphate***” and prepare for an ***apocalyptic battle with the infidels*** (West)