

American Foreign Policy

- 1. Foreign Policy – any policy dealing with countries outside of the US.**
 - a. President**
 - i. appoints and receives ambassadors**
 - ii. negotiates treaties**
 - b. Congress**
 - i. Senate confirms appointments and treaties**
 - c. Secretary of State (Cabinet)**
 - i. Runs day-to-day foreign policy**
 - d. Objective of foreign policy**
 - i. Protect and promote security of US**
- 2. Tools of US Foreign Policy**
 - a. Military – both as force and deterrent**
 - b. Economic Sanctions – give aid or boycott products**
 - c. Alliances – NATO**
 - d. International Organizations**
 - i. United Nations**
 - ii. NAFTA**
 - iii. World Trade Organization (WTO)**
 - iv. World Health Organization (WHO)**
 - v. Red Cross**
- 3. History of US Policy**
 - a. World War I**
 - i. Once Germany began unrestricted submarine warfare, the US sent troops to help in Europe.**
 - ii. President Wilson’s 14 points helped redefine European borders and created the League of Nations**
 - 1. Senate couldn’t confirm and the US didn’t join**
 - b. World War II**
 - i. America tried to stay out of the war.**
 - 1. Pearl Harbor attacks spurred U.S. into war**
 - ii. Germany surrendered in 1945**
 - iii. US dropped 2 atomic bombs on Japan in 1945 causing their surrender**
 - iv. United Nations formed after the war to replace the unsuccessful League of Nations.**
 - c. Korean War**
 - i. Policy of containment**
 - 1. To prevent spread of communism to South Korea, U.S. sent troops to assist**
 - d. Cuba**

- i. Fidel Castro created a communist country once in power
 - 1. Nationalized U.S. companies → U.S. began boycott
 - ii. Bay of Pigs
 - 1. U.S. trained Cuban exiles and sent them to invade Cuba, but did not provide air support.
 - a. Easily defeated by Castro
 - iii. Cuban Missile Crisis
 - 1. After Bay of Pigs, Castro strengthened ties with Soviet Union
 - 2. Cuban began building bases to store Soviet nuclear missiles
 - a. U.S. sent naval blockade
 - b. Closest the Cold War ever got to Nuclear Launch.
- e. Vietnam War
 - i. Also due to spread of communism.
 - ii. Domino Theory
 - 1. If one country falls, the next will fall after it
 - iii. VERY unpopular war in public opinion
- f. Iran Hostage Crisis
 - i. U.S. agreed to have an overthrown Iranian leader seek medical attention within US borders
 - 1. New Iranian government allowed angry protests
 - a. Stormed US embassy and held hostages for a year
- g. Gulf Wars
 - i. First Gulf War
 - 1. When Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, an American led coalition defeated his Iraqi troops
 - 2. Did NOT topple Hussein
 - ii. Second Gulf War
 - 1. In response to intelligence that Saddam Hussein may have Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs), US sent in troops
 - a. Overthrew Saddam quickly
 - 2. Continued when Barack Obama sent in a SEAL team to capture and kill Osama bin Laden – a terrorist leader responsible for the 9/11 attacks.
- h. Terrorism
 - i. After 9/11 the US committed to a war on terrorism
 - 1. Sought to destroy radical terrorist groups like Al-Qaeda and the Taliban