

Major Events in U.S. Foreign Policy

Themes in Foreign Policy

- Neutrality
- Isolation
- Involvement – Intervention
- Imperialism
- Collective Security
- Containment
- Global Commitment

Washington

- Proclamation of Neutrality – 1793
 - In French Revolution
 - U.S. can't risk involvement
- Farewell Address – 1796
 - US should avoid
 - Entangling or permanent alliances
 - Political parties

Madison

- War of 1812
- Freedom of the Seas
- Defend rights of the nation

Monroe

- Monroe Doctrine – 1823
 - US will not allow any intervention by Europeans in the Western Hemisphere

Polk

- Manifest Destiny
- Belief that US should expand coast to coast
- “Imperialism”

McKinley

- Spanish American – 1898
 - Role of yellow journalism
 - US becomes a world power with colonies
- Open Door Policy with China - 1899
 - US promoted equal trade rights for all nations with China

Imperialism 1890's – 1920

- Seeking raw materials and markets for America's businesses...

Example:

President Taft's Dollar Diplomacy

- Use influence of US investments and industries to shape relations with Latin America



T. Roosevelt

- “Roosevelt Corollary” to the Monroe Doctrine
 - “Big Stick” Policy
- Panama Canal
 - TR “I took the canal zone while Congress debated”

Wilson

- Moral Diplomacy
 - Do the right thing...US should lead by example
- World War I (1914 – 1919)
 - US 1914 – 1917
 - Neutral but German policy of unrestricted submarine warfare made it necessary for US to defend its right to freedom of the seas

Treaty of Versailles (punish) vs. 14 Points (forgive)

- Post World War I
 - President Wilson helped to negotiate
 - Punishing to Germany
 - US never signed – Senate rejected mainly due to the provision for a League of Nations
 - US feared loss of sovereignty
 - would be drawn in to others affairs if member of League

Harding, Coolidge, Hoover

- **Isolation and Neutrality 1920-1941**
- “Return to Normalcy” - Harding
 - US went back to traditional role of isolation
 - Kellogg-Briand Pact – outlaw war

FD Roosevelt

- Good Neighbor Policy
 - Ease up on Big Stick; multi-lateral enforcement of Monroe Doctrine
- Neutrality as **WWII** broke out in Europe
 - Nye Committee – don't repeat mistakes that led to WWI
 - Cash & Carry – trade with nations at war on cash & carry basis
 - Lend-Lease – President can lend equipment to nations whose defense is vital to US
 - “Arsenal of Democracy” – US industries provide weaponry to fight threats to democracy
 - The Four Freedoms – Speech, Religion, from Want, from Fear

Truman

- Use of Atomic Bomb
 - Controversy → the Atomic Age
- Global Commitment – United Nations
- Start of Cold War
 - US vs. USSR
 - Goal: Containment of Communism
 - Containment in Europe
 - Truman Doctrine
 - US economic aid to Greece & Turkey
 - Marshall Plan
 - US money to rebuild Europe
 - NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)
 - “Collective Security”
 - Nations pledged to support any member threatened by Communist aggression

■ Containment in Asia

- US occupation of Japan
- Non-recognition of People's Republic of China
- **Korean Conflict** (1950 – 1953)
 - US part of UN forces
 - Never declared war by Congress
 - Truman fired Gen. Douglas MacArthur
 - Example of President having civilian control over the military
- Domino Theory
 - Belief that if one nation in Southeast Asia fell to communism, others would also fall

LB Johnson

- Vietnam
 - War escalated
 - Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (1964)
 - Congress authorized President to conduct operations in Vietnam
 - Tet Offensive (1968)
 - Showed the US was a long way from winning the war, despite what they had been led to believe

Nixon

- Vietnam
 - Vietnamization – de-escalation
 - War Powers Act (1973) to limit President's use of troops in combat situation without notification and/or consent of Congress
 - Pentagon Papers – report critical of US war effort
 - New York Times v. US –Pentagon Papers were not a threat to national security so gov't attempt to block their publication was unconstitutional
- China
 - US recognition of People's Republic of China
- USSR
 - Nixon visited
 - Détente- policy of easing tensions between US & USSR
 - SALT – Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty – to reduce nuclear weapons in US & USSR

Bush (#41)

- End of Cold War
 - Berlin Wall came down
- “New World Order” – change in balance of power
- Persian Gulf War 1991
 - Desert Shield → Desert Storm – international coalition of forces
 - To protect democratic, oil producing nation of Kuwait against Iraq

Clinton

- Middle East
 - Promote co-existence between Palestinians & Israel
 - Oslo Peace Agreement
- Somalia
 - US presence to protect aid shipments to famine stricken areas; American soldiers killed (“Black Hawk Down”)
- The former **Yugoslavia – Civil War in Bosnia**
 - US & NATO forces to stop the violence
- **NAFTA**
 - To promote global economic development
 - US – Mexico – Canada
 - Have we lost manufacturing jobs to Mexico as a result?

Bush (#43)

- September 11, 2001
- **War on Terror**
 - Patriot Act – in the name of national security, individual rights limited (secret searches, easier wiretaps, track internet use, voice mail, library records)
 - Department of Homeland Security – border patrols, airport restrictions
- **War in Afghanistan 2002**
 - Against the Taliban
 - Search for Osama Bin Laden – captured May 2011
- **War in Iraq 2003**
 - Saddam Hussein – brutal dictator
 - Weapons of Mass Destruction
- “Axis of Evil”
 - Iraq – Iran – North Korea

“Policeman of the Western Hemisphere”



Theodore Roosevelt and the “Big Stick” policy



Interrupting the Ceremony

