The Cold War

Student Name

Course Number: Course Name

Due Date

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States Involved

There existed two factions that participated in the Cold War. On the one hand, there was the Communist ideology and the Soviet Union while the United States and its capitalist ideology was on the other side. Both factions vigorously tried to find ways to build their confederates and to establish their way of life in other nations.[1] Each camp alleged that the other wanted to eliminate them from existence; both the United States and the Soviet Union claimed that the other world power was endeavoring to annihilate them. Even though these anxieties were defensible, there were to a large extent, inflated and selfish.

Non-State Actors, International Governmental Organizations or Non-Governmental Organizations Involved in the Conflict

Global Non-State Actors

NATO was an essential component of the collective defense activities. Amid the Cold War, NATO's objective included averting the possibility of nuclear war. After West Germany allied with NATO, the Communist nations created the Warsaw Pact coalition. This was comprised of countries such as East Germany, Poland, USSR, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Romania.[2] NATO reacted by embracing the Massive Retaliation rule. It vowed to utilize nuclear armament if the alliance assailed. NATO's deterrence program permitted Europe to concentrate on economic growth as it did not need to form large standard armies.

The Soviet Union sustained its military building activities. By the close of the Cold War, it was exhausting three times what the U.S was with only a third of the financial power. The falling of the Berlin Wall in 1989 was because of economic causes (also socio-political).[3]

Individuals Involved

Winston Churchill

He expressed fears regarding the Cold War and promoted the word "Iron Curtain." Moreover, Winston urged trans-Atlantic and European unity. While he was not a superior of Britain, he continued to be a famous personality at the end of the Cold War.

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[1] San Jose State University, "The Cold War," Steinbeck in the Schools Program, last modified October 25, 2016, http://sits.sjsu.edu/context/historical/hist_context_cold_war/.

[2] Kimberley, Amadeo, "NATO: Definition, Purpose, History, Members," The Balance, last modified May 11, 2017, https://www.thebalance.com/nato-purpose-history-members-and-alliances-3306116.

[3] Ibid.

Harry Truman

He was president of the U.S at the end of WWII. He reacted to the Soviet pressures by issuing a modern canon, vindicating support for any nation terrorized by communism. Additionally, he founded the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation). Lastly, he approved US participation in the Korean War.

Joseph Stalin

This individual was a notable icon in the cold war. He assumed power in the 1920's after being the leader of the Communist Party and was a dictator in Berlin. Under Stalin's governance, Communist parties obtained control of every countries' administration and destroyed all ties with the West. He tested the associates by taking control of Berlin and obstructing the city.

Realist approach

Realism, which is also called political realism, is a standpoint of international politics that focusses on its competitive and frictional aspect. It is frequently compared with liberalism or idealism, which leans towards cooperation and collaboration.[4] Realists take into account the major players in the international field to be states, which care about their security, behave in the quest for their state benefits, and struggle for power.

The realist or materialist theory would best explain the Cold War because the downfall of the Soviet Union is centered on the idea of its economic inertia. The beginning of the weapon competition with the United States placed great pressure on the Soviet economy. The unfeasibility of the Soviet economy to contest in the armaments competition with the US and other Western nations is engrained in a technological growth disparity between the Soviet Union and Western countries.

[4] Stanford University, "Political Realism in International Relations (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)," Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, last modified May 24, 2017, https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/realism-intl-relations/.

Works Cited

Amadeo, Kimberley. "NATO: Definition, Purpose, History, Members." *The Balance*. Last modified May 11, 2017. https://www.thebalance.com/nato-purpose-history-members-and-alliances-3306116.

San Jose State University. "The Cold War | Steinbeck in the Schools." *Steinbeck in the Schools Program*. Last modified October 25, 2016. http://sits.sjsu.edu/context/historical/hist_context_cold_war/.

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