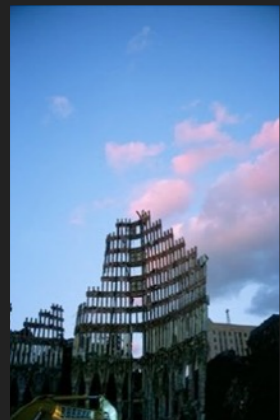


# Structure, Strife, and Instability

Erik Gartzke

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# Planting the Flag

- Three elements of Post-WWII US Foreign policy
  - Structure
  - Strife
  - Stability

# Structure

- The world is divided up into two systems
  - “irreconcilable differences”
- The Situation after World War II
  - Kennan Letter from “Mr. X”
  - Truman Doctrine: aid anti-communists (Greece, Korea, Latin America, Iran, Laos)
  - John Foster Dulles --> containment



# Structure II

- 1947 National Security Act
  - No tradition of peacetime military (well...)
  - Establishes the DoD, CIA
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
  - Bulwark of U.S. containment strategy
  - Resurrect Germany, Japan

# Strife

- Cold War
  - Nuclear Stalemate
  - Proxy wars
  - Economic competition
  - “Soft power” strategies



# Strife

- Parallels between Vietnam and Iraq
  - Grand strategy
  - Strategy
  - Tactics
  - Differences
    - Iraq is “last war of Cold War”

# Strife II

- Detente
  - Nixon's grand strategy (Kissinger)
  - Defuse proxy wars (Middle East / Vietnam)
  - Open up to Russia
  - Open up to China
  - Play each off against the other



# Policy Ebb and Flow

- US policy in the Cold War is basically static
  - But varies by administration
    - Variation driven more by personality and circumstances than by partisanship
    - Reagan Doctrine = Truman Doctrine
    - Nixon more moderate than Kennedy
    - Carter Doctrine extends US into M. East



# Stability

- Strategic Cold War “triangle”
  - USSR / US / China
  - Nixon (Kissinger) upsets the triangle
  - Sino-US rapprochement threatens USSR
    - Soviets consider more desperate options
      - War with the United States
      - Radical reduction of Cold War tensions



# Stability

- End of the Cold War
  - Economic (Command economy is inefficient, Soviet defense spending 33% of GDP)
  - Political (Stress of military competition is a “wedge,” choice between moderate hard line)
  - Andropov faction wins, then loses (dies)
  - Gorbachev: perestroika, glasnost.