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Assignment 3: America as a Superpower

The United States' foreign policy has evolved over the years. The Cold War years helped shape the country's international relations policy with the need to protect American citizens from external threats becoming a key priority (Schultz, 7). However, some countries have been opposed to American dominancy by terming the US as the world's moral police. By examples from different decades since 1950, it is clear that the international policing role and strategy of the United States during the Cold War has become even more necessary in this period of terrorism and instability.

Ever since the Cold War years, the United States government has been actively involved in efforts to thwart the rise of communist ideologies. During the Eisenhower administration in 1954, the state adopted a policy of massive retaliation owing to heightened threats to the United States security by the Soviet Republic (Dulles, 1). The decision was reached by the country's National Security Council after billions of dollars had been spent and thousands of lives lost in Soviet-instigated wars in countries such as Korea. The Soviets had made it their primary mission to diminish the might of the United States military, a move that would, in turn, allow infiltration of American borders (Dulles, 1). Additionally, in 1983, Ronald Reagan had realized the impending Russian threat of world domination. The Russian's strategy was rooted in the disdain for the American culture of peaceful coexistence. The strategy was to spread Marxism stemmed from the ideologies spread by Lenin (Reagan, 1). As can be seen, peaceful coexistence between the world's superpowers during the Cold War years was due to a reluctance by the United States to forfeit their beliefs as well as their resolve to thwart communist threats through revamped military planning.

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In the years after the Cold War era, the United States government has also been actively involved in the elimination of terrorist activity and weapons of mass destruction. Under the United Nations Resolution 1441, it is prohibited for any state to produce, assemble, or maintain biological, chemical, or nuclear weapons that may put thousands of lives at risk. However, under the leadership of Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi government was involved in these activities, and worked hard to thwart UN inspections (Powell, 3). The Iraqi government was also actively supportive of terrorists and terrorist activity against the United States. For instance, the Iraq government in the 2000s played host to Abu Musab Zarqawi, a man who oversaw a terrorist training camp (Fishman, 19). Additionally, Iraq has over the years been involved in the training of the Palestine Liberation Front (Powell, 9). In scrutinizing the above-stated facts, one realizes the risk that the Saddam Hussein government put Iraqi and other global citizens through their reckless actions. Countries like Iraq pose a massive threat to international security and coexistence. However, through the intervention of the United States and UN security forces, such threats can be neutralized.

Some may disagree with my thesis and argue that the United States has, over the years, branded itself as the 'world's moral police.' However, it is important to understand were it not for the intervention of America's foreign policy, backward ideologies such as communism and terrorism would have spread across continents. Today, the peace and stability that we enjoy in the world would not be a reality. Therefore, it is safe to say that the international policing role and strategy of the United States was, and still is, effective and crucial.

In conclusion, the United States foreign policy on international security has been beneficial from a global perspective. Peace and stability is important for economic and social progress. Where there is no security, cyber security threats from terrorists may become

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widespread. Cyber security threats may put personal, organizational, and third-party data under risk. When data gets into the wrong hands, terrorists can utilize the opportunity to source for ransom money or build malware that can corrupt important data. In the long run, the United States government and other capable states are encouraged to utilize their collective power to thwart terrorist threats to ensure that data remains private and confidential. As an aspiring cyber security professional, hence, I fully support the proactive United States international policy of thwarting terrorist activity.

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