The NATO and Warsaw Pact

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Treaty of Brussels (1948)

- Precursor of NATO
- Post-war security cooperation
- Nations: Belgium, Netherlands, France, Luxembourg, and Great Britain
- Treaty was intended to provide western Europe with collective security against the communist threat
NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization

- NATO is an intergovernmental military alliance
- Purpose: To construct a collective defense in case of attack from communist countries and limit the advance and influence of USSR and communism
- Western leaders encouraged regional and economic cooperation
All of the countries agreed to come to each other’s aid if attacked
An attack on one would be considered an attack on all
1st peacetime allegiance that the USA joined
An alliance with shared values: all nations were democracies
Treaty was approved on July 21st, 1949 by the Senate by a vote of 82 to 13
14 countries joined by 1952 (Greece and Turkey)
15 countries joined by 1955 (West Germany)
Current membership is 28 states
NATO Quote

The purpose was

“To keep the Russians out, the Germans down and the Americans in”
NATO Background

- 11 original countries that joined (Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, and Portugal)
- Truman administration decided to join
- USA signs NATO in Washington on April 4th, 1949
- No member was attacked during the Cold war, NATO did not use military force
- The 1st attack was on September 11th, 2001
NATO Additional Information

- The alliance’s goal was the eventual integration of the national armed forces of the member nations into a unified military command.
- In reality, NATO was dominated by the American military establishment, a US general was always the supreme commander (Eisenhower was the 1st).
- NATO has been the most important U.S. military allegiance for the past 60 years

- The pact was epic, it helped to unify Europe but was a significant step in the militarization of the Cold War

- The two committees (NATO and the Warsaw Pact) made the basis for the two divided sides of the Cold War
WARSAW PACT: THE COMMUNIST ALLIANCE

- “Treaty of mutual friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance”
- Mutual defence treaty between 8 communist States of Central and Eastern Europe under the command of USSR
- The countries were Albania, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, East Germany and Bulgaria
- Purpose to make a defense plan in case of any enemy attack
- Soviets were able to watch over/control Eastern Europe
- Yugoslavia decided not to join even if it was a communist country, its leader Tito decided he didn’t want his country to be controlled by the Soviet Union
WARSAW PACT

- Signed on May 4th, 1955 in Warsaw, Poland and in 1991 the Warsaw Pact was declared disbanded
- Created by the Soviets 6 years after NATO when West Germany was admitted and it started rearming
- Political Consultative Committee and Unified Command Pact Armed Forces were responsible for actions committed through Warsaw
- These groups were both ran by Soviets to ensure communism
WARSAW PACT

- Mutual non interference in internal affairs
- The non interference rule would later be violated with the Soviet Union, it intervened in Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia 1968
- Warsaw forced members to stay committed to the Pact for 30 years and not quit the alliance
- In 1962 Albania failed to agree and perform their actions and officially quit in 1968

