Types of War



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Civil War

- Conflicts fought between two factions or regions of the same country.
- Issues involving ethnic, religious, political, or ideological reasoning
- Incumbent (pro-gov) vs. insurgent (anti-gov)



Civil War vs. Revolution

- All about perspective (and semantics)
  - Civil War = power maintained
  - Revolution = system replaced
  - Rebellion = against oppression (not state control)





Wars Between States

- Wars between two or more countries
- May include other forms and/or methods
  - Guerrilla
  - Civil
- This can occur with the involvement of a foreign power in a civil war

Guerrilla Warfare

- Spanish for “little war”
- Unconventional warfare
- Key feature of 20th century
- Small groups of fighters – ambush; small unit raids



Guerrilla Warfare

Became common after 1945 for MANY reasons:

<u>Number One</u>

- Many conflicts involved decolonization
- Terrain helpful to indigenous army
- Usually had the support of locals



Guerrilla Warfare

Became common after 1945 for MANY reasons:

<u>Number Two – Development of the Cold War</u>

- Communist/capitalist struggle
- Unpopular governments tended to support one superpower or the other
- Locals HAD to resort to this warfare
- U.S./Russia often fought "war by proxy"



Guerrilla Warfare

Became common after 1945 for MANY reasons:

<u>Number Three – Spread of Marxism</u>

- Belief that the masses must rise up against established capitalist governments
- Supported ideologies of Guerrilla warfare (many Marxist)



Guerrilla Warfare

Became common after 1945 for MANY reasons:

<u>The Post-Cold War World</u>

- Increasingly centralized
- Democratic political systems are most vulnerable
- Technology adds formidability to insurgents (small arms; RPG's)
- Media provides publicity for support





Key Terms (know them!!!):

- Economic cause
- Economic effects
- Social cause
- Social effects
- Political cause
- Political effects
- Ideological cause
- Ideological effects

Other things to consider…

Total War

- A country uses all its human, economic and military resources to fight the war.





Total War

- Create a large fighting force via conscription (draft)
- Uses civilians in the war effort
- Uses all weapons available and developing new ones
- Government controls key aspects of the economy
- Government controls the media
- Targets civilians as well as combatants



Limited War

- Limiting or constraining the way in which war is conducted





Limited War

- Confine the area in which the fighting takes place
- Limit the types of targets that are attacked
- Limit the degree of mobilization
- Limit the types of weapons used





Limited War

A characteristic of many wars in the 19th/20th centuries

- Total war was too difficult to carry out for most countries
- Most countries had limited aims
- Used to prevent nuclear war in 20th century
- Examples: Korea, Vietnam, Falklands, Gulf Wars



Trench Warfare

- Associated with Western Front (WWI)
- Ditches meant to protect soldiers and hold territory
- Led to development of tanks
- Limited use

Conventional Warfare

- Warfare on open ground
- E. Front in WWI and II
- Rapid movement of armies and changing lines of battle
- Subdivision: Mobile warfare





Air Warfare

- Use of air machines in conflicts
- Origin: Zeppelin
- Large numbers of aircraft
- Involved in all aspects of war (mid-20th c.)



Naval Warfare

- Various warships in a conflict
- Battleships ----->aircraft carriers
- Use of Submarines

