Chapter 25 Test (4-15)

Foreign policy is the way our country deals with other countries, it is the opposite of domestic policy. Fixing a problem in our country is domestic, working with other countries on a problem is foreign policy. The main goal of US foreign policy is to secure our national security (keep ourselves safe)… other goals include promoting democracy and trading with other countries. Tools used to carry out foreign policy include treaties (agreements between countries, negotiations, mediations, war, foreign aid and sanctions (trade sanctions are barriers that can stop or slow trade, they are usually a punishment to another country for some reason). Diplomats/ambassadors are people who represent their country in meetings with other countries. The President makes all final foreign policy decisions, the president also makes treaties with other countries, but the Senate must approve of his/her treaties. Similarly the President appoints diplomats/ambassadors but the Senate must confirm them.

Remember the Marshall Plan. After WWII, Europe was destroyed. The US gave a large package of foreign aid (mainly money) to help Europe rebuild. Our intent was to keep these countries from being communist. Also, recall that US foreign policy in the Cold War tried to contain communism to only the Soviet Union (USSR). Refer to Icivics packets if you struggle with these concepts.

US War Powers, these are shared between the president and Congress, only Congress can declare war, but the president can order troops into battle.

Going back to the Declaration of Independence, we learned that all people have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness (thought to mean the right to own property). These are basic human rights.

Organizations

THE UN, the United Nations is a group of countries that try to promote world peace. The UN also responds to disasters and tries to prevent problems like famines or health epidemics.

NATO, North Atlantic Treaty Organizations, a mutual defense organization between the US, Canada and most of Europe.

International Committee of the Red Cross: Created to help wounded soldiers in war, they help both sides during a war. They also help to respond to disasters (earthquake or flood, ex.)

WTO, World Trade Organization, promotes free trade in the world between all countries.

NGO (A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION) Worldwide organizations that are not part of any government or country. They depend on volunteers and private donations to help them.

Peace Corps: An organization created by John F. Kennedy and run by the government that sends volunteer US citizens to very poor countries in order to help.