

# **Why America is involved in every major war**

And the effects on developing countries

**Author Name**

Facharbeit im Fach  
LK Englisch

SCHOOL

CITY 2023

Abgabetermin: 21.02.2023

# Contents

<b>Contents</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1 The purpose of this Term Paper . . . . .	2
1.2 List of wars America was involved with . . . . .	2
1.3 Vietnam War . . . . .	3
1.4 The Global War on Terror . . . . .	3
<b>2 The real reasons for the wars and how America hides them</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1 (Big-) Oil . . . . .	4
2.1.1 Resource Wars . . . . .	5
2.1.2 Oil Market Domination . . . . .	5
2.2 Communism . . . . .	6
2.3 Power in other countries . . . . .	6
2.3.1 Cuba . . . . .	6
2.3.2 Israel . . . . .	7
<b>3 Conclusion</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1 What to take from this Term Paper . . . . .	8
3.2 What I learned from this Term Paper . . . . .	8
<b>4 Attachments</b>	<b>9</b>
4.1 Anti-Communist propaganda . . . . .	9
<b>5 Selbständigkeitserklärung</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>References</b>	<b>10</b>

# 1 Introduction

“War against a foreign country only happens when the moneyed classes think they are going to profit from it.”

— George Orwell [31]

## 1.1 The purpose of this Term Paper

At the time of writing this, war is increasingly becoming a more important topic, with the invasion of Ukraine in 2022 [35], increasing complications between China and Taiwan [21] as well as the US withdrawal from Afghanistan and the following takeover from the Taliban [29].

In the western world, people usually take a side with the US or other western countries and see them as the "good guys", however people often fail to see the background of the war and completely ignore the fact that wars are not for the "Liberation of a country" [7], but for the profit of those, who win the war. Which, due to them being the strongest Military force, is guaranteed to be the West. With this Term paper I want to show that there are no "good guys" in a war, only "better guys" at best.

The reason I chose America for this is simple, America is the strongest force in the NATO [4], meaning it also has the most influence in NATO decisions. If I want to show the reasons of a war, then America will be the best example since other NATO countries follow America in a lot of war decisions.

But it should also be noted that America is not the only one guilty of starting wars because of money, every war is in some way caused by money, no matter if the war was started by America, Russia, China or any other country. Every war is a crime on humanity and an example as to why Capitalism is a horrible economic structure.

## 1.2 List of wars America was involved with

Since the second World War, America has been involved in four War operations [28]. The Korean war [28], Vietnam war [28], Operation Desert Storm [28], which is also known as the Gulf War [37], and the Global War on Terror [28].

In these four wars the US committed a bunch of war crimes [1] [36] [3] [32], the most common one being massacres of unarmed civilians [18] [13] [38]. The US made no efforts in cooperating with human rights organizations or the International Criminal Court, effectively

commending any war crimes committed [24].

### **1.3 Vietnam War**

The Vietnam War is most likely one of the most well-known wars America was involved with. The origins of the war date back to the end of the second world war in 1945, where Japan withdrew its soldiers from Vietnam, which was split up into the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, under control of Ho Chi Minh, who strove to create a country following Chinese and Soviet Communism [14] and the state of Vietnam under control of the French emperor Bao Dai, who wanted a Vietnam which had close cultural and economic ties to the West [14].

Both sides of Vietnam had signed a treaty in the year 1945 during the Geneva Convention, which split Vietnam along the 17 degrees North Latitude, also known as 17th Parallel and set Minh in control of the North and Dai in control of the South. This lasted until 1955, where Ngo Dinh Diem, a "strongly anti communist politician" [14], became President of the Southern part of Vietnam. Due to the cold war and the US hardening policies against any Communist states, the current US President Eisenhower pledged "firm support to Diem and South Vietnam" [14].

With the formation of the National Liberation Front in 1960, which was meant to be a resistance against Diem and request of a US report team, John F. Kennedy started increasing US Military Aid in South Vietnam based on the Domino Theory [14], which assumed that once a country falls to communism, many other countries would follow, like a chain of dominoes [11].

The situation escalated in 1965 when Lyndon B. Johnson sent US Combat Troops to Vietnam.

### **1.4 The Global War on Terror**

The Global War on Terror began after the Terrorist attack on the 11th September 2001, George W. Bush, who was the President during this time, announced that the US was creating a plan to locate and stop Terrorists all around the world [5]. In connection to these announcements the US started wars in Iraq and Afghanistan [5], these wars are part of the Global War on Terror, however the Global War on Terror also describes non-violent actions taken against the financing of Terrorist groups. The invasion of Iraq, began on the 20th March 2003 [2] with US air strikes, the invasion was justified with the Global War on Terror and Iraq's ownership of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons. [25]. The first stage of the war ended a month after the first air strikes with the downfall of Saddam Hussein's regime on the 1st May 2003 [2].

The war however continues with the hunt for Saddam Hussein, who was captured on the 14th December 2003 and executed on the 30th December 2003 [2]. During this time the battle in Iraq continues after Shiites won the 2005 election [2]. Even though the war went on until 2011, the Bush Administration admitted on the 24th January 2004 that no biological, chemical or nuclear weapons were found in Iraq, as the former US weapons inspector David Kay told the congress: "we were almost all wrong" [23].

This then begs the question, what the actual reasons for the War was, if was shown that Iraq has no weapons of mass destruction.

## **2 The real reasons for the wars and how America hides them**

As shown in the first paragraph, the US is not always fully honest about it's reasons for invading a country or starting wars. So in this paragraph I'll show the multiple reasons America, and other countries, go to war or invade States.

### **2.1 (Big-) Oil**

Big Oil is a term that describes the biggest Oil Companies under public ownership, these include BP plc, Royal Dutch Shell plc, Exxon Mobile Corporation, Chevron Corporation, ENI SpA and Total SA [16]. Due to these companies being Government controlled, the Government will set regulations or even start Wars, just to benefit their Oil Companies.

The Wars which are started for the acquirement of Oil are usually called "resource wars" [8], these however are not the only types of war started due to oil. There is the petro-aggression, which is not a war directly started because of oil, but due to the domestic isolation which oil can cause, making them more likely to try out potentially controversial foreign policies [8]. There's also the financing of other groups with profits made from oil, like the Iran giving oil money to the Hezbollah [19] and wars started over oil market domination, as seen in the US war with Iraq over Kuwait [26].

However, oil wars are a very controversial topic, there are people who say that oil has no cause in wars, while others say that oil is a very important topic in wars. Often these discussions are made on the example of the wars in Kuwait, to which the US Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld stated that it's nonsense to suggest that the US invasion of Iraq involved oil in any way [33]. Even under Political scientists oil or energy in general is rarely mentioned, the few

scientists who do focus on the involvement of oil in wars also disagree in the importance of oil, one group argues that resource wars play a major role in wars, while the other group rejects this claim due to the lack of systematic evidence [9]. The main issue with these discussions is that people often fail to check the influence of oil in the country before the war started, as oil may not be the direct cause of the war, but be a chain reaction of other events which eventually led to a war. It is also noteworthy that oil is a very important resource and simply cannot be ignored when analyzing international security. This can also be seen in the aforementioned discussions about the involvement of oil in the Iraq wars, as scientists argue about involvement of oil in the war, rather than the preconditions caused by oil [9].

### **2.1.1 Resource Wars**

A major example of resource wars is the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990 and the following US Military operation Desert Shield, in which Iraq successfully annexed Kuwait and gained control of 20 percent of oil reserves [12]. This is more proof that oil is not always the cause of a war, but rather a precondition of war.

Although the goals of Oil Resource Wars are not always only the ownership of more oil, but more Control over the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, also known as OPEC, which would allow a country to have more control over the worldwide oil price, and as a result of this power also cut countries out of oil trade.

### **2.1.2 Oil Market Domination**

While Wars about Oil Market Domination are similar to Resource Wars, they differ in one may point, the wars aren't for personal gain of oil, but rather to make sure that the opposing force has less oil Power [9]. The US fears that countries with a big oil power could artificially raise the Oil price, which OPEC would have to follow with, allowing the country to enrich itself on oil profits.

Oil Market Domination wars are often a cause of Resource wars, a good example is the US operation Desert Shield, which itself was about a fear of Oil Market Domination from Iraq, but was caused by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, which, as already mentioned, was a Resource War.

## 2.2 Communism

Communism as a cause of war is an interesting topic, the US has not started any wars against communism ever since the cold war, yet Communism and Socialism is still an important topic in modern foreign policies and even internal policies, with the rise of Communism and Socialism among Millenials and Gen-Z [22], it becomes a more broadly discussed topic in politics, with the majority of politicians, not being very happy, as they are a prime target of Communist and Anarchist movements, such as Antifa protests.

As a reaction to this, the US tries to silence any Communist politicians or countries, be it through direct wars, secret CIA operations or the influence of media to spread false information [39]. Secret CIA operations include assassinations of Communist leaders, like the Communist leader of Cuba Fidel Castro, who survived over 600 murder attempts from the CIA and ended up dying naturally at the age of 90 in Havana on the 25th November 2016 [30].

The war against communism however is not always violent. During the cold war and the Red Scare, the US also made a huge effort to keep people away from Communistic believes through state propaganda. This propaganda was usually spread through movies, literature, music, television and art. It would usually mock the soviet union and communism through misinformation. The US Government however did not display it as propaganda and insisted that everything shown was factually correct. [An example of this propaganda can be seen in the attachments.](#)

## 2.3 Power in other countries

Most wars which involve gaining power in other countries are not military wars, but economic wars. The US in this case often sets embargoes on countries that do not follow them in their decisions, like with Cuba, Venezuela or a lot of countries in the Middle East [27].

### 2.3.1 Cuba

The US embargo against Cuba started with the Cuban Revolution in which Fidel Castro took over the Cuban Government, even though Dwight D. Eisenhower officially recognized the new Cuban Government as legitimate, relations started to become worse quickly after Fidel Castro started nationalizing more companies and the agrarian reforms in which the Government broke up large landholding and redistributed them to the people who work on that land and the state.

With each state take-over of privately owned land the US embargo rose in strength, up to the point where any trade with Cuba was prohibited for US Companies. This embargo also got extended to sanction for any non-US based companies doing trade with Cuba [10]. The US opposition to the Cuban government under Fidel Castro even went as far as the CIA attempting to assassinate Fidel Castro over 600 times [30].

### **2.3.2 Israel**

Israel is a very controversial topic in international politics, which also makes it a reason for wars. The controversy stems from the fact that Israel lies on stolen land [34]. During the second world war, Palestine was controlled by the British, due to the holocaust in Europe a lot of Jewish people immigrated into Palestine, under supervision by the British. They formed their own villages, also called kibbutzim, these Jewish refugees were not interested in forming any Jewish State and lived by themselves in their villages. After the British retreated from Palestine, Zionist groups started attacking the Palestinians with the goal of starting a Jewish State. The UN tried to settle these attacks with the 1947 Partition Plan, which would split Palestine into two parts. The Palestinians openly denied this plan as it would illegally steal part of their country, while the Zionists agreed with it [34]. After the Partition Plan was completed and Palestine was split into Palestine and Israel, Zionists started attacking the Palestinian land and claimed it for themselves, making the Palestinian Population flee to other Arabic countries like Yemen or Lebanon [34]. Even though Palestine is an occupied territory, the Israelis continue to send their Population there and apply Israeli law, which directly violates the fourth Geneva Convention. Despite this, countries still acknowledged the new Israel territory as a legitimate part of Israel [34].

With Israel being a country with western ties in the middle east, the US had the interest of forming a good relation with Israel in order to have a proxy in the middle east. This has been the case with the Iran-Israeli Proxy conflict, in which Iran threatened to dissolve Israel and give the land back to the Palestinian people. And now is a proxy war involving Syria, Lebanon, Russia, the United States, the United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia [15] [6] [20] [17].



## **3 Conclusion**

### **3.1 What to take from this Term Paper**

In the end, what to take from this Term Paper is the choice of the Reader, however I hope that this Term Paper cleared up that there are no good reasons for War. Even if countries tell us that their War is for the "removal of Nazis" or for the "liberation" of a country, it is never the Case. Every War always boils down to the gain of power or money, although nowadays these things are the same.

The war for Oil results in a shift of power in OPEC, which allows the most powerful country to influence the international Oil price. Due to this easy way of gaining a monopoly, a state can abuse their position in OPEC very easily.

The war against Communism has the goal of defeating an idea that goes against everything the US stands for since it tries to abolish the entire concept of a class based society, meaning the Government any rich people would loose their power.

And finally, the attempts of gaining power in countries. This, as the name already suggests, gives power in a country. But it is not always this easy, as seen with the example of Cuba, getting power over countries can also mean completely blocking any cooperation with specific states, in this case setting an embargo on Cuba and threatening non US companies of sanctions if they decide to trade with Cuba gives the US control over every company that is interested in having the US as a partner, which usually every company wants.

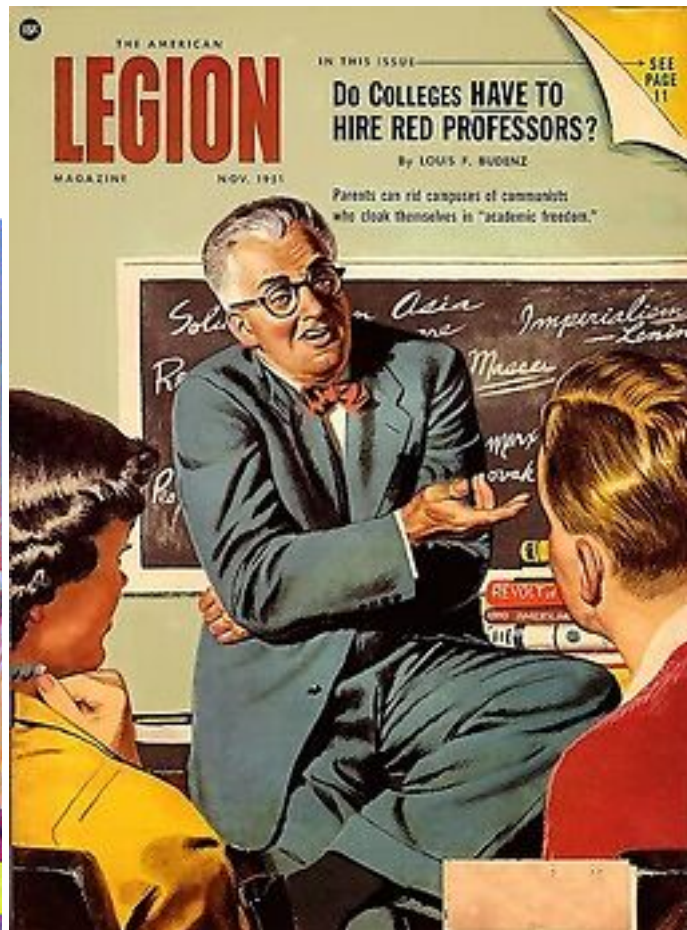
### **3.2 What I learned from this Term Paper**

The core information of this was nothing new to me, however the extend of what the US does to justify their wars and war crimes was very shocking and only made my hate towards the US worse. To know that there are some people who are able to commit genocide without any issues just because they own a lot of paper which has a man-made value attached it. I also have to retract a statement I made in the beginning of this Term Paper, there are no "better guys" in wars. Everyone who participates in any war is a horrible person and it does not matter what their political opinion is. They all commit genocide towards groups of people and point at the others saying that they are the ones violating human rights, while secretly having a genocide against transgender people in their own country and murdering children in a state based on stolen land. This system of gaining power through money and gaining money through power it is only a

matter of time until every country turns into some sort of Fascist state.

## 4 Attachments

### 4.1 Anti-Communist propaganda



## 5 Selbständigkeitserklärung

Hiermit erkläre ich, dass ich die vorliegende Arbeit selbstständig und ohne fremde Hilfe verfasst und keine anderen als die im Literaturverzeichnis angegebenen Hilfsmittel verwendet habe. Insbesondere versichere ich, dass ich alle wörtlichen und sinngemäßen Übernahmen aus anderen Werken als solche kenntlich gemacht habe.



This Term paper is licensed under CC-BY-SA 3.0

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>

The source, including L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X and bibliography files can be found at

<https://github.com/axtloss/Term-Paper-America-Involvement-In-Wars>

## References

- [1] Atrocities and criminal homicides in iraq. <https://archive.globalpolicy.org/security/issues/iraq/atrocitindex.htm>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [2] The iraq war. <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/iraq-war>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-29].
- [3] Killing you is a very easy thing for us. <https://www.hrw.org/report/2003/07/28/killing-you-very-easy-thing-us/human-rights-abuses-southeast-afghanistan>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [4] Number of military aircraft in nato in 2022, by country. <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1293688/nato-aircraft-strength-country/>. [Online; Statistic; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [5] US National Archives. Global war on terror. <https://www.georgewbushlibrary.gov/research/topic-guides/global-war-terror>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-23].
- [6] Ethan Bronner. Shadow war: How israel and iran attack each other. <https://www.smh.com.au/world/middle-east/shadow-war-how-israel-and-iran-attack-each-other-20230131-p5cgrb.html>.
- [7] George H. W. Bush. <https://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/georgehushendopdesertstorm.htm>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [8] Jeff D. Colgan. Oil, conflict, and u.s. national interests. <https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/oil-conflict-and-us-national-interests>. [Online; accessed 2023-02-01].
- [9] Jeff D. Colgan. Fueling the Fire: Pathways from Oil to War. *International Security*, 38(2):147–180, 10 2013.

- [10] CFR.org Editors. U.s.-cuba relations. <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/us-cuba-relations>.
- [11] History.com Editors. Domino theory. <https://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/domino-theory>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-23].
- [12] History.com Editors. Iraq invades kuwait. <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/iraq-invades-kuwait>.
- [13] History.com Editors. My lai massacre. <https://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/my-lai-massacre-1>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [14] History.com Editors. Vietnam war. <https://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/vietnam-war-history>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-23].
- [15] Thomas O Falk. Analysis: Increased israel-iran confrontations risk war. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/7/26/analysis-increased-israel-iran-confrontations-risk-war>.
- [16] Thomas Herold. What are the big oil super majors? <https://www.financial-dictionary.info/terms/big-oil-super-majors/>. [Online; accessed 2023-02-01].
- [17] Joseph Hinks. Israel is escalating its shadow war with iran. here's what to know. <https://time.com/5664654/israel-iran-shadow-war/>.
- [18] Elisa Joy Holland. Massacre at nogun-ri. <https://asiasociety.org/education/massacre-nogun-ri>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [19] Ben Hubbard and Hwaida Saad. With fuel from iran, hezbollah steps in where lebanon has failed. <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/09/16/world/middleeast/lebanon-hezbollah-iran-fuel.html>. [Online; accessed 2023-02-02].
- [20] Louis Imbert. Israel-iran: The shadow war intensifies. [https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2022/06/13/israel-iran-the-shadow-war-intensifies\\_5986617\\_4.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2022/06/13/israel-iran-the-shadow-war-intensifies_5986617_4.html).
- [21] Zubaidah Abdul Jalil. China sends 30 warplanes into taiwan air defence zone. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-60506682>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [22] Owen Jones. Eat the rich! why millennials and generation z have turned their backs on capitalism. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2021/sep/20/eat-the-rich-why-millennials-and-generation-z-have-turned-their-backs-on-capitalism>.
- [23] David Kay. Transcript: David kay at senate hearing. <http://edition.cnn.com/2004/US/01/28/kay.transcript/>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-29].
- [24] Yu Ning. How us evades responsibility for war crimes in afghanistan. <https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202109/1235240.shtml>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [25] Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica. Operation iraqi freedom. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Iraq-War>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-29].

- [26] The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica. Persian gulf war. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Persian-Gulf-War>. [Online; accessed 2023-02-02].
- [27] US Department of treasury. Sanctions programs and country information. <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/sanctions-programs-and-country-information>.
- [28] Department of Veterans Affairs. America's wars. [https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/factsheets/fs\\_americas\\_wars.pdf](https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/factsheets/fs_americas_wars.pdf). [Online; accessed 2023-01-23].
- [29] Council on foreign relations. The u.s. war in afghanistan. <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-war-afghanistan>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [30] Patrick Oppmann. Fidel castro survived 600 assassination attempts, officials say. <https://edition.cnn.com/2016/08/12/americas/cuba-fidel-castro-at-90-after-assassination-plots/index.html>.
- [31] quoteresearch. War against a foreign country only happens when the moneyed classes think they are going to profit from it. <https://quoteinvestigator.com/2015/12/10/war-profit/#r+12615+1+1>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [32] Martha Mendoza Sang-Hun Choe, Charles J. Hanley. U.s. massacre of civilians in korean war described. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/inatl/daily/sept99/skorea30.htm>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [33] DOUG STOKES. Blood for oil? global capital, counter-insurgency and the dual logic of american energy security. *Review of International Studies*, 33(2):245–264, 2007.
- [34] Zena Tahhan. Israel's settlements: Over 50 years of land theft explained. <https://interactive.aljazeera.com/aje/2017/50-years-illegal-settlements/index.html>.
- [35] BBC Visual Journalism Team. Ukraine in maps: Tracking the war with russia. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-60506682>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [36] Nick Turse. The vietnam war crimes you never heard of. <https://historynewsnetwork.org/article/1802>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [37] David Vergun. Nation observes anniversary of operation desert storm. <https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/2879147/nation-observes-anniversary-of-operation-desert-storm/>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-23].
- [38] Declan Walsh. Afghanistan war logs: How us marines sanitised record of bloodbath. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2010/jul/26/afghanistan-war-logs-us-marines>. [Online; accessed 2023-01-25].
- [39] Julia Carrie Wong. America's obsession with rooting out communism is making a comeback. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/may/22/anti-communist-laws-california-trump-russia>.