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Analyse the US deterrence strategy towards Iran and North Korea's nuclear program, what types of hard and soft power are necessary to sustain this strategy and how does it affect global non-proliferation efforts?

INTRODUCTION

The US is the ^{sole} superpower since the fall of the Soviet Union. Keeping in line with the mantra of big sticks diplomacy given by Theodore Roosevelt, it polices the world and tries to enforce the western liberal order across the world. The question of non-proliferation regularly comes up and all emerging powers are in consensus with the global norm that nuclear proliferation is out of question. After the signing of the NPT in 1968, the world and especially worked hard to utilize various mechanisms to prevent nuclear proliferation. By the use of soft power, mainly sanctions, grant-in-aid, and other methods such as back-channel diplomacy. The US has been quite successful in stopping the spread of nuclear weapons since 1998. Globally, through the US as a hegemon, non-proliferation has been quite successful.

US DETERRENCE STRATEGY TOWARDS IRAN AND NORTH KOREA'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM

The US has used various steps in enforcing general and specific deterrence regarding nuclear non-proliferation

Strategy

Iran	North Korea
US used sanctions to punish the Iranians for the Revolution. Those economic sanctions have hurt the Iranian aspirations. Nuclear proliferation has been met with indirect intervention either through cyber attacks, or directly attacking the Iranian nuclear facilities through the Israelis. The US has used various forms to remind Iran to forgo their nuclear ambitions with the JCPO at the top.	The North Koreans were also met with this wrath. The US engaged with the Chinese and multilateral institutions. Moreover, it strengthened its neighbours i.e. Japan and South Korea. The US also deployed its Pacific Fleet close to the shore of Japan, in order to watch out for any reckless behaviour on part of the DPRK. Deterrence, the DPRK has been a use of mixed powers (Hard/Soft).

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Hard Power Necessary to sustain Deterrence Strategy

Shoring up defenses of Neighbors

The US has used a variety of measures to ensure that its presence in region is always felt. By providing missile defense technology to both Iran and DPRK's neighbors it has ensured minimum credible deterrence is achieved. Moreover it has bases with attack ^{aircrafts,} fighters and bomber aircraft like the new B-2 Spirit ~~by~~ deploying these close to these countries, it reduces the reaction and response time. Moreover it ~~actively~~ uses satellite and human intelligence to calculate and outmaneuver its opponents. Continuous military exercises also play a vital role in the readiness and preparedness of its allies and own forces.

Mutual Defense Treaties and Positioning of Naval Fleets

The Pacific Fleet is always out on patrol close to DPRK, China and Japan. This fleet is in itself an army on its own. Moreover, to counter the Iranian threat the US's 5th Fleet is always patrolling nearby. The US in order to counter any aggression on part of the Iranians or North Korea's has signed Mutual

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Defense Treaties or Collective Security Arrangements. In turn, it will aid its allies. In case of any aggression from its aggressors. These hard power measures are enough to deter any untoward move by the Iranians or the North Koreans.

Soft Power Measures Necessary to Sustain Deterrence

Using Multi-lateral Organizations to Sanction Violators

The US using its sway and soft power in the UN has imposed tough financial and physical/trade sanctions on the DPRK and Iran. The goal of these programs is to force the violators to cease their activities and return to their old ways.

The other emerging powers have also lent their voice to stopping global proliferation with China and Russia supporting the economic sanctions on North Korea. Moreover, being the hegemon, in this current global power structure the US can only enforce these sanctions. Other powers do not carry as much power as the hegemon, and so are unable to enforce them.

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Diplomatic Meetings Using ~~Economic Sanctions~~ as a tool to reverse Nuclear Ambitions.

The US in 2015 proposed the JCPOA, a comprehensive document that envisioned the lifting of some economic sanctions in return for Iran abandoning its nuclear weapons ambition. Similarly, the US under Donald Trump, met with the North Korean premier Kim Jong Un to discuss lifting of some sanctions in return for some reversal of their nuclear weapons program. However, hawkish and realist corridors won their place in the US and these initiatives lost all credence when the US ^{chose to} abandon these proposals. However the US has successfully demonstrated how it can use the economic sanctions and lifting them to extract guarantees.

US STANCE AND GLOBAL NON- PROLIFERATION STRATEGY

Stability and Order is established by
the Hegemon

Under Hegemonic Stability Theory, greater stability and order in the international anarchic system

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can be achieved if there is a powerful hegemon. These realist principles guide us to the fact that the US's stance in deterring nuclear proliferation follows the same course of action as the hegemon, in order to preserve its place; its responsibility also includes to counter those who try to dislodge it from its place as a hegemon. As long as, the US remains as a hegemon it will do everything in its power to counter act and deter those who try to work against its interests in any region. It would sign joint defense treaties, exhibit hard power by deploying its military right on the border and use back channel diplomacy to pressure actors into leaving their ambitions.

Using Collective Consensus to Enforce the International Norm

In order to, effectively counter proliferation on a global level, the US displays a mix of international norms and consensus. It uses the forms of the UNSC (United Nations Security Council) and IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) along with treaties like the NPT (Non-Proliferation Treaty) to enforce the collective consensus on nuclear proliferation. It uses these internationalist body to achieve its realist objective. It has contained the spread of nuclear weapons to a handful of countries. Among which are majority of its allies. Moreover, with the General

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Assembly, it manages to reach international condemnations of those who partake in nuclear proliferation.

Uses the international Order to isolate Violators / Proliferators

In this anarchic world, the US manages to get every nation to bandwagon on its agenda of isolating nuclear proliferators. The Liberal international order, is thus used to isolate those try to violate it. Iran and North Korea have faced isolation at this order. Economic and diplomatic links are all not only by the hegemon but also by those on its periphery. This isolation has led widespread economic problems for Iran and North Korea. In a way, the US has contained the nuclear tendencies of these nations, and on the other hand, it has promoted the use of civilian use through the NPT.

CONCLUSION

The US has managed in many ways to contain the spread of nuclear weapons by the use of many measures. Some include the display of hard power, while others are more focused on the diplomatic and economic

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Isolation of the actors. It has used the international order to achieve consensus regarding the spread of nuclear weapons and passed important treaties outlawing the development of the nuclear weapons.

Good analysis!

Add apt references

Add quotations, references from books and research papers

Good luck!