The Cold War



Essential Understandings

1) The Cold War set the framework for GLOBAL POLITICS for 45 years after the end of WORLD WAR II. It also influenced American DOMESTIC POLITICS, the conduct of FOREIGN AFFAIRS, and the role of the GOVERNMENT in the ECONOMY after 1945

2) The Cold War was essentially a COMPETITION between two very different ways of organizing GOVERNMENT, SOCIETY, and the ECONOMY:

A) The AMERICAN-led western nations' belief in DEMOCRACY, INDIVIDAUL freedom, and a MARKET economy

B) The SOVIET belief in a TOTALITARIAN state and SOCIALISM

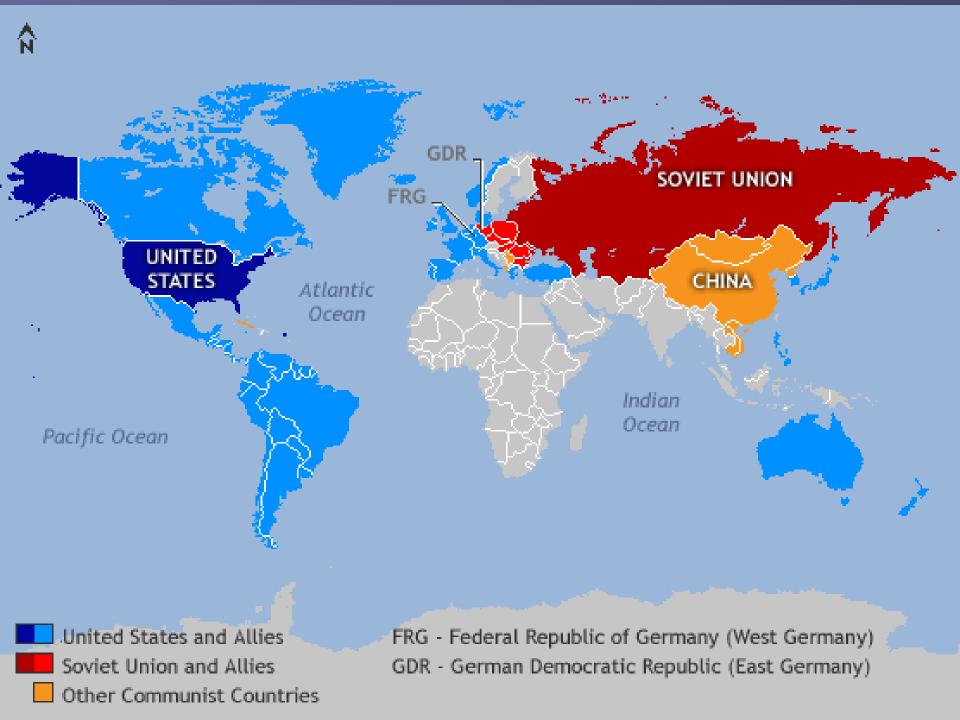
Origins of the Cold War

Definition: "The COMPETITION that developed after WWII between the UNITED STATES and the SOVIET UNION for power and influence in the world



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The Cold War lasted from 1945 to the COLLAPSE of the Soviet Union in 1991."







1945 – A Critical Year

Cooperation during WWII between United States and Soviet Union was



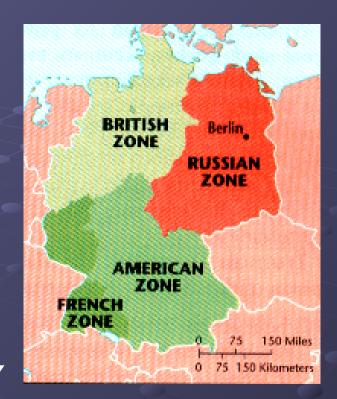
History of Hostility

STRAINED relationship between U.S. and Soviet Union

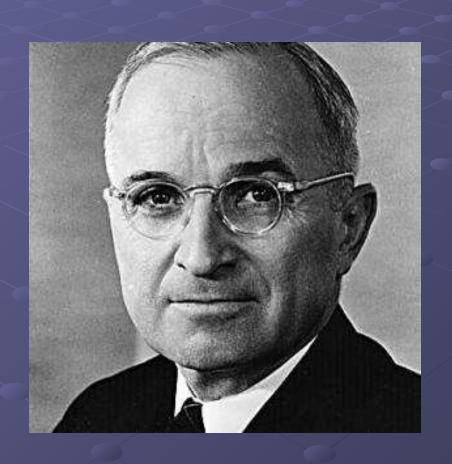
- n RUSSIAN REVOLUTION of 1917 American troops supported anti-Communist resistance
- n USSR NOT INVITED to peace conferences after WWI
- n U.S. DIDN'T recognize Soviet government until 1933
- n Soviets signed a pact with HITLER before WWII
- n Soviets DISAGREED with Americans/British over battle TACTICS, postwar PLANS during WWII
- n Americans FEARED communism

YALTA Conference of 1945 – Roosevelt, Stalin, Churchill met to work out future of GERMANY and POLAND

- n Germany divided into American, British, French, and Soviet OCCUPATION ZONES
- n American, British, French zones → WEST GERMANY
- n Soviet zone → EAST GERMANY
- n Conflict over future of POLAND



Leaders agreed to form UNITED NATIONS TRUMAN becomes president





Conflicting postwar goals

United States

- 1) Fought to bring DEMOCRACY, economic OPPORTUNITY to conquered nations of Europe/Asia.
- 2) Economically strongand politically open world= MARKETS for Americanproducts

Soviet Union

- 1) Wanted to REBUILD and protect its own interests = "SATELLITE NATIONS"
- 2) Spread of COMMUNISM throughout the world = supported totalitarian Communist governments in EASTERN EUROPE

Creation of Soviet "satellite nations"



Clash of Ideologies

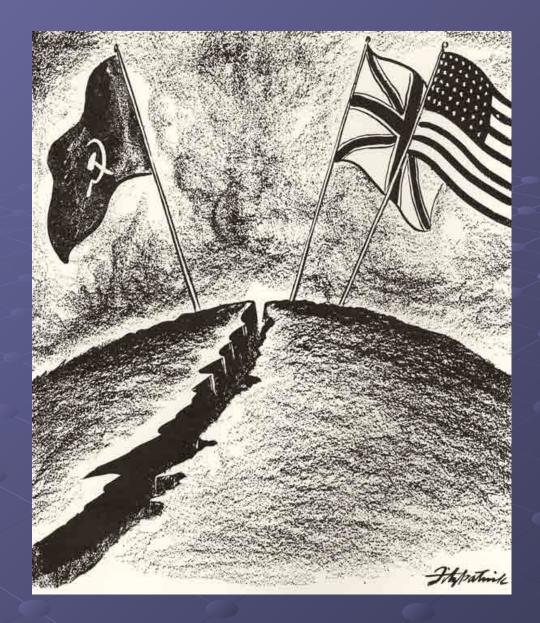
	United States	Soviet Union
Political	DEMOCRATIC	TOTALITARIAN
system	government	government
	Democracy:	Totalitarianism:
	government by the PEOPLE,	STATE controls all aspects of
	either directly or	citizens' lives, one
	through elected representatives	ultimate leader

	United States	Soviet Union
Economic	CAPITALIST	COMMUNIST
system	(free market)	(socialism)
	Capitalism: economic system in which the factors of production are owned INDIVIDUALLY; DIFFERENT SOCIAL CLASSES EXIST	Socialism: economic system in which property/means of production are owned COMMUNALLY; NO SOCIAL CLASSES

Communism: "economic system in which there is NO state or private property, all goods are owned in COMMON, and there is NO CLASS DIVISION of citizens









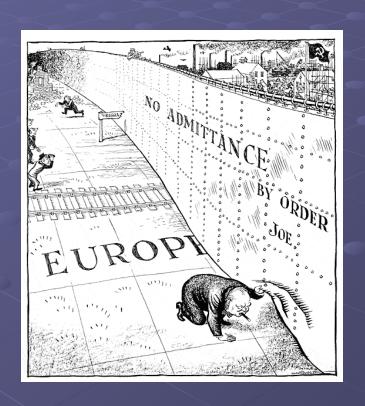
The "Iron Curtain"

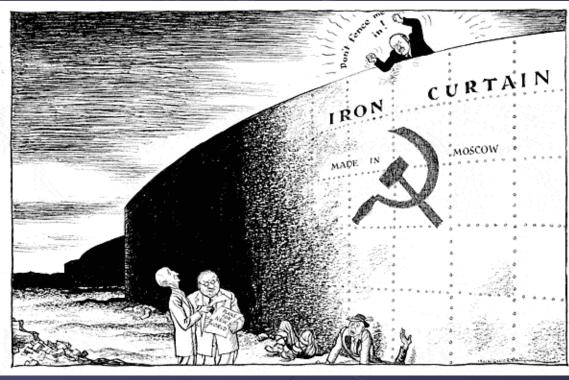


February 1946 – STALIN predicted ultimate triumph of communism over capitalism.

March 5, 1946 –
WINSTON
CHURCHILL
responded while
speaking in
Fulton, Missouri

n "From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an IRON CURTAIN has descended across the Continent..."





Marshall Plan

- n Unveiled by Secretary of State George C. Marshall in 1947
- n United States supported European ECONOMIC RECOVERY from World War II
- n U.S. allocated approx. \$13 BILLION to Western Europe

Berlin Airlift of 1948-1949

- n Soviets BLOCKED Allied access to West Berlin
- n Blockade caused severe SHORTAGES of FOOD and SUPPLIES for 2.5 million people in WEST BERLIN
- n British and American AIRCRAFT made more than 200,000 flights to deliver food, fuel, other supplies until May 1949









Communist Takeover of China

The Communist takeover in China led by MAO ZEDONG shortly after WWII increased American fears of communist DOMINATION

Rather than being strong allies, however, CHINA and the SOVIET UNION eventually

became RIVALS for territory and diplomatic influence

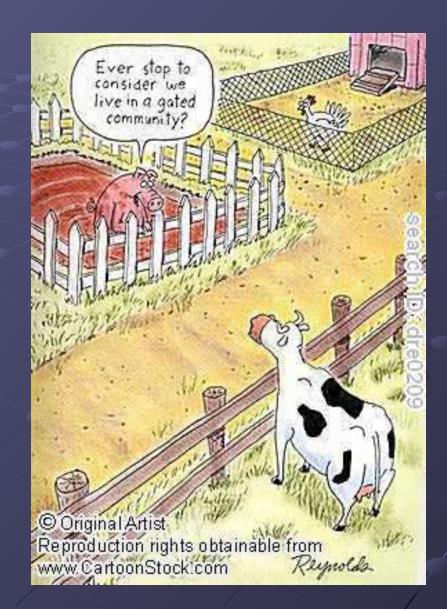
Chinese communist dictator Mao Zedong

Elements of the Cold War



Containment

nAmerican policy that called for the United States to **RESIST Soviet** attempts to form Communist governments ELSEWHERE



Truman Doctrine

Pres. Harry Truman's 1947 SPEECH before a joint session of Congress, calling United States to take LEADERSHIP role in the world, and declaring that the UNITED STATES would SUPPORT nations threatened by communism



"...I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures..."

- Pres. Truman, March 12, 1947



Development of Competing Alliances

NATO (1949) North Atlantic Treaty Organization	The Warsaw Pact (1955)
US & WESTERN	USSR & EASTERN
EUROPE promise	EUROPE promised
common defense	common defense

IF ONE IS ATTACKED, ALL ARE ATTACKED

For nearly 50 years, both sides maintained large MILITARY forces facing each other in Europe





Arms Race

- Struggle between U.S. and Soviet Union to gain weapons SUPERIORITY
- DETERRENCE policy of making military power of U.S. and allies so strong that no enemy would dare attack out of fear
- 1949 U.S.S.R. exploded a nuclear bomb = new threat of nuclear war
- United States NOT the only ones with the BOMB anymore





Soviets focused on long-range rockets called ICBMs (Inter Continental Ballistic Missiles)



May 1960, Soviet military used guided missile to SHOOT DOWN an American U-2 spy plane over Soviet territory

Massive retaliation

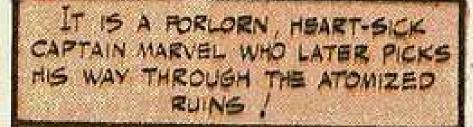
STRATEGIC DOCTRINE instituted by Pres.
Dwight D.
EISENHOWER

If the Soviets attacked at all, the United States would respond with TOTAL destructive nuclear force

Established "MUTUALLY ASSURED DESTRUCTION"







MY OLD FRIEND --- GULP / ALL OF BILLY'S FRIENDS --- DEAD AND GONE !



BUT WHO IS DOING THIS ? WHAT HEARTLESS MONSTERS STARTED THIS ATOMIC WAR ? WHERE ARE THE BOMBS COMING FROM ? WHY DOESN'T AMERICA RETALIATE ?

Differences between WWII and Cold War

World War II	Cold War
MULTIPLE countries involved (US, Britain, Germany, France, Soviet Union, etc.)	TWO main superpowers (United States and Soviet Union)
CLEARLY DEFINED sides, alliances, and geographic areas (Allies vs. Axis in European, Pacific, and North African theaters)	IDEOLOGICAL /economic lines drawn between two powers (capitalism vs. communism, democracy vs. totalitarianism)
Actual ARMED CONFLICT	MILITARY TENSIONS, but never direct military engagement between two powers
ATOMIC BOMB used by United States	NO nuclear weapons actually used
War ended with VICTORY FOR ALLIES	NO VICTORY for U.S. in Korean/Vietnam Wars, war ended b/c of Soviet Union collapse