

# Cold War



# **I. Allies Become Enemies**

## **A. Ideological Differences**

- Different economic systems
  - Capitalism and Socialism
- Ideological and political differences
  - Democracy and Communism

A U.S. government poster from WWII portraying the Soviets as friendly



## I. Allies Become Enemies

### B. WW II Experiences and Conferences

- Growing mutual suspicions, different wartime experiences and outcome
- Wartime Conferences: Yalta and Potsdam



# The Yalta Conference



The “Big Three”: Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin meet at Yalta, February 1945

# Yalta: Significant Events



- Creation of the United Nations
- Demand for Germany's unconditional surrender
- Postwar Germany split into four zones of occupation
- Stalin agreed to enter war against Japan
- Status of Poland
- Demilitarization of Germany

A WWII-era poster celebrating the UN

# Truman Takes Over

- FDR died suddenly in April 1945
- Vice President Harry Truman sworn in
- Had served as VP for just 82 days
- Truman previously unaware of the Manhattan Project



President Harry S. Truman at his desk

# The Potsdam Conference



Churchill, Truman, and Stalin

- Truman, Stalin, and Churchill (later Attlee)
- Restated agreement to partition Germany
- Agreed to prosecute war criminals
- Set new boundary line for Poland
- Truman hinted at atomic bomb to Stalin

# I. Allies Become Enemies

## C. Aggression and Expansion

- Both sides are competing for allies and influence around the world





# The Soviet Bloc



- The USSR felt that by controlling “satellite” nations, it could stop future western invasions
- Communist governments installed in much of central and eastern Europe

# The “Iron Curtain”

- Popularized by a 1946 Churchill speech
- Metaphor for the divide between Western Europe and the Soviet Bloc
- Stalin called speech a “call to war”



Churchill and Truman on stage  
at Westminster College

## II. American Response to Soviet Threats

- How did American foreign policy hope to limit the spread of Soviet global power?



# A. Containment



George F. Kennan

- First suggested by George F. Kennan in the “Long Telegram”
- Made public in a *Foreign Affairs* article
- Kennan asserted that the goal of the U.S. should be to “contain” communism within its present borders

## B. The Truman Doctrine

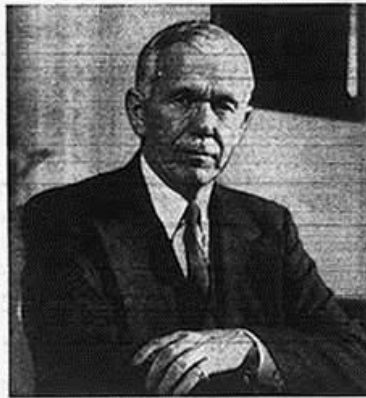
- Designed to contain communism
- Truman announced he would give economic aid to Greece and Turkey
- “Truman Doctrine” extended to anywhere aid was given to support a non-communist government



President Truman spells out the terms of the Truman Doctrine before a joint session of Congress

# C. The Marshall Plan

*This Generation's  
Chance for Peace*



SECRETARY OF STATE GEORGE C. MARSHALL

**The European Recovery Program**  
*'The Marshall Plan'*

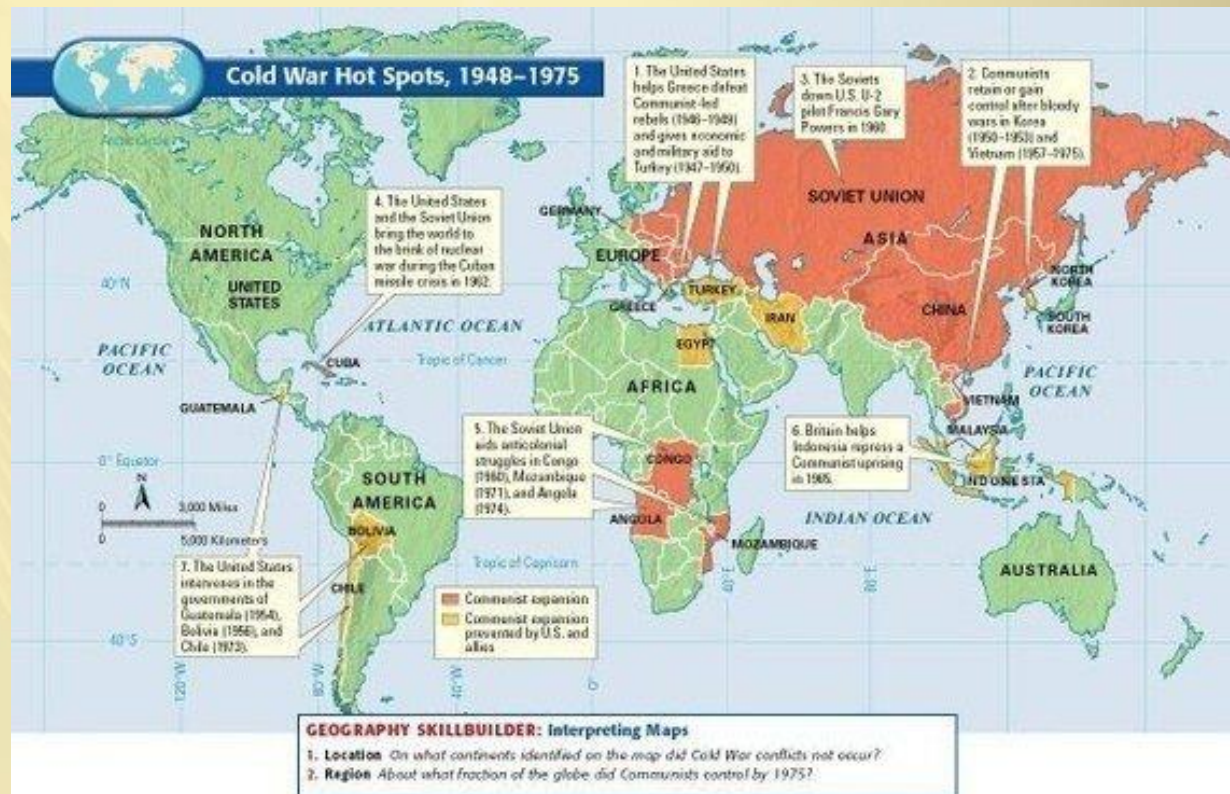
A Presentation of the Issues by  
**THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION**  
and  
**The Washington Post**  
Series VII ..... Nov. 22, 1947

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- Western Europe struggled to revive after the war
- Millions in refugee camps
- Winter of 1946 the coldest in memory
- Marshall proposes aid plan to all European nations to rebuild

## III. Cold War Turns Hot

- What events brought the Cold War to its peak in the 1950s and 1960s?



# **A. The Berlin Airlift**



American C-54s await orders to take off from Tempelhof Air Base, Berlin



# Origins of the Berlin Airlift

- Germany divided after WWII
- City of Berlin lay in Soviet zone
- Soviets closed all rail and highway routes into city
- Air corridors remained open



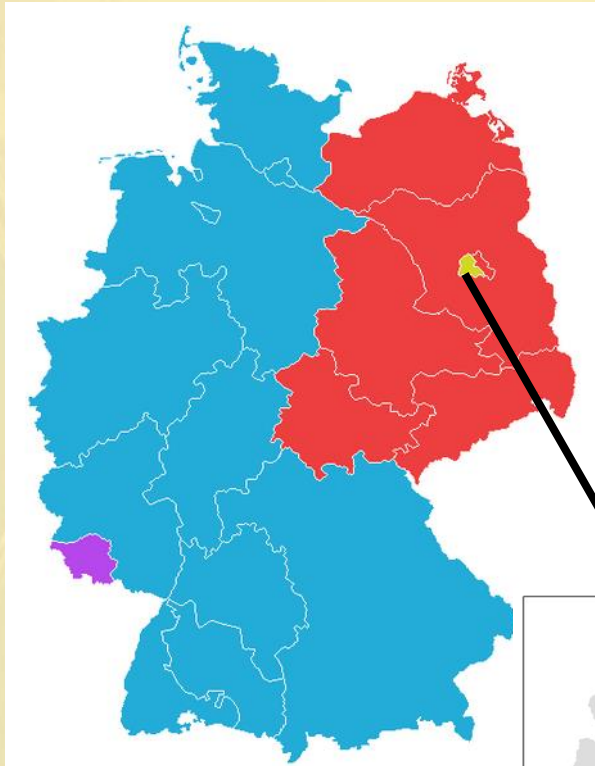
# “Operation Vittles”



Germans watch as an American bomber flies overhead

- U.S. code name for the airlift
- U.S., British forces dropped supplies into Berlin
- Many Germans called planes *Rosinenbombers* (raisin bombers)
- Germans and Americans became allies

# The Partitioning of Germany



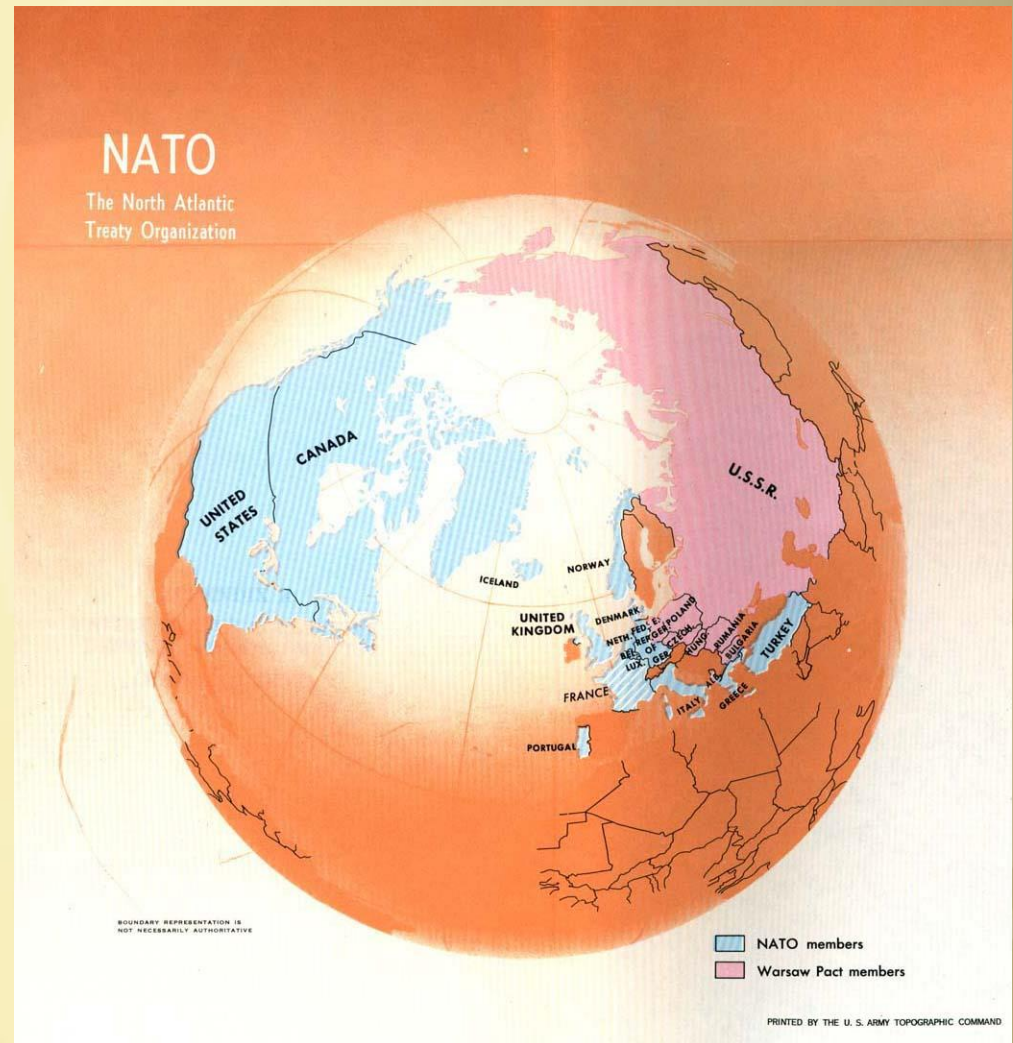
West Germany (blue)  
and East Germany  
(red)



- Western part of Germany became Federal Republic of Germany in May 1949
- Eastern part of Germany became the German Democratic Republic
- Berlin lay entirely within East Germany

## B. Cold War Alliances

- **NATO**: North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- Twelve original member states in a mutual defense alliance (now 26)
- Soviets developed the **Warsaw Pact** in response



# C. The Korean War

- Korea divided after World War II
  - North Korea (communist)
  - South Korea (non-communist)
- North Korea invaded South Korea in June 1950
- UN forces supported South Korea



# UN Forces Advance



U.S. Marines go over the top at  
Inchon

- North Korean forces drove UN forces to Pusan
- MacArthur's daring invasion at Inchon forced North back
- UN forces pushed to Yalu River (border between North Korea and China)

# Truman vs. MacArthur

- Truman supported “limited war” policy
- MacArthur assured Truman that China wouldn’t enter war
- China joined war in late 1950
- MacArthur critical of Truman’s policies
- Truman fired MacArthur



Truman meets with MacArthur at Wake Island, October 1950

# Stalemate



- UN and Chinese forces launched various offensives near 38th parallel
- War dragged on in a stalemate
- Stalin died; Eisenhower elected president
- Armistice signed in 1953



# **D. Cold War Arms and Space Race**



# **The Hydrogen Bomb**



# **Dulles and Brinksmanship**

- Policy established by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles
- Policy included threat of using all U.S. military force, including nuclear weapons
- Both U.S. and USSR expanded their air power
- Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD)



Eisenhower (left) confers  
with Secretary of State  
Dulles

# Creation of the CIA



- Office of Strategic Services gathered intelligence during World War II
- OSS disbanded after the war
- Truman realized importance of centralized intelligence system
- Central Intelligence Agency and National Security Council created in 1947

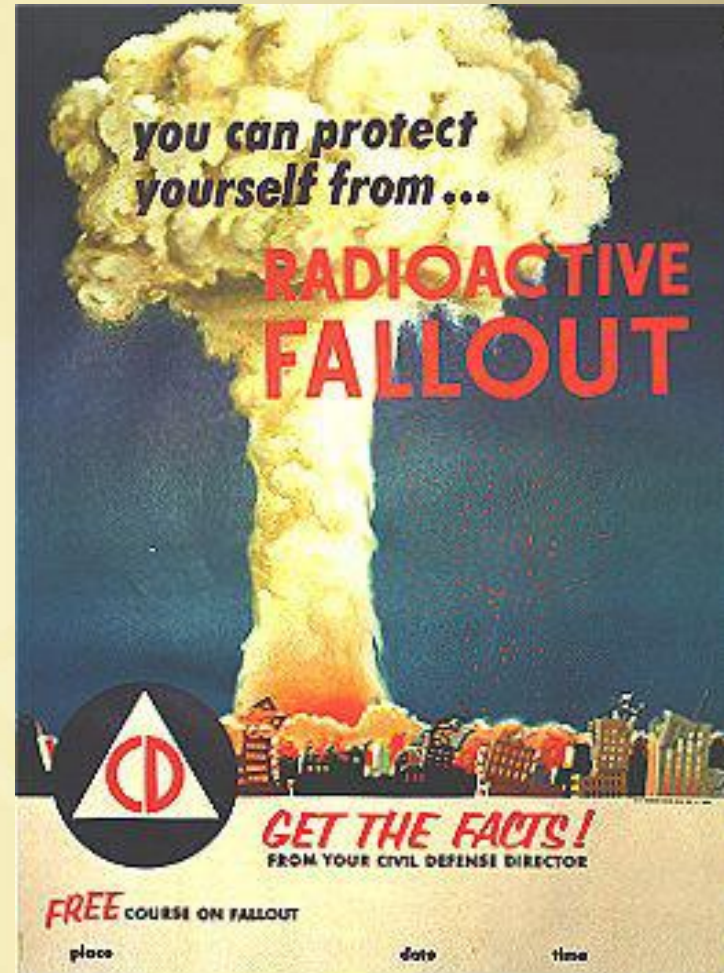
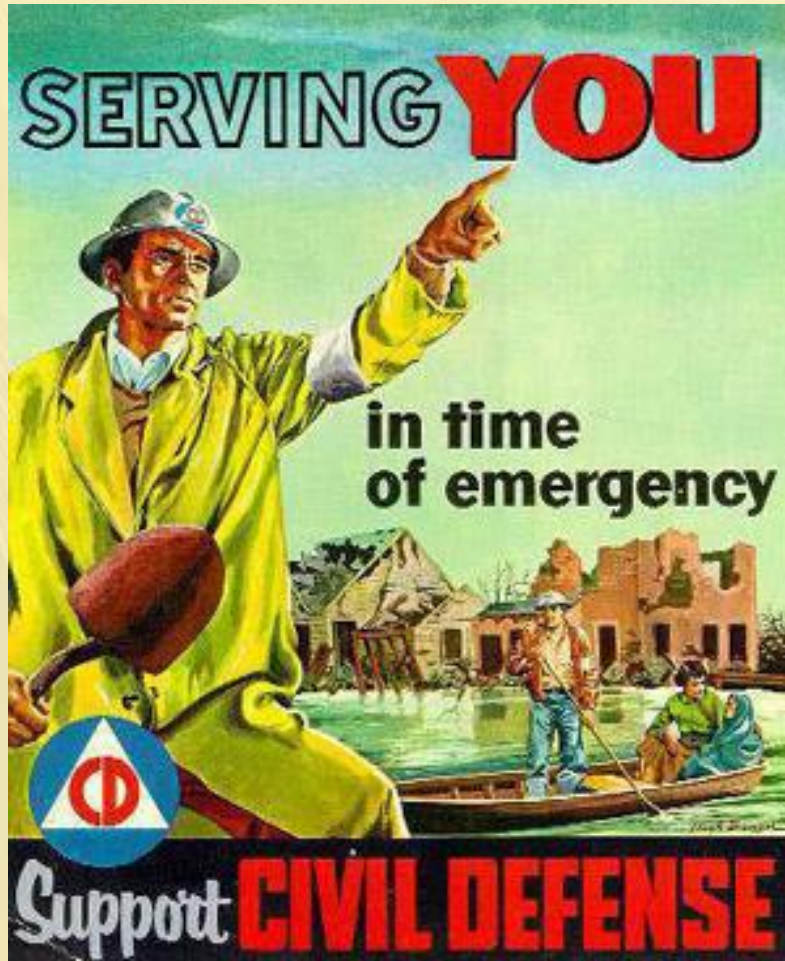
# United States Civil Defense



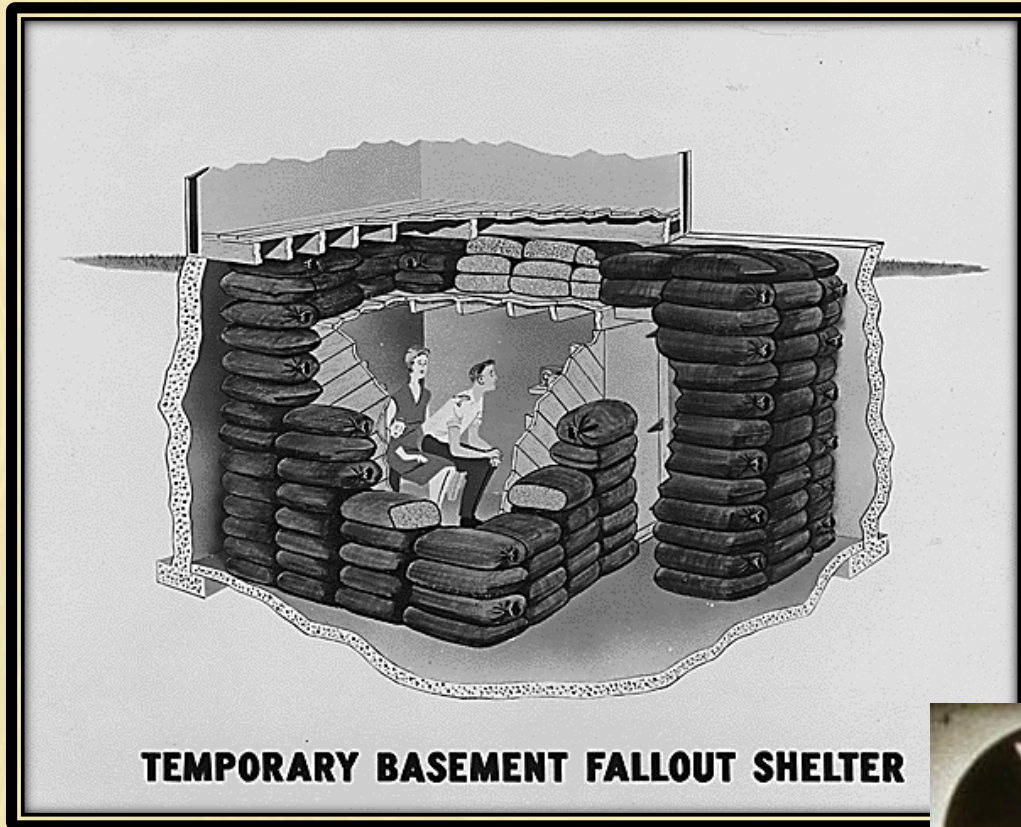
The U.S. Civil Defense emblem

- Origins of Civil Defense go back to 1916
- Post–World War II CD focused on dealing with threat of nuclear war
- CD encouraged building fallout shelters and storing supplies to survive a nuclear attack

# Civil Defense Posters



# Fallout Shelters



Cutaway view of CD-designed shelter

- CD provided plans for backyard shelters
- Of questionable effectiveness
- Made public believe a nuclear war was survivable



# The Eisenhower Doctrine

- Suez Crisis raised Soviet popularity in Middle East
- To counter this, Eisenhower issued a warning to the Soviets
- Doctrine stated that the U.S. would help any country threatened by a communist nation



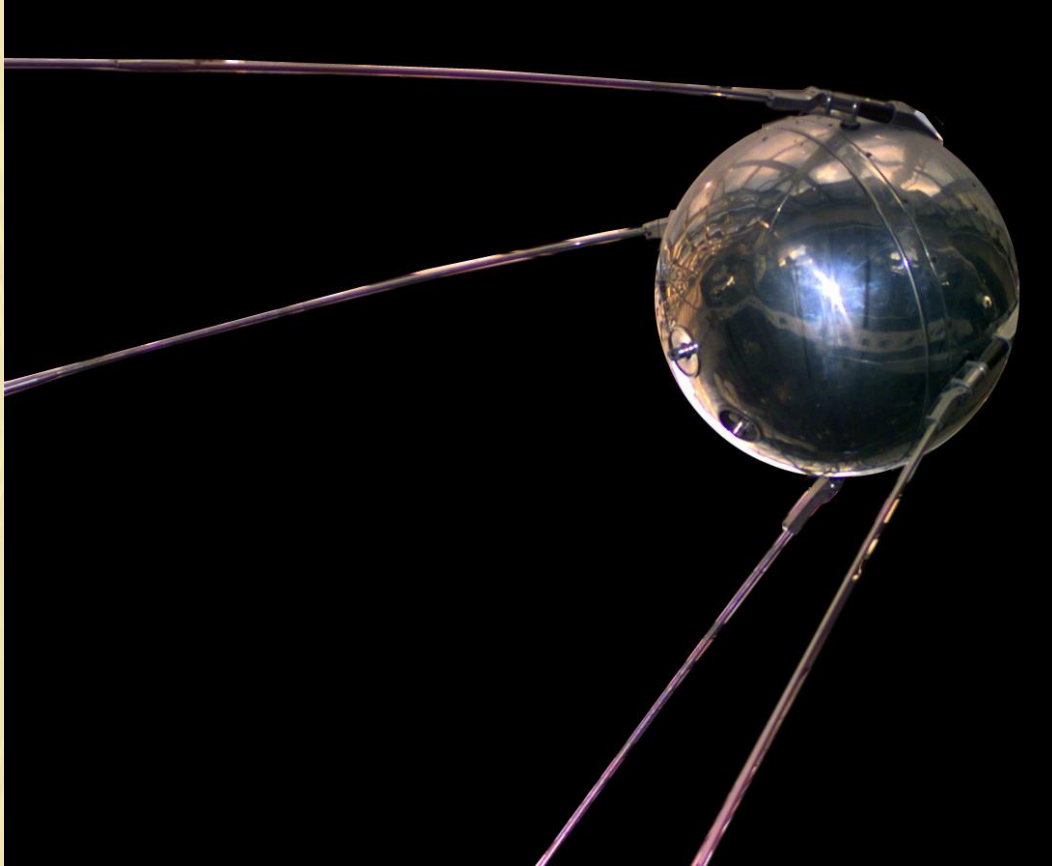
Egyptian  
President Nasser



The Suez Canal



# *Sputnik I*



A replica of *Sputnik I*

- First man-made satellite
- Launched by the USSR in 1957
- Orbited the earth every 96 minutes
- Major blow to U.S. prestige
- U.S. launched first satellite in 1958

# The U-2 Incident

- U-2 used for high-altitude photographic surveillance
- U.S. began secret flights over Soviet territory
- Francis Gary Powers shot down on May 1, 1960
- Increased tensions between U.S. and USSR



NASA photo of a U-2 aircraft

# E. JFK and the Cold War

- “Flexible Response”  
= Kennedy  
Administration policy
- Allowed for more  
options for dealing  
with Soviet threats
- U.S. would respond  
with similar force,  
not just with nuclear  
weapons



Kennedy takes the oath of office, January  
1961

# **Bay of Pigs Invasion**

- Unsuccessful attempt to overthrow the Castro regime in Cuba
- Failed due to poor planning and lack of support of Cuban people
- Foreign policy defeat for Kennedy Administration



# Berlin Crisis



The Berlin Wall

- Attempt to stop mass migration from East to West Berlin
- Construction began in August 1961
- East German forces ordered to shoot defectors
- Nearly 5000 successful escapes; nearly 200 killed

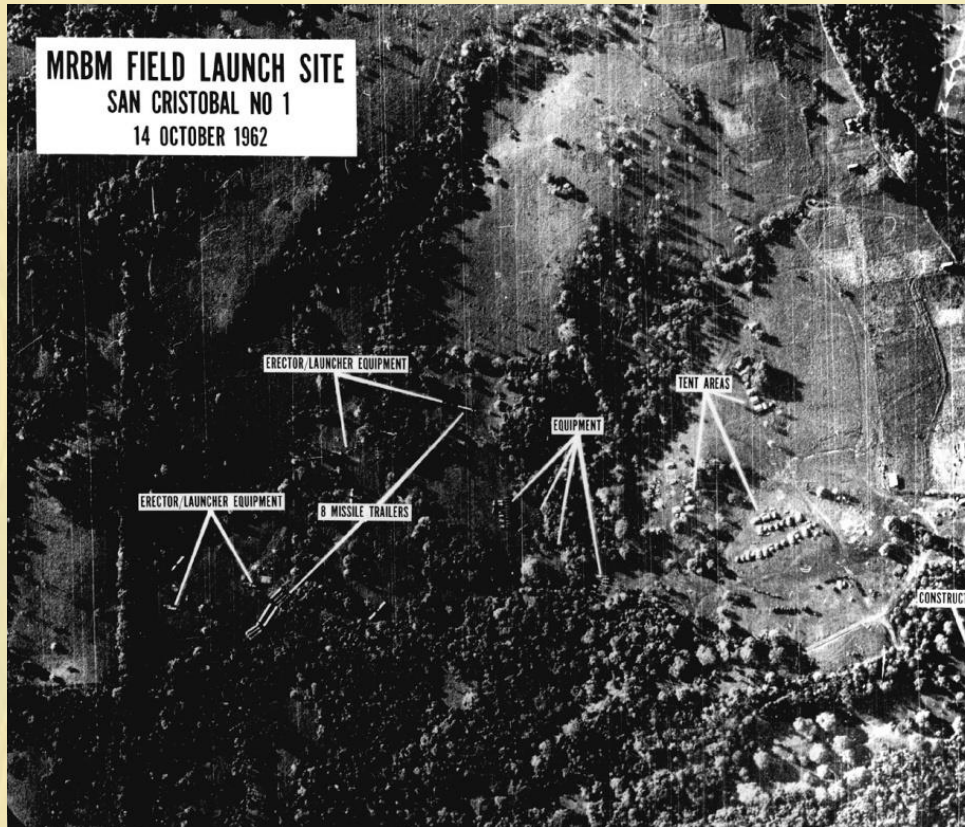
# Kennedy at the Berlin Wall

- 1963 speech by JFK at the Berlin Wall
- Famous quote: *“Ich bin ein Berliner”*
- Kennedy’s speech set tone of defiance against Soviet oppression in Berlin



JFK speaks at the Berlin Wall

# The Cuban Missile Crisis



Arrows indicate suspected Soviet missile installations

- Soviet missiles discovered in Cuba by U.S. reconnaissance flights
- Deemed an unacceptable threat to U.S. security
- JFK convened EXCOMM to develop plan for dealing with missiles

# Why Missiles in Cuba?



- Bay of Pigs invasion
- Attempts by U.S. to remove Castro
- Placement of U.S. missiles in Turkey
- USSR lagged behind U.S. in number of missiles

Map showing the range of targets reachable by Soviet missiles in Cuba



# Feeling Out the Soviets

- JFK met with Foreign Minister Gromyko
- Gromyko asserted that all Soviet aid to Cuba was defensive in nature
- Kennedy did not acknowledge missiles
- Gromyko probably did not know about missiles



Kennedy meets with Gromyko  
(third from left, on the couch)

# Decision to Quarantine Cuba

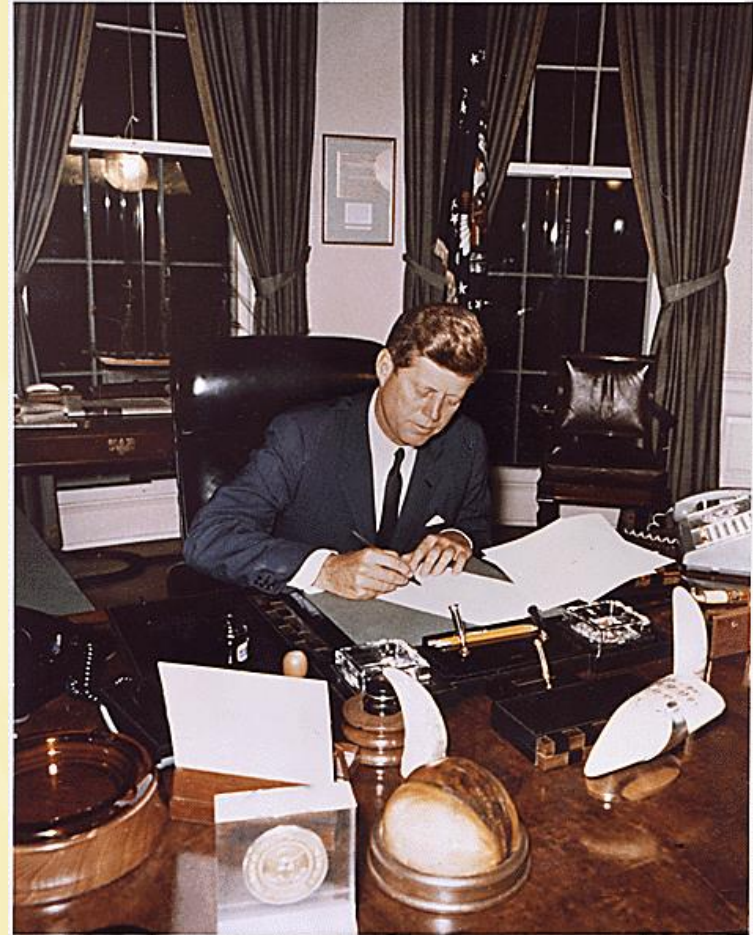


EXCOMM meeting

- EXCOMM continued debating policy while JFK left for campaign trip
- Agreement made to suggest quarantine to JFK
- Kennedy feigned illness, returning to Washington to confer with EXCOMM

# **The Blockade Begins**

- Kennedy went on TV to announce his decision
- Blockade took effect next morning
- Most Soviet ships approaching Cuba stopped; some turned back



Kennedy signs the document authorizing the blockade

# Showdown at the UN

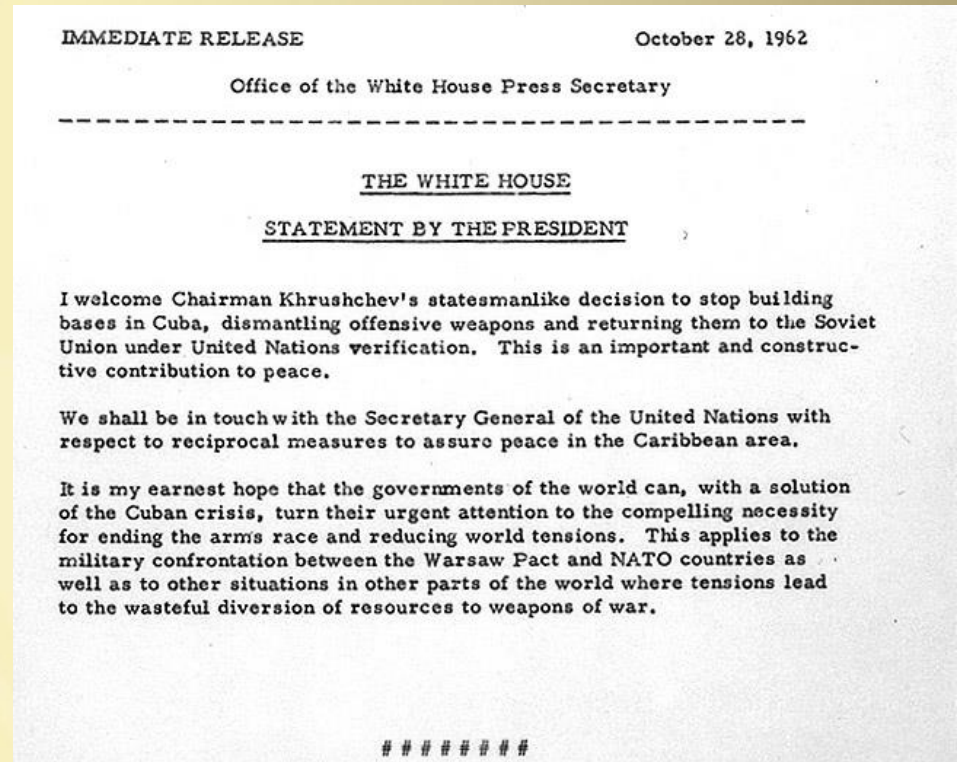


Ambassador Adlai Stevenson shows evidence of Soviet missiles in Cuba to the UN Security Council

- U.S. began to apply diplomatic pressure
- Ambassador Stevenson argued with his Soviet counterpart
- Stevenson presented photographic evidence to UN Security Council

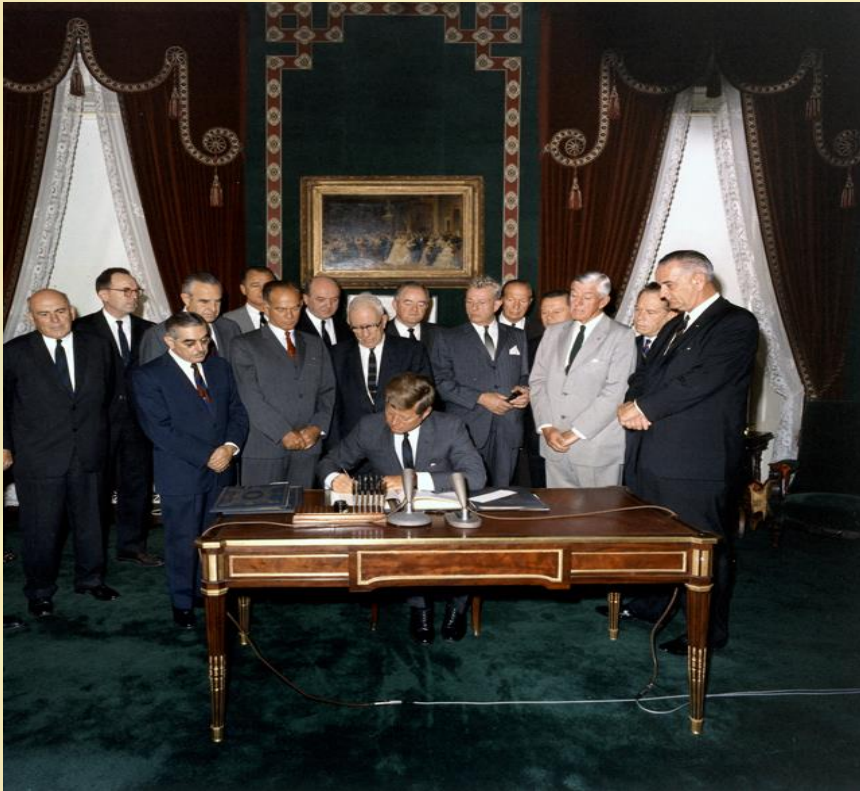
# The Crisis Ends

- Khrushchev sent letter to JFK setting terms for removing missiles
- Second letter much harsher
- JFK answered first letter and ignored second
- Secret deal made to remove U.S. missiles from Turkey
- The “hotline”



JFK's statement at the end of the crisis

# Limited Test Ban Treaty



President Kennedy signs the Limited Test Ban Treaty

- Negotiations between U.S., UK, and USSR began in June 1963
- Allowed only underground nuclear testing
- JFK signed treaty in October
- Treaty signaled start of improved relations between the superpowers

# **F. The Vietnam War: Prelude**

- “Domino theory”
- French surrendered control of Vietnam in 1953
- Vietnam partitioned into North, led by Ho Chi Minh, and South, headed by Ngo Dinh Diem
- Unification elections set for 1956 cancelled by South Vietnam and supported by the U.S.



# **Vietnam: Early U.S. Involvement**



Eisenhower and Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem

- Vietcong began attacks against Diem government
- Eisenhower took little action against Vietcong
- Kennedy followed same policy, but sent more money and military “advisers”
- Diem government overthrown in November 1963; Diem assassinated in coup



# **Gulf of Tonkin Resolution**

- LBJ also concerned about appearing soft on communism
- Gulf of Tonkin “incident” led to escalation of U.S. involvement
- Johnson pushed through resolution for protecting U.S. forces and interests



# Protest Movements



- Rise of the “New Left”
- SDS and FSM formed
- Protest movement grew on college campuses
- “Hawks” vs. “doves”

Protestors demonstrate against the war in Vietnam

# The Tet Offensive

- Major North Vietnamese/Vietcong offensive in 1968
- Timed to coincide with lunar New Year celebration
- Attacks unsuccessful militarily, but highly successful as propaganda



U.S. soldiers in the city of Hue during the Tet offensive

# “Vietnamization” and Withdrawal



The Paris peace talks

- Nixon’s Vietnamization policy entailed removing U.S. troops as South Vietnamese began to fight
- 1973 Paris Accords ended direct U.S. military involvement
- North Vietnam took Saigon in 1975 and reunified Vietnam under a communist government

## IV. The Thawing of the Cold War

- How did the Cold War come to an end by 1991?



# *Realpolitik*

- A German word meaning “political realism”
- Promoted by Henry Kissinger
- U.S. should conduct foreign policy based on practicality, not ideology
- Change in philosophy from communist containment



Henry Kissinger

# Détente

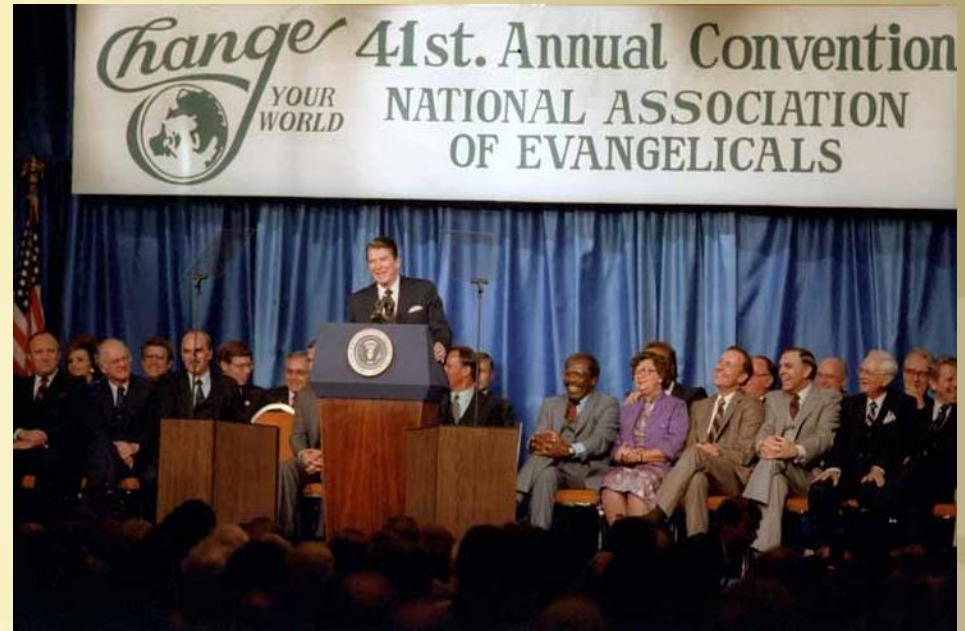


President and Mrs. Nixon at the Great Wall of China, 1972

- “Thawing” of Cold War tensions during Nixon Administration
- Included visits by Nixon to China and USSR
- Several arms limitation treaties ratified during period
- Ford continued détente into his presidency

# The “Evil Empire”

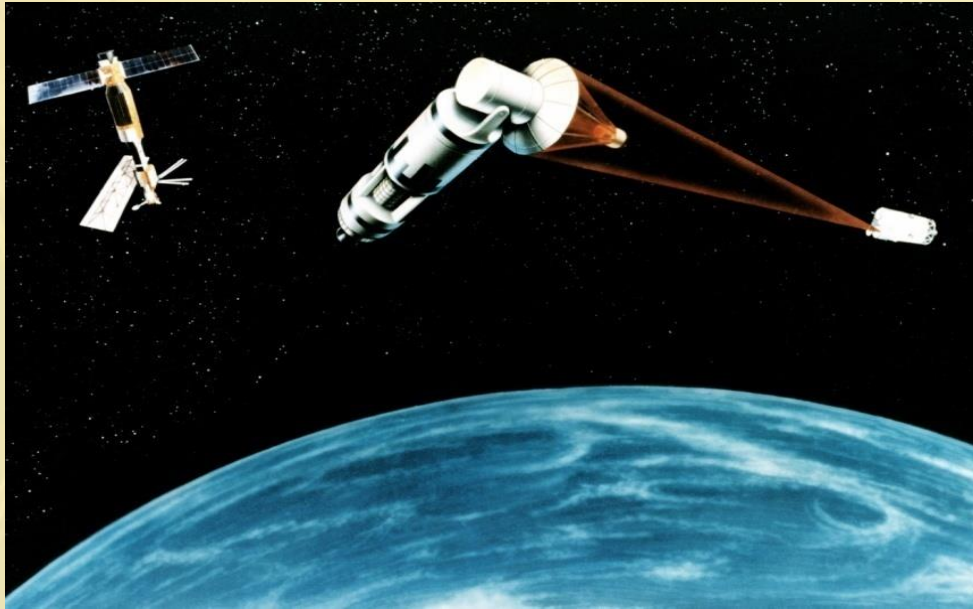
- From a speech delivered by Reagan in 1983
- Described the supposed moral divide between U.S. and USSR
- Called the Cold War a struggle of “right and wrong and good and evil”



President Reagan gives his famous “evil empire” speech



# Strategic Defense Initiative



An artist's rendition of how the SDI system would function

- Proposed by Reagan in 1983
- Nicknamed “Star Wars”
- Would provide a “space shield” against nuclear attack
- Shift away from mutually assured destruction
- System never fully deployed

# *Glasnost and Perestroika*

- Policies initiated by Mikhail Gorbachev
- *Glasnost*: “openness” in addressing political issues
- *Perestroika*: “restructuring” of the Soviet economy



Gorbachev and Reagan meet informally at Camp David

# Fall of the Berlin Wall

- East German tourists fled to Austria through Hungary and Czechoslovakia
- Public demonstrations began in East Germany
- East Germany allowed passage to West Germany, including West Berlin



Dismantling the Berlin Wall, 1989

# End of the Cold War



Bush and Gorbachev give a joint presentation at a summit in Helsinki, Finland in 1990

- Soviet economy stagnated; defense spending cut
- Bush and Gorbachev announced end to Cold War in 1989
- Communist Party lost political power in USSR
- USSR dissolved in December 1990