

# Good Morning (or Afternoon)!

- Today, we start our new unit – **The Cold War**.
- Please grab your binder and the power point packet from the back table and be ready to get started immediately.
- It is “pedal to the metal” from this point until May 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Bell Ringer: What do you think the term “**Cold War**” means? Who do you think are the two opposing parties in this “war”?

# The Cold War

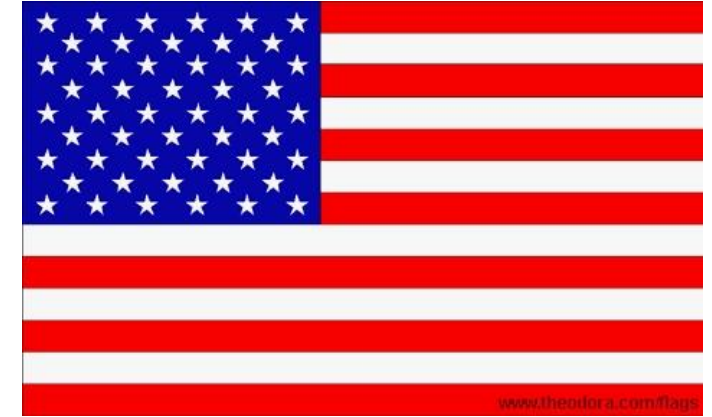
*Lecture 1: The Cold War Begins*

# Origins of the Cold War

1. Soviet v. American Systems
2. The Truman Doctrine
3. The Marshall Plan
4. The Berlin Airlift
5. The Formation of N.A.T.O.
6. Communist Victory in China

# The Cold War

- Soon after WWII ended, the Allies that had defeated Germany and Japan split apart.
- Different political and economic systems and different goals for the postwar world divided the United States and the Soviet Union.
- They developed an intense and bitter competition for influence around the world – the **Cold War**.
  - It was called a **Cold War** because they never confronted each other directly in open warfare (due to nuclear weapons), but it was not a time of peace.
  - They did engage in a war of words, threats, spying and one-upsmanship that led to frequent conflicts on every continent.
  - The Cold War, an era of confrontation and competition between the nations, would last from about 1946 to about 1990.



# Soviet v. American Systems

- The roots of the Cold War lay in the competing ideological systems between the United States and the Soviet Union.
- The **United States** wanted to spread its system of **Democracy** (*the people rule*) and **free enterprise**.
- The **Soviet Union** (USSR or Russia) wanted to see nations adopt **Communism** (*the government rules*).
- These two major differences caused the two superpowers to clash.

# Soviet v. American Systems

<b>Category</b>	<b>Soviet Communism</b>	<b>American Democracy</b>
<b>Political System</b>	One political party, the Communist Party.	A multi-party democracy.
<b>Organizations</b>	All labor groups and other associations are run by the Communist Party.	Unions and other organizations openly negotiate with employers.
<b>Economic System</b>	Industries and farms are owned by the state; central planners determine the nation's economic needs; limited private property; education and health care provided by the state.	Free enterprise system; private ownership of property; supply and demand determine prices; people meet their own needs with some limited government involvement.
<b>Religion</b>	Religion is discouraged.	Free exercise of religion.
<b>Individual Rights</b>	Secret police arrest opponents; censorship; no free exercise of beliefs.	Freedom of the press and expression.

# Joseph Stalin

- **Joseph Stalin**, the leader of the Soviet Union, was supposed to create a classless society that helped all workers, but instead he established a brutal dictatorship with him having absolute control.
- Anyone Stalin considered to be against him, with or without evidence, could be executed, imprisoned or sent to a **gulag** (*forced labor camp*) in Siberia.



# The Yalta Conference

- In February 1945, Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin met at Yalta (Soviet Union) to plan the reorganization of Europe at the end of the war.
- **United Nations** - They agreed on the formation of the UN, and that Germany would be divided into four occupation zones.
- **Poland**
  - Shortly after Germany invaded Poland in 1939, the Polish government fled to Britain.
  - In 1944, Soviet troops drove back the Germans, entered Poland and liberated the country from German control.
  - After liberation, the Soviets encouraged Communists in Poland to set up a new government.
  - As a result, two governments claimed the right to govern: Communist and non-Communist.
  - Stalin agreed free elections would be held as soon as possible – allowing Poland to choose their own government.



# Yalta Conference

- **Declaration of Liberated Europe**

- The three leaders agreed to issue the Declaration of Liberated Europe, which promised:
  - “the right to all people to choose the form of government under which they will live.”
  - the people of Europe would be allowed “to create democratic institutions of their own choice and to create temporary governments that represented “all democratic elements.”
  - “the earliest possible establishment through free elections of governments responsive to the will of the people.”

- **Dividing Germany**

- Germany and its capital, Berlin, would be divided into four zones – the Soviet Union, the United States, Great Britain and France would each occupy a zone.

- **Reparations** would be paid by Germany – half of which would go to the Soviet Union.

# Potsdam Conference

- Two weeks after the Yalta Conference – the Soviet Union pressured the king of Romania into appointing a Communist government.
- Then, Stalin refused to allow more than three non-Communist Poles to serve in the 18-member Polish government and free elections would not be held.
- **Potsdam Conference**
  - 6 months later, President Truman met with Stalin at the Potsdam Conference in order to come to an agreement on Germany.
  - Stalin wanted Germany to pay heavy reparations, while Truman was against the idea, as he believed the German economy needed to recover.
  - Truman suggested Stalin only take reparations from the Soviet controlled zone, while the other zones be allowed to industry and the economy to revive.
  - Stalin did not like the proposal, but Truman hinted that the U.S. had a new powerful weapon (the atomic bomb) – forcing Stalin to agree to the terms.

# The Iron Curtain

- With tensions growing, the Soviets saw a growing threat from the non-communist governments in the West.
- To insure a buffer zone between the West and the East, Stalin set up communist governments in these **satellite nations** (*nations politically and economically dominated or controlled by another more powerful country*) he now controlled.
- The Soviets occupied these nations and prevented free elections, seized industrial properties and controlled all parts of the lives of the people of the USSR and eastern European nations.
- Churchill said an **Iron Curtain** (*the political and military barrier that isolated Soviet-controlled countries of Eastern Europe after WWII*) has fallen over Eastern Europe, cutting it off from the freedoms of the West.



# The Truman Doctrine

- 11 days after confronting the Soviets on Poland, FDR died and Harry S. Truman became president.
- With the Soviet Union dominating Eastern Europe, America responded by putting in place a policy of **containment** (*stopping the spread of communism to free democratic nations, but not fighting it in nations that were Communist*).
- **The Truman Doctrine**
  - In 1947, communism seemed ready to expand into Greece and Turkey.
  - President Truman asked Congress to provide military and economic aid to those countries to support their democratic governments.
  - He went further, announcing a new policy – the **Truman Doctrine**.
  - Truman said that the United States would work to oppose the spread of communism around the world, and promised support to any country fighting communism.

# The Marshall Plan (1948)

- Much of Europe was in ruins because of the destruction caused by WWII, and European economies were struggling.
- Entire cities were destroyed and farm production was non-existent (famine).
- President Truman believed people who were desperate might be attracted to communism.
- **The Marshall Plan**
  - To prevent communists from gaining power, Secretary of State George C. Marshall announced the **Marshall Plan**.
  - He promised U.S. economic aid to rebuild the economies of any European country that wanted the help – including Germany and Italy.
  - The flow of American dollars had the desired effect – economies in the countries of Western and Southern Europe rebounded, and communist parties lost support.
  - The plan also generated goodwill toward the U.S. in those countries which became good trading partners with America.

# The Crisis in Berlin

- Tensions rose in 1948 when the United States, Britain and France decided to unite their zones in western Germany (creating West Germany).
- The Soviets controlled the eastern portion (East Germany).
- The city of Berlin was located entirely within the country of East Germany, and although there was no wall, it was divided just the same (West Berlin and East Berlin).
- In the democratic, western half the people lived good, had many choices and enjoyed life.
- In the communist, eastern half, life was not as good, and the choices in all parts of peoples lives was limited by the government.
- As a result, the people living in East Berlin started moving to West Berlin.

# Berlin: a Divided City

This map shows how Germany was divided as a country.



This map shows how Berlin was divided as a city.



This small white area shows that the city of Berlin is located inside of East Germany.



# The Berlin Wall

- The Russians became concerned that too many people were leaving the east for the west and they aimed to stop it!
- In 1961, the Soviets started building what would become known as the **Berlin Wall** – it was not designed to keep West Berliners out, but to keep the East Berliners in.
- Those who tried to escape from the east to the west were put in prison or shot.
- The Berlin Wall became a symbol of the iron curtain and the separation of democracy from communism.





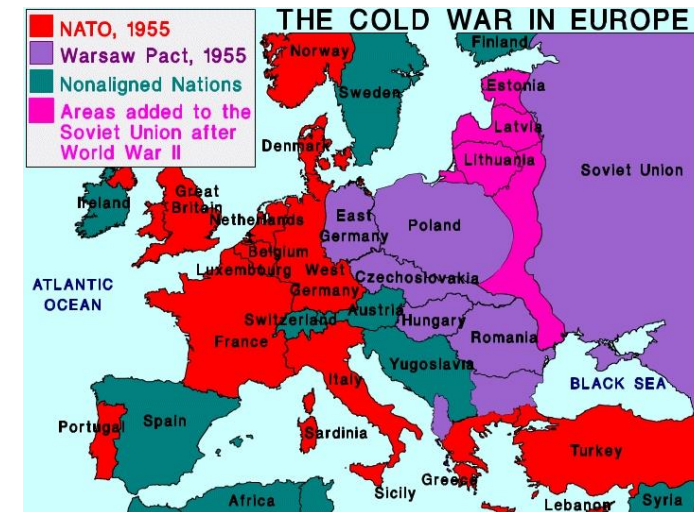
# The Berlin Airlift

- The creation of West Germany convinced the Soviets they would never get the reparations they wanted.
- In June of 1948, Soviet troops blockaded West Berlin, hoping to force the United States to reconsider its decision or abandon West Berlin.
- **Berlin Airlift**
  - Hoping to avoid war with the Soviets, President Truman ordered the air force to fly supplies into Berlin rather than troops (approximately 2 million tons).
- Stalin finally lifted the blockade in May 1949 – it showed American determination to contain communism and not give in to Soviet demands.



# NATO and the Warsaw Pact

- The blockade of Berlin alarmed President Truman.
- He wanted to show Stalin that the United States would protect Western Europe, so he organized a new alliance called the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (N.A.T.O.).
  - It included the United States and eleven other countries.
  - It was based on the concept of collective security, where N.A.T.O. members promised to defend each other if one member state was attacked.
  - After West Germany joined N.A.T.O. six years later, the Soviets formed an alliance of their own – the Warsaw Pact (with its eastern allies and satellite nations).



# Communist Victory in China

- America believed its policy of containment was working and stopping the spread on Communism in Europe.
- Then, in 1949, the world's most populous nation became communist.
- China Falls to Communism
  - Since the 1920s, Chinese Communists had sought to overthrow the Nationalist government in China.
  - In 1945, Communist China, led by Mao Zedong and helped by the Soviets, overthrew the Nationalist government.
  - Nationalist leaders fled to the island of Taiwan – Truman promised to protect them.
  - President Truman refused to recognize the Communist government in China, and ultimately used the veto power of the United States to prevent Red China from joining the United Nations.

