

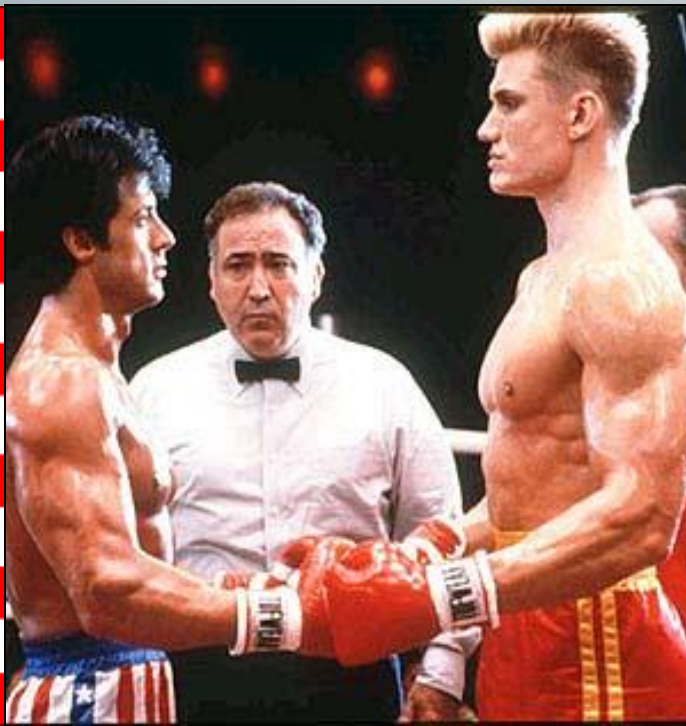
# The Cold War 1945-1990

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US vs. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Democracy vs. Communism

Capitalism vs. Socialism



# US/USSR Relationship during WWII

- 1939: Stalin (USSR) makes a deal with Hitler (Germany).
- 1941: Hitler breaks deal and attacks USSR.
- Stalin changes sides and fights with US and other allies.



# US/USSR Relationship during WWII

- Before the end of the World War II, Stalin, Churchill and Roosevelt met at Yalta to plan what should happen when the war ended. They agreed on many points:
  1. The establishment of the United Nations
  2. Division of Germany into four zones
  3. Free elections allowed in the states of Eastern Europe
  4. Russia's promise to join the war against Japan

No agreement was reached on Poland.



Winston Churchill (England), Franklin Roosevelt (US) and Joseph Stalin (USSR) meet in Yalta in 1945 to decide the fate of post-war Europe.

# Cold War Characteristics

- Political, strategic and ideological struggle between the US and the USSR that spread throughout the world
- Struggle that contained everything short of war
- Competing social and economic ideologies



# Key Concept: How did the Cold War affect the domestic and foreign policies of the United States?

## Domestic Policies:

- 1. McCarthyism
- 2. HUAC  
-House Un-American Activities Committee
- 3. Loyalty oaths
- 4. Blacklists
- 5. Bomb shelters



Actors and writers protest the Hollywood Blacklist.

## Foreign Policies:

- 1. Korean War
- 2. Arms Race
- 3. Truman Doctrine
- 4. Eisenhower Doctrine

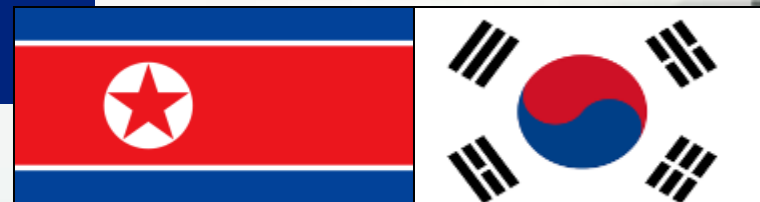
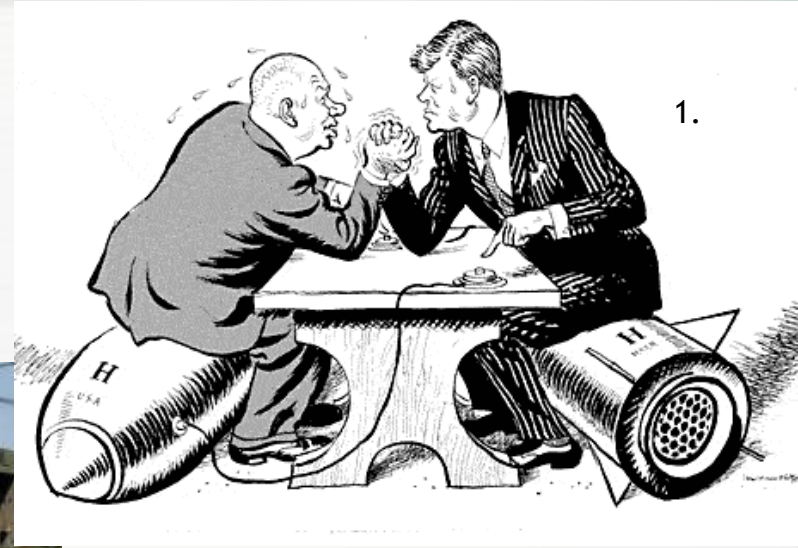


A 1950s era bomb shelter

# Key Concept: What were the six major strategies of the Cold War?

The six major strategies were:

- 1. Brinkmanship,
- 2. Espionage,
- 3. Foreign aid,
- 4. Alliances,
- 5. Propaganda,
- 6. Surrogate wars.



# Post WWII/Cold War Goals for US

- Promote open markets for US goods to prevent another depression
- Promote democracy throughout the world, especially in Asia and Africa
- Stop the spread of communism
  - “Domino Effect”



# Post WWII/Cold War Goals for USSR

- Create greater security for itself
  - lost tens of millions of people in WWII and Stalin's purges
  - feared a strong Germany
- Establish defensible borders
- Encourage friendly governments on its borders
- Spread communism around the world



“From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic an iron curtain has descended across the Continent. Behind that line lie all the capitals of the ancient states of Central and Eastern Europe. Warsaw, Berlin, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest and Sofia, all these famous cities and the populations around them lie in what I must call the Soviet sphere, and all are subject in one form or another, not only to Soviet influence but to a very high and, in some cases, increasing measure of control from Moscow.”

Excerpt from Winston Churchill's "Iron Curtain Speech."





# Truman Doctrine



- 1947: British help Greek government fight communist guerrillas.
  - They appealed to America for aid, and the response was the Truman Doctrine.
  - America promised it would support free countries to help fight communism.
  - Greece received large amounts of arms and supplies and by 1949 had defeated the communists.
- The Truman Doctrine was significant because it showed that America, the most powerful democratic country, was prepared to resist the spread of communism throughout the world.

# Marshall Plan



Secretary of State George Marshall.

- In 1947, US Secretary of State Marshall announced the Marshall Plan.
  - This was a massive economic aid plan for Europe to help it recover from the damage caused by the war.
- There were two motives for this:
  - Helping Europe to recover economically would provide markets for American goods, so benefiting American industry.
  - A prosperous Europe would be better able to resist the spread of communism. This was probably the main motive.



A poster promoting the Marshall Plan

# Eisenhower Doctrine

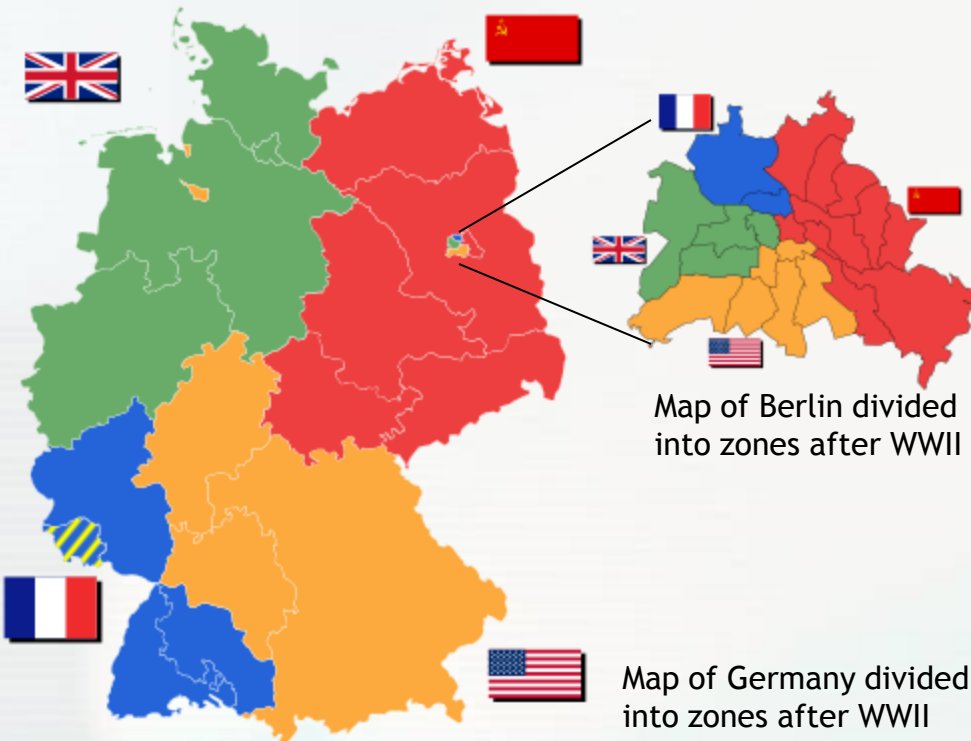


President Eisenhower with his Secretary of State John Dulles

- The Eisenhower Doctrine was announced in a speech to Congress on January 5, 1957.
- It required Congress to yield its war-making power to the president so that the president could take immediate military action.
- It created a US commitment to defend the Middle East against attack by any communist country.
- The doctrine was made in response to the possibility of war, threatened as a result of the USSR's attempt to use the Suez War as a pretext to enter Egypt.
  - The British and French withdrawals from their former colonies created a power vacuum that communists were trying to fill.

# The Berlin Crisis: June 1948-May 1949

- 1948: three western controlled zones of Germany united; grew in prosperity due to the Marshall Plan
- West wanted East to rejoin; Stalin feared it would hurt Soviet security.
- June 1948: Stalin decided to gain control of West Berlin, which was deep inside the Eastern Sector
  - Cuts road, rail and canal links with West Berlin, hoping to starve it into submission
- West responded by airlifting supplies to allow West Berlin to survive
- May 1949: USSR admitted defeat, lifted blockade



A plane flies in supplies during the Berlin Airlift.

# NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization

- In 1949 the western nations formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to coordinate their defense against USSR.
- It originally consisted of:
  - America
  - Belgium
  - Britain
  - Canada
  - Denmark
  - France
  - Holland
  - Italy
  - Luxembourg
  - Norway
  - Portugal
- Since the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, some former Soviet republics have applied for membership to NATO.



NATO flag

# Warsaw Pact

- **Warsaw Pact:** organization of communist states in Central and Eastern Europe.
- Established May 14, 1955 in Warsaw, Poland
- USSR established in in response to NATO treaty
- Founding members:
  - Albania (left in 1961 as a result of the Sino-Soviet split)
  - Bulgaria
  - Czechoslovakia
  - Hungary
  - Poland
  - Romania
  - USSR
  - East Germany (1956)

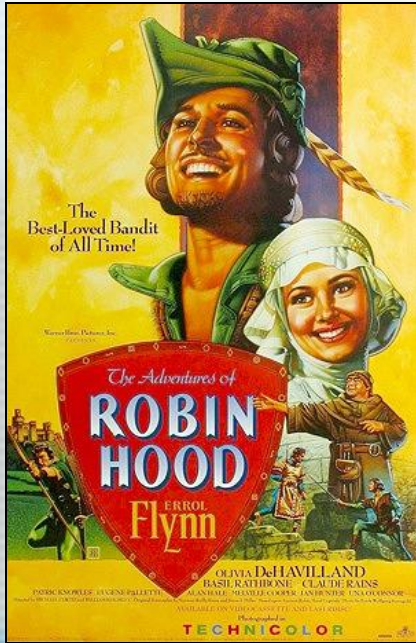


Greatest extent of Warsaw Pact

# Senator Joe McCarthy (1908-1957)

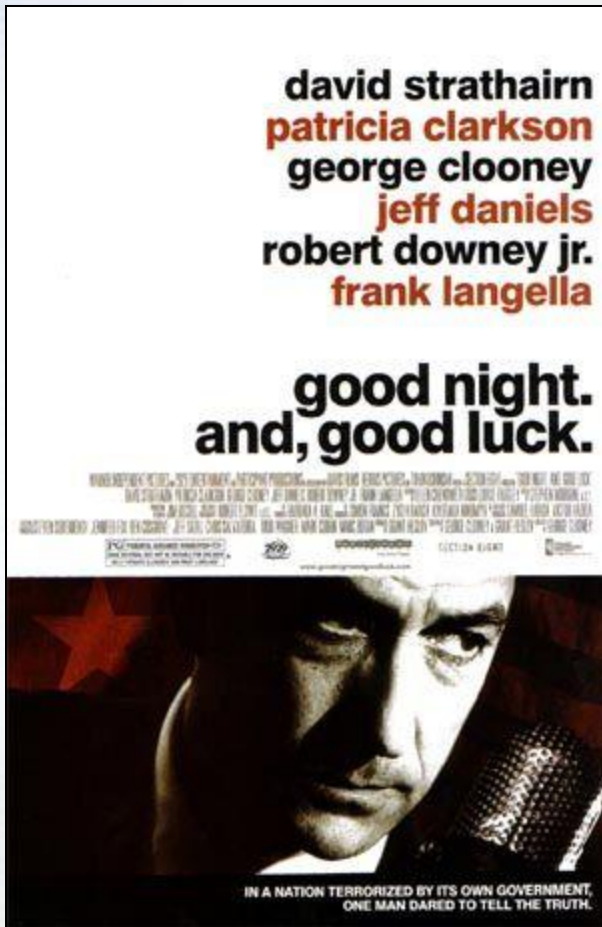


- McCarthy, a Republican senator from Wisconsin, did the most to whip up anti-communism during the '50s.
- On February 9, 1950, he gave a speech claiming to have a list of 205 Communists in the State Department.
- No one in the press actually saw the names on the list.
- McCarthy continued to repeat his groundless charges, changing the number from speech to speech.
- During this time, one state required pro wrestlers to take a loyalty oath before stepping into the ring.
- In Indiana, a group of anti-communists indicted *Robin Hood* (and its vaguely socialistic message that the book's hero had a right to rob from the rich and give to the poor) and forced librarians to pull the book from the shelves.
- Baseball's Cincinnati Reds renamed themselves the "Redlegs."



Cincinnati Redlegs primary logo in use from 1954-1959

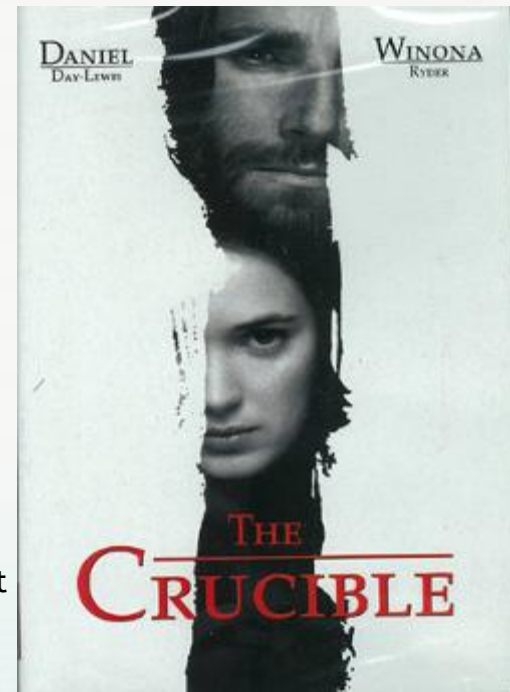
# McCarthy's Downfall



Movie poster for the 2005 film *Good Night and Good Luck* about the fall of Joseph McCarthy

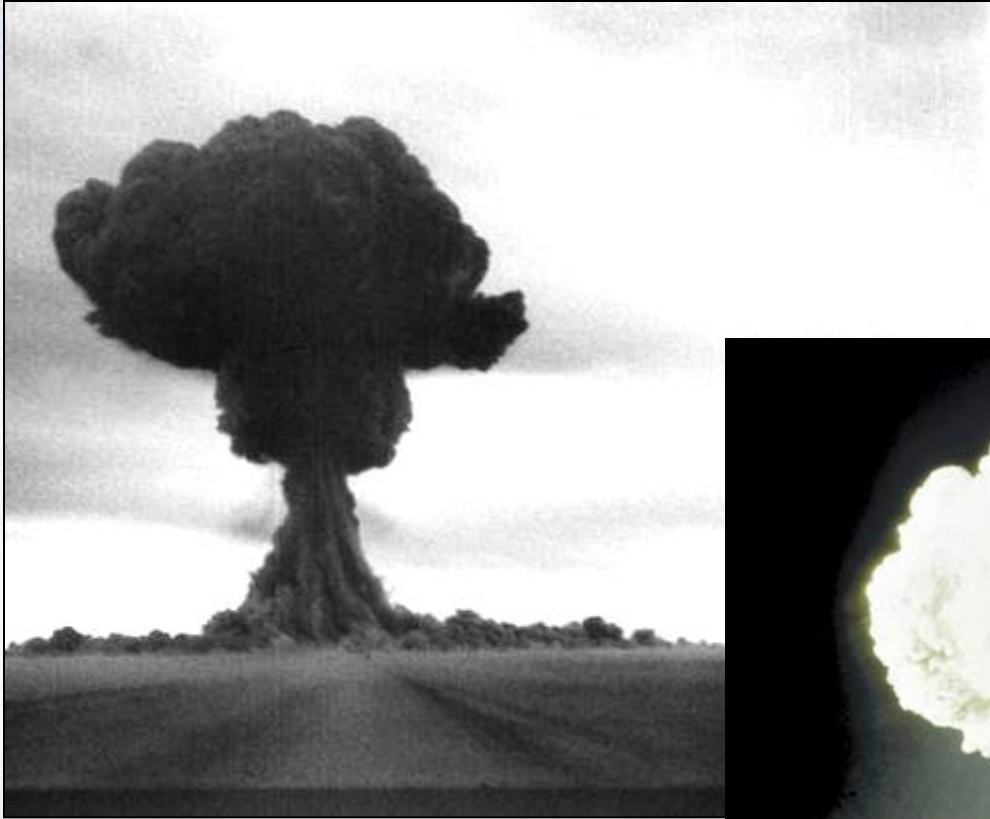
- In the spring of 1954, the tables turned on McCarthy when he charged that the Army had promoted a dentist accused of being a Communist.
- For the first time, a television broadcast allowed the public to see the Senator as a blustering bully and his investigations as little more than a witch hunt.
- In December 1954, the Senate voted to censure him for his conduct and to strip him of his privileges.
- McCarthy died three years later from alcoholism.
- The term "McCarthyism" lives on to describe anti-Communist fervor, reckless accusations, and guilt by association.

Arthur Miller's play *The Crucible* was on the surface about the Salem Witch Trials. It's real target, though, was the hysterical persecution of innocent people during McCarthyism. (poster for 1996 film version)





# Arms Race



- Cold War tensions increased in the US when the USSR exploded its first atomic bomb in 1949.



- Cold War tensions increased in the USSR when the US exploded its first hydrogen bomb in 1952. It was 1000 times more powerful than the Hiroshima atomic bomb.

# Space Race



- Cold War tensions increased in the US when the USSR launched *Sputnik 1*, the first artificial satellite into geocentric orbit on October 4, 1957.
  - The race to control space was on.



- April 12, 1961: Yuri Gagarin became first human in space and first to orbit Earth.
  - US felt a loss of prestige and increased funding for space programs and science education.
  - On May 25, 1961, Kennedy gave a speech challenging America to land a man on the moon and return him safely by the end of the decade.
  - Apollo 11 landed on the moon on July 16, 1969.



# The U-2 Incident



- USSR was aware of American U-2 spy missions but lacked technology to launch countermeasures until 1960.
  - May 1, 1960: CIA agent Francis Gary Powers' U-2, was shot down by Soviet missile.
- Powers was unable to activate plane's self-destruct mechanism before he parachuted to the ground, right into the hands of the KGB.
- When US learned of Powers' disappearance over USSR, it issued a cover statement claiming that a "weather plane" crashed after its pilot had "difficulties with his oxygen equipment." US officials did not realize:
  - Plane crashed intact,
  - Soviets recovered its photography equipment
  - Captured Powers, whom they interrogated extensively for months before he made a "voluntary confession" and public apology for his part in US espionage

# The Bay of Pigs Invasion

- The Bay of Pigs Invasion was an unsuccessful attempt by US-backed Cuban exiles to overthrow the government of the Cuban dictator Fidel Castro.
- Increasing friction between the US and Castro's communist regime led President Eisenhower to break off diplomatic relations with Cuba in January 1961.
- Even before that, however, the CIA had been training anti-revolutionary Cuban exiles for a possible invasion of the island.
- The invasion plan was approved by Eisenhower's successor, John F. Kennedy.



# The Bay of Pigs Invasion...

- On April 17, 1961 about 1300 exiles, armed with US weapons, landed at the *Bahía de Cochinos* (Bay of Pigs) on the southern coast of Cuba hoping for support from locals.
- From the start, the exiles were likely to lose. Kennedy had the option of using the Air Force against the Cubans but decided against it.
- Consequently, the invasion was stopped by Castro's army. The failure of the invasion seriously embarrassed the Kennedy administration.
  - Some critics blamed Kennedy for not giving it adequate support
  - Others blamed Kennedy for allowing it to take place at all.
- Additionally, the invasion made Castro wary of the US He was convinced that the Americans would try to take over the Cuba again.



Cuban leader Fidel Castro watches events during the Bay of Pigs Invasion.

# Berlin Wall

- In the dark on August 13, 1961, a low, barbed-wire barrier rose between East and West Berlin. Within days, workers cemented concrete blocks into a low wall, dividing neighborhoods and families, workers and employers, the free from the repressed.
- The USSR called the wall a barrier to Western imperialism, but it also was meant to keep its people going to the West where the standard of living was much higher and freedoms greater.
- The West Germans called it *Schandmaur*, the "Wall of Shame." Over the years, it was rebuilt three times. Each version of the wall was more higher, stronger, repressive, and impregnable. Towers and guards with machine guns and dogs stood watch over a barren no man's land. Forbidden zones, miles wide, were created behind the wall. No one was allowed to enter the zones. Anyone trying to escape was shot on sight.



Early 1960s view of east side of Berlin Wall with barbed wire at top.



A view from the French sector looking over the wall.

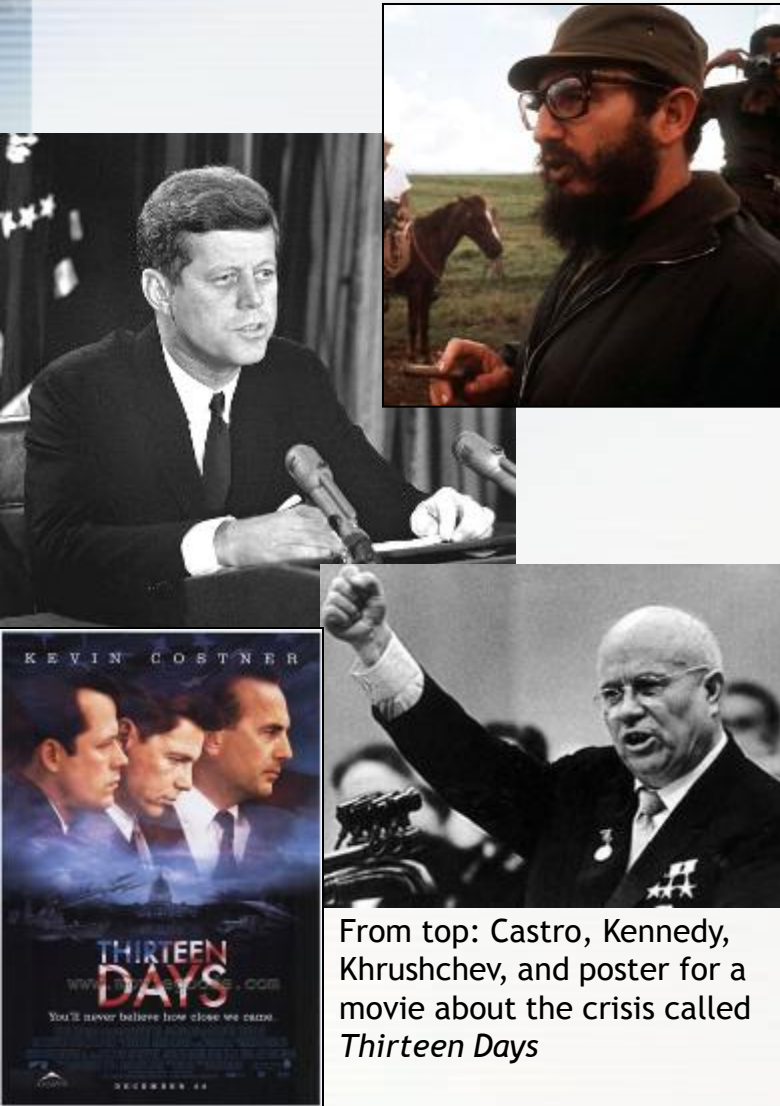
# Cuban Missile Crisis



CIA map showing range of Soviet supplied intermediate and medium range missiles if launched from Cuba

- This was the closest the world ever came to nuclear war. The US armed forces were at their highest state of readiness ever, and Soviets in Cuba were prepared to launch nuclear weapons to defend the island if it were invaded.
- In 1962, the USSR lagged far behind the US in the arms race. Soviet missiles were only powerful enough to be launched against Europe but US missiles were capable of striking the entire Soviet Union.
- In April 1962, Soviet Premier Khrushchev deployed missiles in Cuba to provide a deterrent to a potential US attack against the USSR.
- Meanwhile, Fidel Castro was looking for a way to defend his island nation from an attack by the US. Ever since the failed Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961, Castro felt a second attack was inevitable. Consequently, he approved of Khrushchev's plan to place missiles on the island. In the summer of 1962 the USSR secretly installed the missiles.

# Cuban Missile Crisis...



From top: Castro, Kennedy, Khrushchev, and poster for a movie about the crisis called *Thirteen Days*

- The crisis began on October 15, 1962 when reconnaissance revealed Soviet missiles under construction in Cuba.
- After seven days of intense debate within the White House, Kennedy imposed a blockade around Cuba to stop the arrival of more Soviet missiles.
- On October 22, Kennedy announced the discovery of the missiles and his decision to blockade Cuba and that any attack launched from Cuba would be regarded as an attack on the US by the USSR and demanded that the Soviets remove all of their offensive weapons from Cuba.
- October 27 was the worst day of the crisis. A U-2 spy plane was shot down over Cuba.
- Tensions finally began to ease on October 28 when Khrushchev announced that he would dismantle the installations and remove the missiles, expressing his trust that the US would not invade Cuba.
- Further negotiations were held to implement the October 28 agreement, including a US demand that Soviet bombers be removed from Cuba, and specifying the exact form and conditions of US assurances not to invade Cuba.



# The Slow Thaw

- End of WWII through Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, and Bush, Cold War = central foreign policy concern
- Most film/TV villains were Soviets or communists; *Indiana Jones and the Temple of the Crystal Skull*, which is set in the 1950s, pays homage to the use of Soviets as villains.
- Better relations between communists countries and the US began with one of the most hard-lined anti-communist presidents, Richard Nixon. In his “only Nixon could go to China” trip, Nixon was the first US president to visit that communist country.

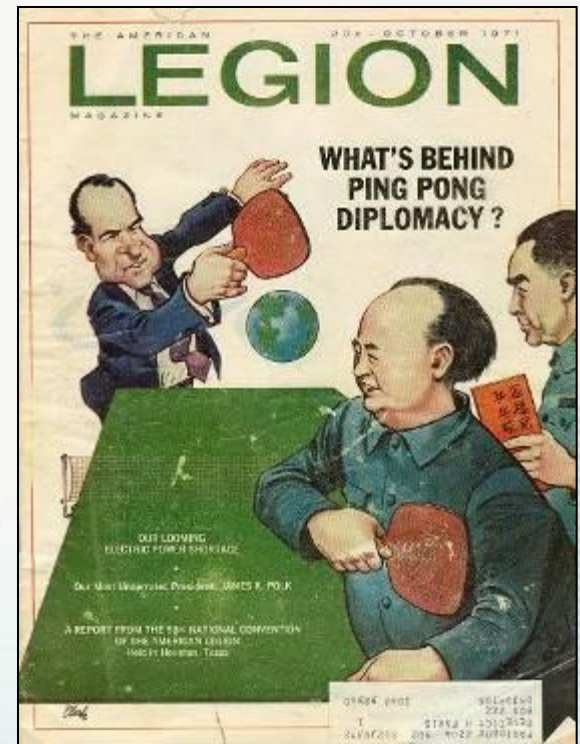


Richard and Pat Nixon (in an appropriately red coat) at the Great Wall of China



Cate Blanchette as Col. Dr. Irina Spalko in *Indiana Jones and the Temple of the Crystal Skull*

A magazine cover about ping pong diplomacy, so called because better relations between the US and China came after the two countries' ping pong teams played each other.



# The Slow Thaw...

- In 1969 Nixon began negotiations with USSR on SALT I, common name for the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty Agreement.
- SALT I froze the number of ballistic missile launchers at existing levels, and provided for the addition of submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) launchers only after the same number of intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) and SLBM launchers had been dismantled.
- It was the first effort between US/USSR to stop increase nuclear weapons.
- SALT II was a second round of US/USSR talks (1972-1979), which sought to reduce manufacture of nuclear weapons. SALT II was the first nuclear treaty seeking real reductions in strategic forces to 2,250 of all categories on both sides.



Nixon and Brezhnev toast the SALT I treaty.



Carter and Brezhnev sign the SALT II treaty.

# Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan Interrupts Thaw



- In 1978, the USSR invaded Afghanistan and tried to set up a friendly government.
- It became the USSR's Vietnam, a long war with no clear victory possible and many casualties and high costs.
- The US supported the Afghani rebels known as the mujahideen.
- In 1989 the Soviets finally withdrew. Islamic extremists used the opportunity to take over the country.
- The defeat weakened the Soviet's economy and morale.

Movie poster for *Charlie Wilson's War* about US efforts to support the mujahideen



Mujahideen celebrate the downing of a Soviet helicopter

# Reagan's Star Wars Interrupts Thaw

- The Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) was a proposal by President Reagan in 1983 to use ground and space-based systems to protect the US from attack by nuclear ballistic missiles. It focused on strategic defense rather than doctrine of mutual assured destruction (MAD).
- It was quickly nicknamed “Star Wars.”
- Criticism of SDI:
  - It would require the US to change, withdraw from, or break earlier treaties.
  - The Outer Space Treaty of 1967, which requires "States Parties to the Treaty undertake not to place in orbit around the Earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction, install such weapons on celestial bodies, or station such weapons in outer space in any other manner" and would forbid the US from pre-positioning in Earth orbit any devices powered by nuclear weapons and any devices capable of "mass destruction."
  - The program proposed to use unproven technology.
  - The program would cost many billions of dollars.
  - It would start a new arms race with the Soviets.

Artist rendering of satellites and lasers to be used in SDI



# Cold War Thaw Continues



Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev

- Gorbachev becomes Soviet premier and understands that the Soviet economy cannot compete with the West, partly because of Afghanistan and partly because of the costs of keeping up militarily.
- Gorbachev recognizes there is increasing unrest in the country.
- He tries to reform the USSR with *glasnost* (=openness: think “glass” because you can see through it) and *perestroika* (=restructuring: think “structure/stroika”).
- Gorbachev is further pressured to reform the USSR when Reagan gives his speech in Germany challenging Gorbachev to “tear down this wall.”

President Reagan delivers his speech in Berlin.



# The Wall Falls, 1989



- A wave of rebellion against Soviet influence occurs throughout its European allies.
- Poland's Solidarity movement breaks the Soviet hold on that country
- Hungary removed its border restrictions with Austria.
- Riots and protests break out in East Germany.
- East Germans storm the wall. Confused and outnumbered, border guards do not fight back.
- The wall is breached.
- Eventually East and West Germany are reunited in 1990.



# The USSR Dissolves



Boris Yeltsin (far left) stands on a tank to defy the 1991 coup



Rocky beats Ivan Drago.

- On December 21, 1991, the presidents of Russia, Ukraine and Belarus signed the Belavezha Accords declaring the USSR dissolved and established the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in its place.
- On December 25, 1991, Gorbachev yielded as the president of the USSR, declaring the office extinct. He turned the powers that until then were vested in him over to Boris Yeltsin, president of Russia.
- The following day, the Supreme Soviet, the highest governmental body of the Soviet Union, recognized the collapse of the Soviet Union and dissolved itself.
  - This is generally recognized as the official, final dissolution of the Soviet Union as a functioning state.