

The Cold War Part 1

Soviet Way of Life

- Communism—economic and political where the government controlled all property and economic activity.
- Totalitarian government; meaning there was no opposition to the Communist Party in USSR (they controlled everything)

American Way of Life

- Capitalism—private citizens control almost all the economic activity. People have a choice.
- In America there are elections and multiple parties have a say in what is done in the government.
- At the end of WWII, we were upset at USSR because they were different than us.
- The USSR was upset at America because we had not acted fast enough to help during WWII and we kept the Atomic Bomb a secret.

United Nations

- Was created after WWII in hopes that we would never have another “world war.”
- 50 nations were at a meeting in San Francisco, all of them were trying to figure out a way to create a lasting peace.
- Joseph Stalin—leader of the USSR did not like the UN and would not be apart of it.

Yalta Conference

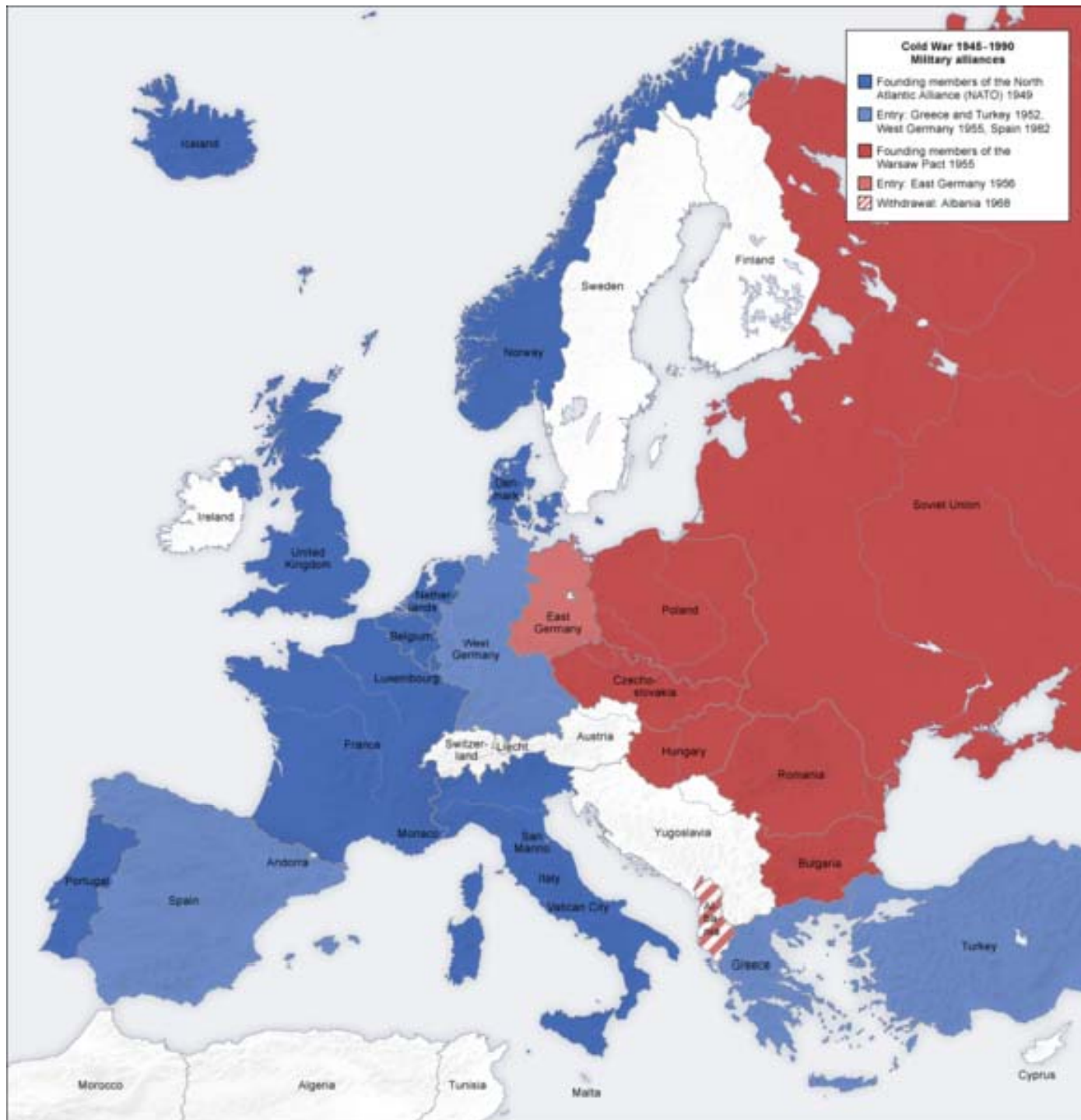
- USSR, GB, and USA met to decide what would happen after WWII.
- Stalin had promised that he would allow free elections in all of the countries east of Russia (Poland, etc..). Stalin did not follow through with this, all of those countries would create communist governments.

After the Yalta Conference

- Harry Truman (American President) and others decided to split Germany into Occupational Zones.
- Both the USA and USSR emerged from WWII as the most powerful economic countries in the world.
- The Soviet Union felt that they should be able to claim many of the Eastern European lands as payment for the huge death toll during WWII.

Iron Curtain

- Stalin installed communist governments in the following countries (Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Poland).
- These countries would become known as Satellite Nations—nations that were controlled by the USSR.
- Containment—US policy in which we would do anything in our power to prevent the extension of communism. This would define most of US foreign policy during the Cold War
- Iron Curtain—the division between Eastern and Western Europe



Cold War

- The USA and the USSR never fought each other during this conflict, which is why it is called the “cold war.”
- This conflict lasted from 1945-1991.

Truman Doctrine

- The United States was very concerned about Turkey and Greece falling to USSR.
- Truman gave around 400 million dollars to those countries to fight off communism.
- **Truman Doctrine**—US would support free people throughout the world against communism.
- **Marshall Plan**—US gave 13 billion dollars in aid to European Countries to help them rebuild after WWII. This was done to help ensure that communism would not occur within Western Europe.
- Link

Issues with Germany

- The United States wanted to reunify Germany (get rid of the Occupational Zones)..the Soviet Union wanted none of this.
- Stalin closed all access to Berlin (half of Berlin was controlled by USA/GB). Berlin was located within USSR Zone of Germany.
- Berlin Airlift—American and British troops dropped supplies to West Berlin (2.3 million tons of supplies) over a years span.
- Eventually, the USSR lifted its blockade of Berlin, however, Germany was still divided (East Germany and West Germany)



Military Alliances

- NATO—military alliance between all of the countries of Western Europe (Belgium, Denmark, France, GB, Iceland, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, USA and Canada. These countries pledged to come together if one was threatened by Communism.
- The USSR would do the same thing with the **Warsaw Pact**.

China

- Chiang Kai-shek was the leader of the Nationalist Government within China. He had been fighting a communist movement led by Mao Zedong.
- As time went on, the Communist Party was able to take control of China (except Taiwan).
- This made many people in America very afraid of communism spreading throughout the world, even into America.

The Korean War

- In 1948, Korea was divided into 2 areas (South Korea—controlled by the US and North Korea—Controlled by the USSR)
- In 1949, the USSR decided to try to take over all of Korea.
- 38th Parallel—Line that divided North and South Korea.

The Korean War

- Truman ordered American troops to go to South Korea and push back the communists.
- 520,000 troops went to Korea and were placed under the command of Douglas MacArthur.
- The North Korean's were able to invade into much of South Korea. Over time, MacArthur was able to drive them back into North Korea.
- MacArthur was able to drive the North Korean troops all the way to the border of Korea and China. It appeared as though they would surrender.

The Korean War

- The Chinese (who were communist) decided to help the North Koreans and were able to help drive the American troops out of North Korea. For 2 years both sides fought to about a stalemate.
- McArthur really wanted to attack China, Truman did not like this idea because he thought it would start WWIII.

The Korean War

- Truman eventually fired McArthur (who was still very popular in America).
- June 23rd, 1951, the USSR offered a cease fire agreement that would end the fighting.
- The compromise created 2 countries in Korea (North and South).
- 54,000 American Soldiers died in the Korean War and it cost 67 billion dollars
- Truman was not re-elected President in 1952...Dwight Eisenhower (Rep) won
- http://users.erols.com/mwhite28/images/korean_w.gif

America during the Cold War

- Many Americans became suspicious that there were communists within the American Government.
- Ethel and Julius Rosenberg were Americans who were accused of being Russian spies (giving secrets to the USSR about the Atomic Bomb). They were found guilty and sentenced to death.
- Joseph McCarthy—Senator from Wisconsin accused many people in Congress of being “secretly communist.”
- Millions of Americans had to take loyalty oaths, labor unions started to decline, people were afraid to speak out against the government

Race for the H-Bomb

- H-Bomb—Hydrogen Bomb, it would have the force of 1 million tons of TNT (67 times more powerful than the atomic bomb on Hiroshima). Scientist argued about the moral issues.
- USA made the first H-Bomb in November of 1952, USSR responded by Sept. of 1953

Brinkmanship

- Brinkmanship—the idea that the United States would use whatever force necessary to stop the spread of communism (Eisenhower and Dulles).
- The United States began to trim the army and navy while making the air force stronger.
- Great fear within America

Spread of the Cold War

- CIA—Central Intelligence Agency, used spies to gather as much information on other countries as possible.
- CIA also began to do many secret operations designed to protect America.
- Guatemala and Iran