

# THE COLD WAR

1945 – 1995

“In A Nut Shell”

# COLD WAR

a state of conflict between nations that does not involve direct military action

pursued primarily through economic and political actions, propaganda, acts of espionage or proxy wars waged by surrogates.

Opponents in a cold war often provide economic or military aid, such as weapons, tactical support or military advisors, to lesser nations involved in conflicts with the opposing country.

# COLD WAR

The term Cold War was used to explain the tensions that developed between the United States and the Soviet Union after WWII.

It describes the attempts of the Soviet Union to expand its influence into Western Europe, and the containment policy of the US to prevent the spread of Soviet influence westward.

# YALTA CONFERENCE

Feb.1945

Meeting of Stalin, Churchill &  
FDR to decide Germany's fate  
Decided to divide Germany for  
the purpose of supervision  
among the allies





## STALIN IGNORES YALTA

Stalin ignored the Yalta agreement and installed or secured Communist governments in Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Poland, and Yugoslavia

Potsdam Conference – Truman presses Stalin to permit free elections in Europe...Stalin declares that communism and capitalism could not exist in the same world.

# IRON CURTAIN SPEECH



1946

"From Stettin in the  
Baltic to Trieste in the  
Adriatic, an Iron  
Curtain has  
descended across  
the continent."

-Winston Churchill

\*iron curtain video\*

Fulton Missouri  
Statement clearly  
describing existing  
situation with the  
division of eastern  
and western Europe

# CONTAINMENT POLICY

US- Soviet relations continued to worsen in 1946  
and 47

President Truman adopted a foreign policy called  
containment

It was a policy directed at blocking Soviet influence  
and stopping the expansion of communism.

These policies included forming alliances and  
helping weak countries resist Soviet advances.



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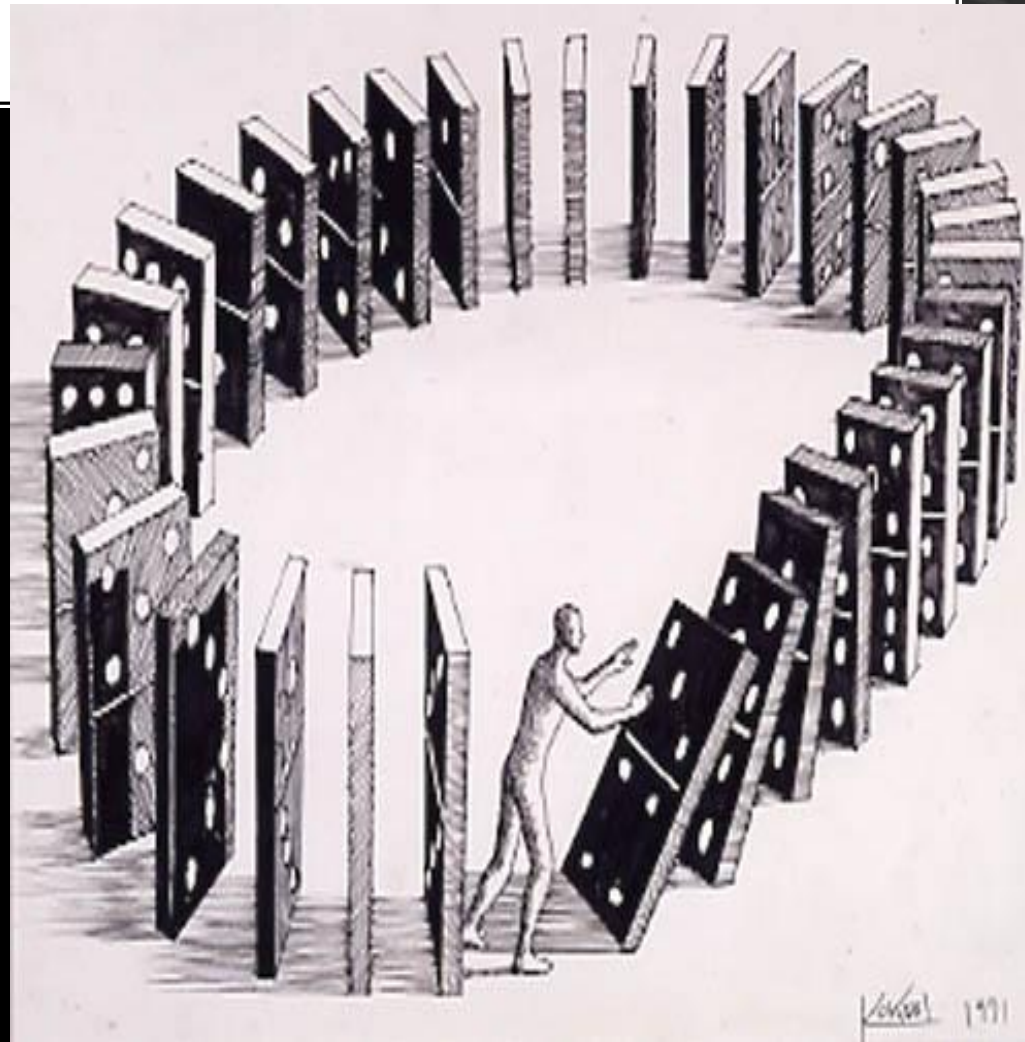
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# DOMINO THEORY

If one nation in Southeast Asia fell to communism, its neighbors would fall as well.

To halt communism, the US felt they had to get deeper involved in Vietnam's problems



# COMMUNIST TAKEOVER IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Feb. 1948

Key members of Czech gov't die mysteriously  
Pro-western President forced to resign, new  
constitution ratified

Complete takeover by Czech communists

# THE BERLIN PROBLEM

Soviets keep west Berlin “Hostage”

The Soviet Union cut off highway, water, and rail traffic into  
Berlin’s western zones.

The city faced starvation

Stalin hoped that the Allies would surrender West Berlin or give up their idea of reunifying Germany.



# BERLIN AIRLIFT



Blockade of Berlin began on June 24, '48  
From June 1948 to May 1949, U.S. and British planes airlift 1.5 million tons of supplies to the residents of West Berlin.

After 200,000 flights, the Soviet Union lifts the blockade.







# BERLIN AIRLIFT



The airlift marked a rise in tensions between the West and the Soviets, but it also helped heal divisions left by World War II.

Almost immediately, The United States, Great Britain, and France shifted from Germany's conquerors to its protectors.

"The airlift was the starting point for Germany's inclusion in the West and for the reconciliation with the Western powers," Berlin Mayor Eberhard Diepgen says.

Allied cooperation paved way for formation of new military alliance, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO  
Soviets formed their own alliance called Warsaw Pact in 1955

# MARSHALL PLAN

On June 5, U.S.  
Secretary of State  
George Marshall

proposes a massive aid  
program to rebuild Europe from  
the ravages of World War II.

Nearly \$13 billion in U.S.  
aid was sent to Europe  
from 1948 to 1952.

The Soviet Union and  
communist Eastern Europe  
decline U.S. aid, citing "dollar  
enslavement."

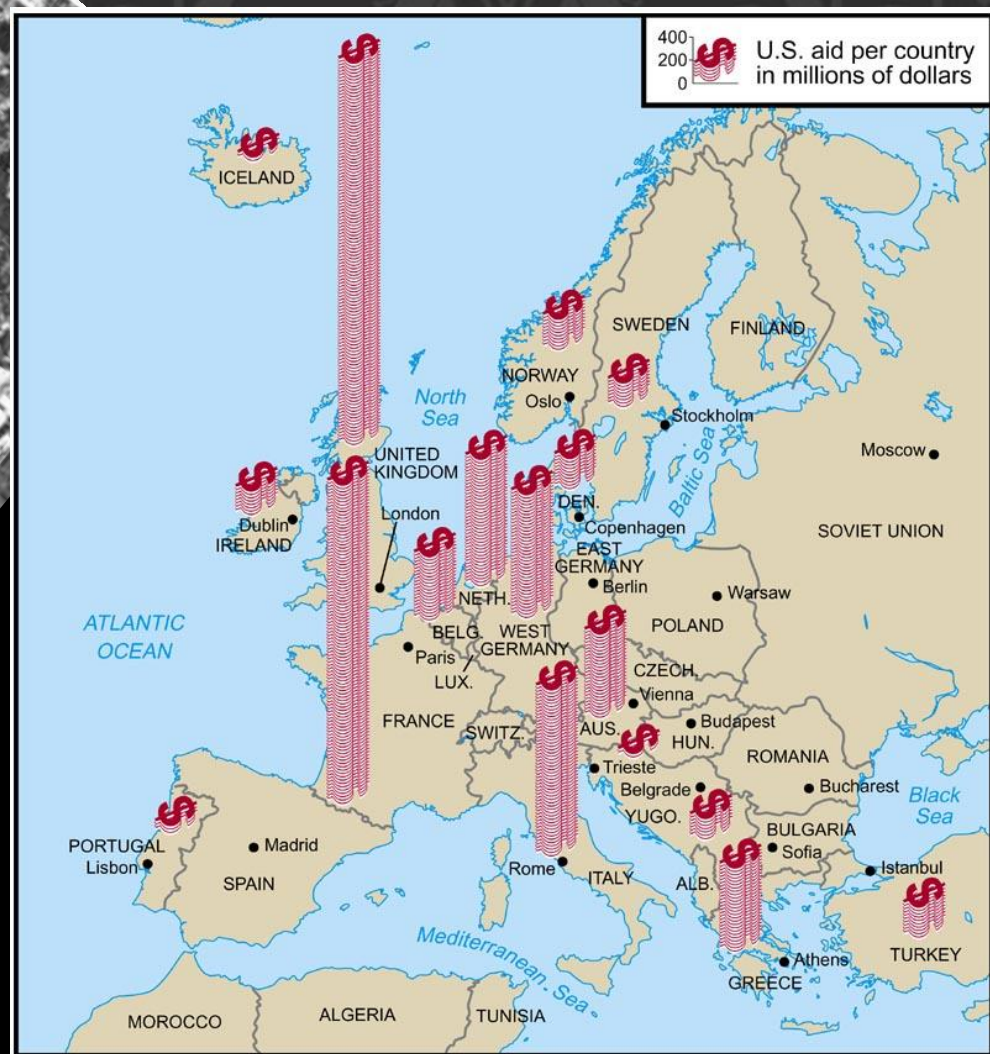




Years after the war Stuttgart's inner  
still reflected the destruction of urban  
centers during wartime bombing.

1947 1955

Marshall Plan funds helped provide for  
the rebuilding of cities. Photos on these  
two pages were taken from the same spot.



MARSHALL PLAN AID TO EUROPE, 1948-1952

# COMECON

Soviet response to Marshall  
plan

Council for Mutual Economic  
Assistance  
Est'd 1949

The primary factors in Comecon's formation appear to have been Joseph Stalin's desire to cooperate and strengthen the international socialist relationship at an economic level with the lesser states of Central Europe, and which were now, increasingly, cut off from their traditional markets and suppliers in Western Europe.


# NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION NATO

Formed as a *Western Alliance* against the USSR  
All members would defend each other if attacked



# NATO COUNTRIES



 New members to join in 1999



# WARSAW PACT

Formed by the Soviet Union and Eastern European Communist  
nations

Counterpart to NATO

# WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES



# 1949 – FALL OF CHINA



In June, Jiang Jieshi (Chaing Kai Shek) defeated by Mao

Fled to island of Taiwan

With his Nationalist (Kuomintang) forces

Oct 1, Mao proclaims People's Republic of China (PRC)

Two months later, Mao travels to Moscow,

negotiates the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance.



# KOREAN WAR, 1950-1953

On June 25, North Korean communist forces cross the 38th parallel and invade South Korea.

On June 27, Truman orders U.S. forces to assist the South Koreans

The U.N. Security Council condemns the invasion and created a 15-nation fighting force.

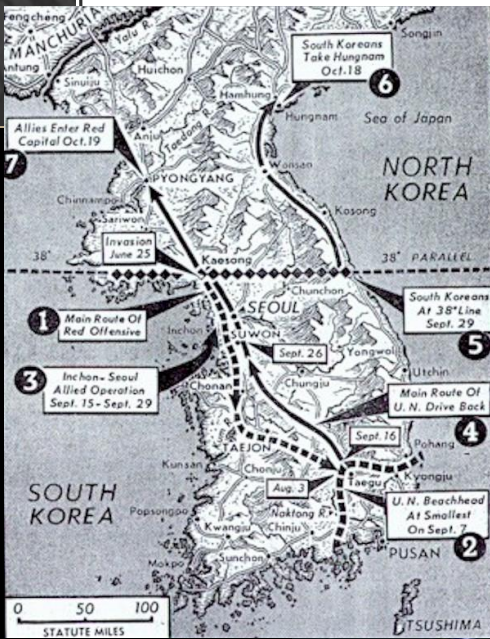
Chinese troops enter the conflict by year's end.

Cease fire eventually brings war to close by 1953





# MAP OF THE KOREAN WAR



# 1961 - BERLIN WALL

On August 15, communist authorities begin construction on the Berlin Wall to prevent East Germans from fleeing to West Berlin.



# BERLIN WALL

Built in 1961 by the USSR between the zones in Berlin – 1<sup>st</sup> phase  
in 24 hours

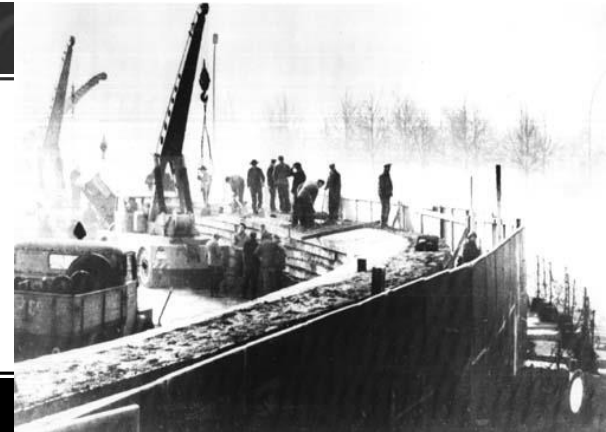
...to keep the East Berliners in

...to keep Western ideas away from the east

At first just partial wall and 96 miles of barbed wire

Literally a wall, not just a figurative phrase

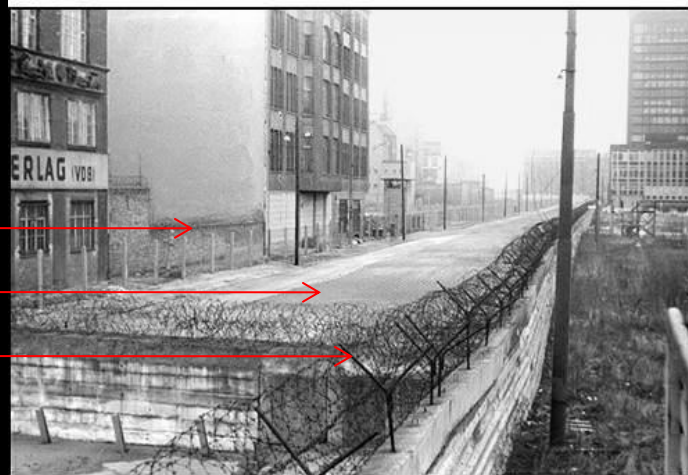




Original Barbed Wire

Death Strip

Secondary wall





# BERLIN

the final version of the Wall was made from 45,000 separate sections of reinforced concrete, each 3.6 m high and 1.5 m wide, and topped with a smooth pipe, intended to make it more difficult for escapers to scale it. reinforced by mesh fencing, signal fencing, anti-vehicle trenches, barbed wire, over 300 watchtowers, and thirty bunkers...  
Just to be on the safe side!



The Berlin-Wall - 28 July 1962



# JFK IN BERLIN



## 'EIN BERLINER'

When Kennedy gave his famous speech in Berlin, RIAS microphones were on hand.



<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5359589>

**U.S. INVOLVEMENT  
VIETNAM WAR  
1964-1975**

1963 – at first just sent advisors to South Vietnam

Phantom firing on US destroyers in Tonkin Gulf

Gulf of Tonkin Resolution – gave pres. Broad war powers

March, 1965 – first ground troops

By 1968 – American forces #ed more than 500,000

# 1964 - GULF OF TONKIN RESOLUTION

North Vietnamese patrol boats fired on the USS Maddox in the Gulf of Tonkin on August 2.

On August 7, the U.S. Congress approves the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, granting President Johnson authority respond. He responded with bombing North Vietnam.





# 1968 - TET OFFENSIVE

Viet Cong guerrillas and North Vietnamese Army troops launched attacks across South Vietnam on January 30, the start of the lunar new year Tet.

In Saigon, guerrillas battle Marines at the U.S. Embassy.

In March, Johnson orders a halt to the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam and offers peace talks.



# MAP OF THE VIETNAM WAR



# VIETNAM BECOMES A COLD WAR LIMITED WAR

After a long siege,  
Vietnamese communists  
under Ho Chi Minh defeat  
French colonial forces at  
Dien Bien Phu on May 7.

In July, the Geneva Accords  
divide the country at the  
17th parallel, creating a  
North and South Vietnam.

The United States assumes  
the chief responsibility of  
providing anti-communist aid  
to South Vietnam.



# 1969 - VIETNAMIZATION



1968, Richard Nixon elected President,  
defeating Hubert Humphrey

On June 8, 1969 U.S. President Nixon  
announced his "Vietnamization" plan, designed  
to withdraw U.S ground forces from Vietnam  
and turn control of the war over to South  
Vietnamese forces.

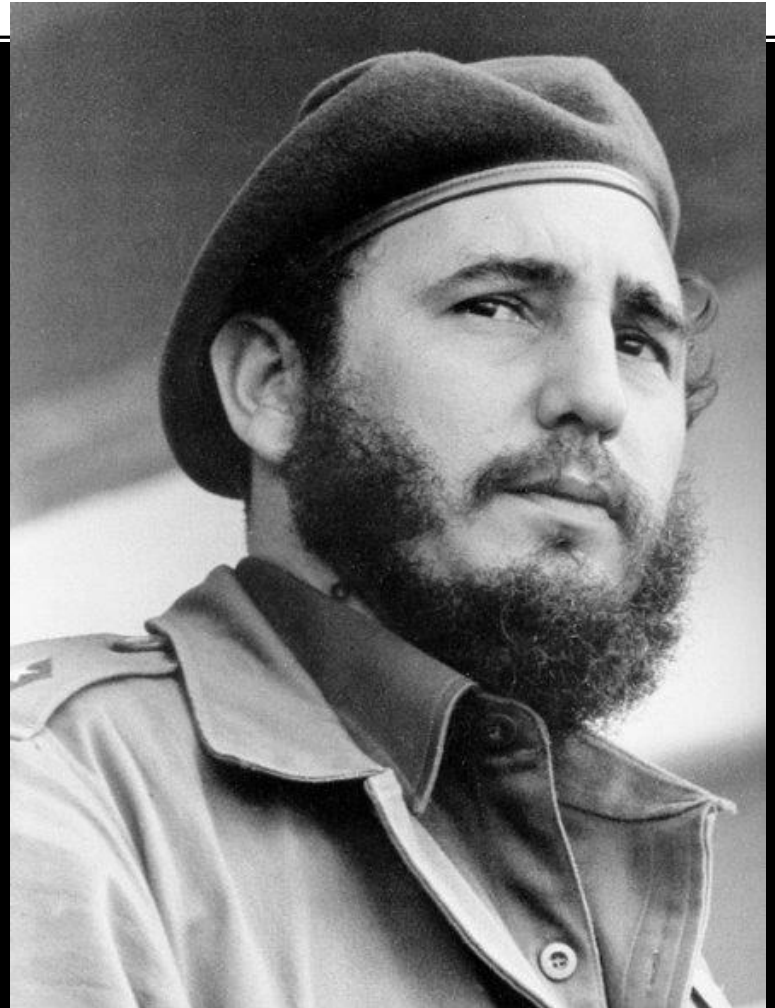


# 1959 - CASTRO TAKES POWER

January 1, 1959 leftist forces under Fidel Castro overthrow Fulgencio Batista

Castro nationalizes the sugar industry and signs trade agreements with the Soviet Union.

The next year, Castro seizes U.S. assets on the island.



# 1961 - BAY OF PIGS



U.S.-organized invasion force of 1,400 Cuban exiles is defeated by Castro's government forces on Cuba's south coast at the Bay of Pigs.



Captured Cuban exiles

Launched from Guatemala in ships and planes provided by the United States, the invaders surrender on April 20 after three days of fighting.

Kennedy takes full responsibility for the disaster.

# CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

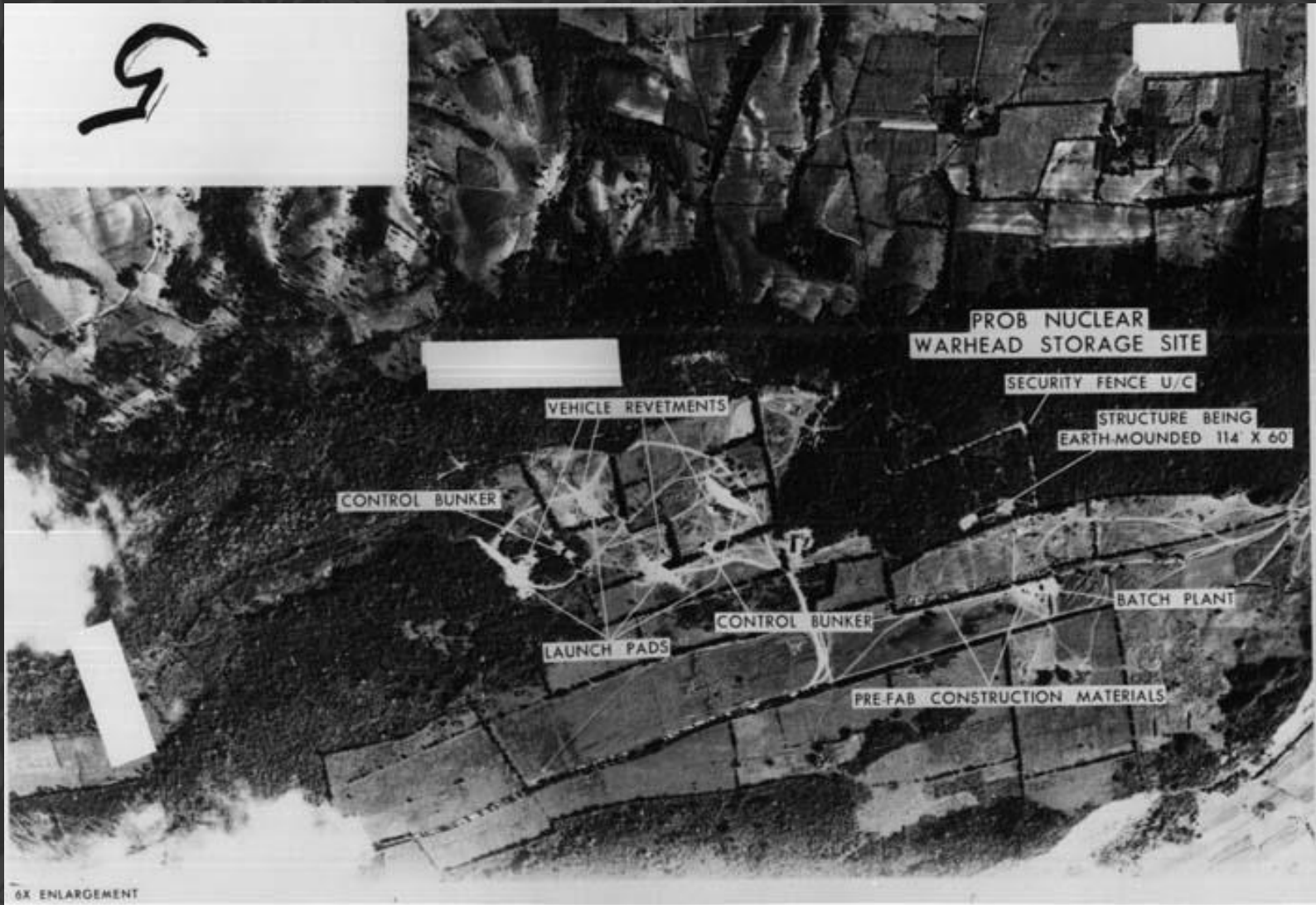
U.S. Pres. John F. Kennedy – stance to show strength and prestige of US  
1962 – Khrushchev secretly installed nuclear missiles on Cuba – 90 miles from  
US

Kennedy blockaded Cuba

A standoff lasted 13 days

USSR backed down

5



PROB NUCLEAR  
WARHEAD STORAGE SITE

SECURITY FENCE U/C

STRUCTURE BEING  
EARTH-MOUNDED 114' X 60''

VEHICLE REVETMENTS

CONTROL BUNKER

CONTROL BUNKER

LAUNCH PADS

BATCH PLANT

PRE-FAB CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

6X ENLARGEMENT



# MISSILE CRISIS 1962







**ATOMIC BOMB**  
**FIRST FULL DETONATION JULY 16 1945**

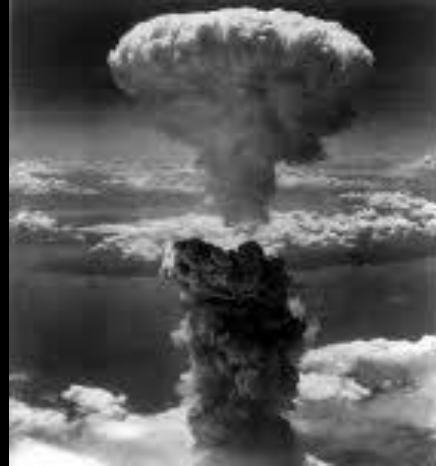




# FIRST OFFICIAL USAGE

## AUGUST 6, 1945

### HIROSHIMA, JAPAN





**NAGASAKI – AUGUST  
9, 1945**

**Before**



**After**



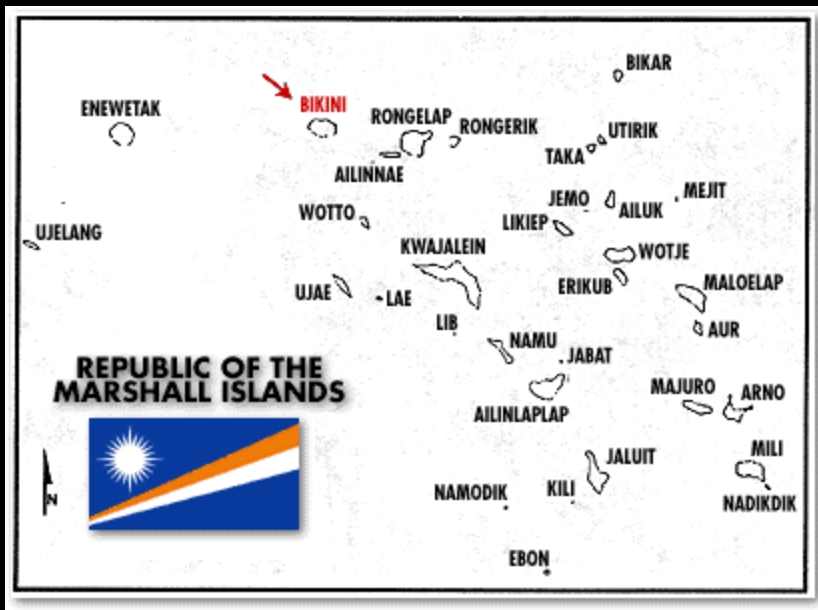
**SOVIET TESTS  
NUKE!!! AUG 29,  
1949**



# AMERICAN REACTION...

## Bikini Atoll

Bikini Atoll was the location of 23 atmospheric atomic bomb tests from 1946 through 1958

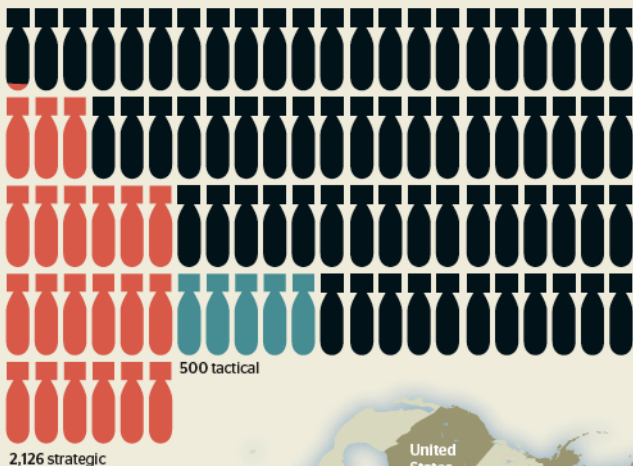






# NUCLEAR ARMS RACE 2009

**Heading downwards**  
World's most powerful and reliable arsenal. Some 200 warheads deployed in Europe; additional 2,500

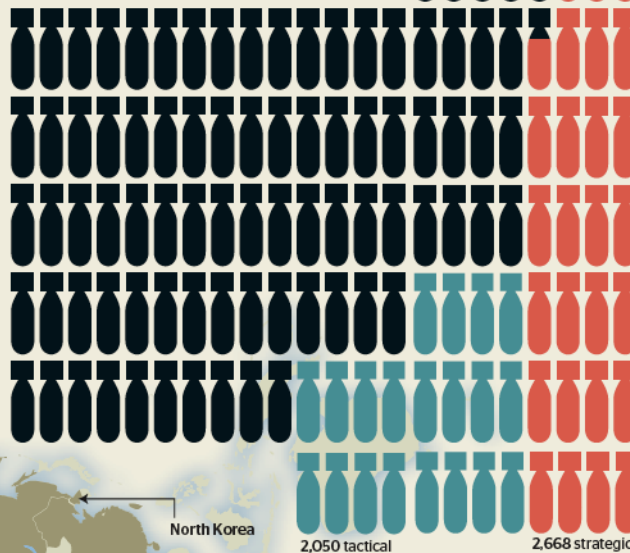


warheads are spare and not counted as operational. Years of balanced reductions with the Russians in both strategic and tactical

warheads. Committed under President Obama to new talks to limit each side to 1,000 strategic warheads

**Heading downwards**  
Big reduction from 1991 total of 15,000 warheads. A quarter of present total probably awaiting

dismantling. An ageing arsenal, expensive to maintain and update. Every incentive for further deep cuts



## France 300 total warheads

300 strategic

Stable A recently renewed arsenal. Small reduction announced in 2008 to less than 300 warheads, but no pressing need for change or updates. Strong political attachment to independent deterrent

## China 240 total warheads

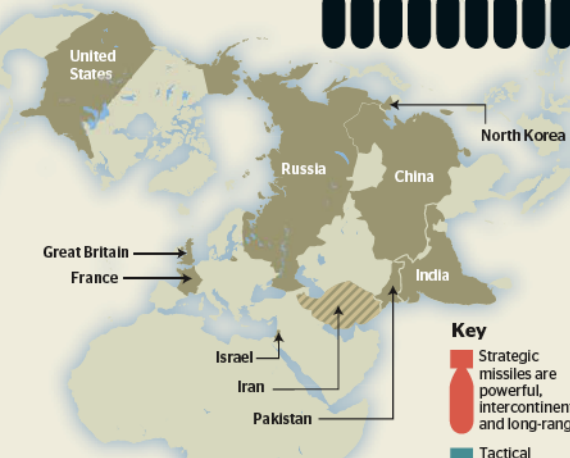
180 strategic

Stable Strong commitment to enough weapons to deter attack on its heartland, but no attempt at parity with the US or Russia. Many "strategic" weapons for regional use

## UK 185 total warheads

160 strategic

Stable Despite talk of including small arsenal in multilateral talks, no firm commitment to do so. One submarine probably will be cut, but no guaranteed change in total of 160-185 warheads



## Key

- Strategic missiles are powerful, intercontinental and long-range
- Tactical missiles are short-range and battlefield
- Weapons in store or awaiting dismantling

## Israel 200 total warheads

200 strategic

Stable Nuclear weapons never admitted and no details published, but arsenals thought to be about double those of India and Pakistan. A last-resort weapon against Arab invasion

## Iran

No warheads or proven nuclear capability yet

## Pakistan 70-90 total warheads

60 strategic

## India 60-80 total warheads

60 strategic

Slowly Increasing  
Approximate equilibrium and no new nuclear arms race likely. All details and number are secret. Only strategic, not tactical missiles, held by each side

## North Korea Fewer than 10 total warheads

Fewer than 10 strategic

Political dependence on hugely expensive nuclear capability. Wants to increase but probably has no more than one or two warheads operational. Intentions depend on present six-power talks to scrap nuclear weapons programme



# DÉTENTE

Derived from the French word meaning relaxation  
Refers to an improvement in American-Soviet relations

# STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS

## SALT I & II

Between USSR and US

Meant to reduce the number  
of weapons

Did not

But did slow the arms race  
significantly



# MIKHAIL GORBACHEV

Premier of USSR 1985-1995



## GORBACHEV'S USSR

Mid 1980 – Gorbachev comes to power

Reform minded

Glasnost – “Openness” – allowed some freedom of speech and press

Perestroika -- rebuilding of the economy of USSR

Encouraged limited moves toward free enterprise

# SOVIET UNION -- 1985





# COLLAPSE OF COMMUNISM

1989 many communist governments in Eastern Europe  
fall

East Germany

Czechoslovakia

Hungary

Poland

Romania

Bulgaria

# FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

November 9, 1989

November Brandenburg Gate opened

People free to pass from one side to the other for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in 45 years

November 10, popular uprising

Wall comes down

# FALL OF THE WALL









# 1979 - AFGHANISTAN

December 25, 100,000 Soviet troops invaded Afghanistan as communist Babrak Karmal seized control of the government.

U.S.-backed Muslim guerrilla fighters waged a costly war against the Soviets for nearly a decade before Soviet troops withdraw in 1988.

Afghanistan—the Soviet “Vietnam”



## 1980 - SOLIDARITY



On August 14, Lech Walesa led massive strikes at the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk, Poland.

The strikes soon spread to other cities and formed the nucleus of the *Solidarity* movement.

The communist government conceded to worker demands on August 31, and recognized their right to form unions and strike.

# 1990 - GERMAN UNIFICATION



At a September 12 meeting in Moscow, the United States, Soviet Union, Great Britain, France and the two Germanys agreed to end Allied occupation rights in Germany.

On October 3, East and West Germany united as the Federal Republic of Germany.

## THE SOVIETS DISINTEGRATE

Three Baltic states announce their exit from the U.S.S.R.  
Gorbachev does not use force to keep them in the  
nation.

CIS Confederation of Independent States  
tries to keep the U.S.S.R. together.

Ultimately, all former republics announce their  
independence.

## COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES -- 1991

