

# REASONS FOR THE COLD WAR

@p0stc4rds\_



# THE MAIN GODDAMN REASONS



## IDEOLOGICAL CONFLICTS

They followed two very different belief systems and believed the other one was wrong and wanted to make sure their belief system



## RIVAL BLOCS

After the war, the two were so overpowered that a conflict between them could end in nuclear war, so they decided to fight through proxy wars and ally themselves with groups of countries creating rival blocs



## SUPERPOWER RIVALRY

USA and USSR were the two most dominant powers that emerged from the war and immediately went into a rivalry to prove who was the stronger one



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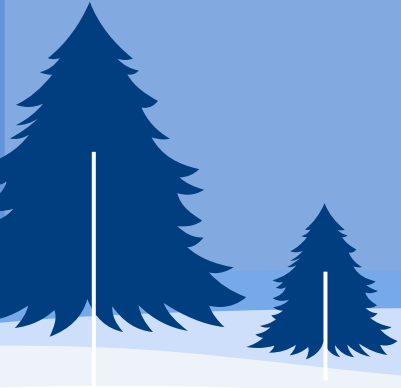
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# 01 IDEOLOGICAL CONFLICT



# IDEOLOGICAL CONFLICTS BETWEEN USA/USSR



## USA'S GOV

By a democratic system of government



## USA'S ECON

Had a free-market economy



## US VISION

Democracy + capitalist, sustain social + economic conditions that create political self-determination



## USSR'S GOV

By an authoritarian system



## USSR'S ECON

Had a command economy

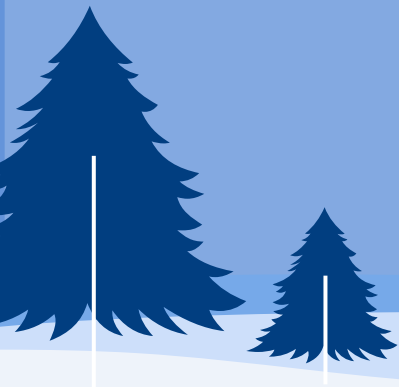


## USSR VISION

Communists who wanted to incite world revolution and destroy capitalism



# 02 SUPERPOWER RIVALRY



# HOW DID THE SUPERPOWER RIVALRY COME ABOUT



## DEVASTATION OF EUROPE AND RISE OF THE SUPERPOWERS

Many casualties + high amount of damaged infrastructure made the previous world powers (France, UK) unable to have resources to maintain their positions as superpowers, leaving a power vacuum



## END OF WARTIME ALLIANCE

Since Hitler was removed as a common enemy, there was no further need for the USA and the USSR to remain allies post WW2, and both went to strengthen their political and economic influence to be better than the other to make sure the other does not surpass them in influence



**RIVAL BLOCS:** the two were so overpowered that a conflict between them could end in nuclear war, so they decided to fight through proxy wars and ally themselves with groups of countries, creating rival blocs



### **ESTABLISHMENT OF SOVIET SATELLITE STATES IN EASTERN EUROPE**

Stalin established a ring of satellite states around the USSR through 'salami tactics' to defend the USSR and its sphere of influence, but the USA saw it as an aggressive pursuit of global communist influence

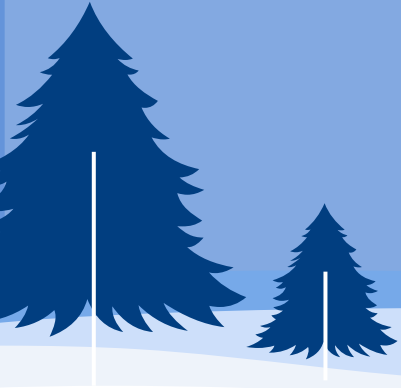


### **END OF WARTIME ALLIANCE**

Through Kennan's Long Telegram -> US foreign policy shifted to containing the USSR's aggressive spread of its dominance and influence in Eastern Europe



# 03 WW2 TREATMENT



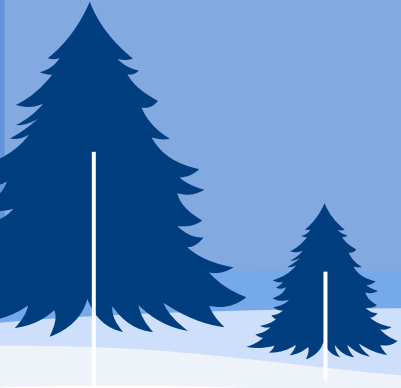
# TLDR OF USSR'S POOR TREATMENT FROM ALLIES DURING WW2

Action	Reaction
Perceived delay in opening a second front to relieve USSR forces from pressure of German attacks in 1943	Stalin viewed as being done to minimise Allied casualties even though it was done when there was an acceptable likelihood of its success
Disagreements during Yalta Conference (Feb 1945) + Potsdam Conference (Aug 1945)	Could not come to a compromise about issues like control of Poland + Germany's economy + land splitting of Germany + German reparations
Americann nuclear monopoly + dropping of the atomic bombs on Japan + USA only notified USSR after 1st successful test	Aroused Soviet suspicion + Truman used the bomb to end the war swiftly and to gain political leverage over the USSR but led to a nuclear arms race
Churchill gave his 'Iron Curtain' speech in March 1946 about the political divide between the Soviet/Western Europe sphere of influence	Strengthened the view of the Western powers of the USSR hostility towards them



**04**

**MANIFESTATIONS  
OF THE COLD  
WAR**



# POLAR BEAR TIMELINE

**MARSHALL  
PLAN IS  
PROPOSED**

**THE DEUTSCHE  
MARK REPLACES  
THE REICHSMARK  
IN WESTERN  
GERMANY**

**3/12/47**

**TRUMAN  
ANNOUNCES  
TRUMAN  
DOCTRINE**

**6/5/47**

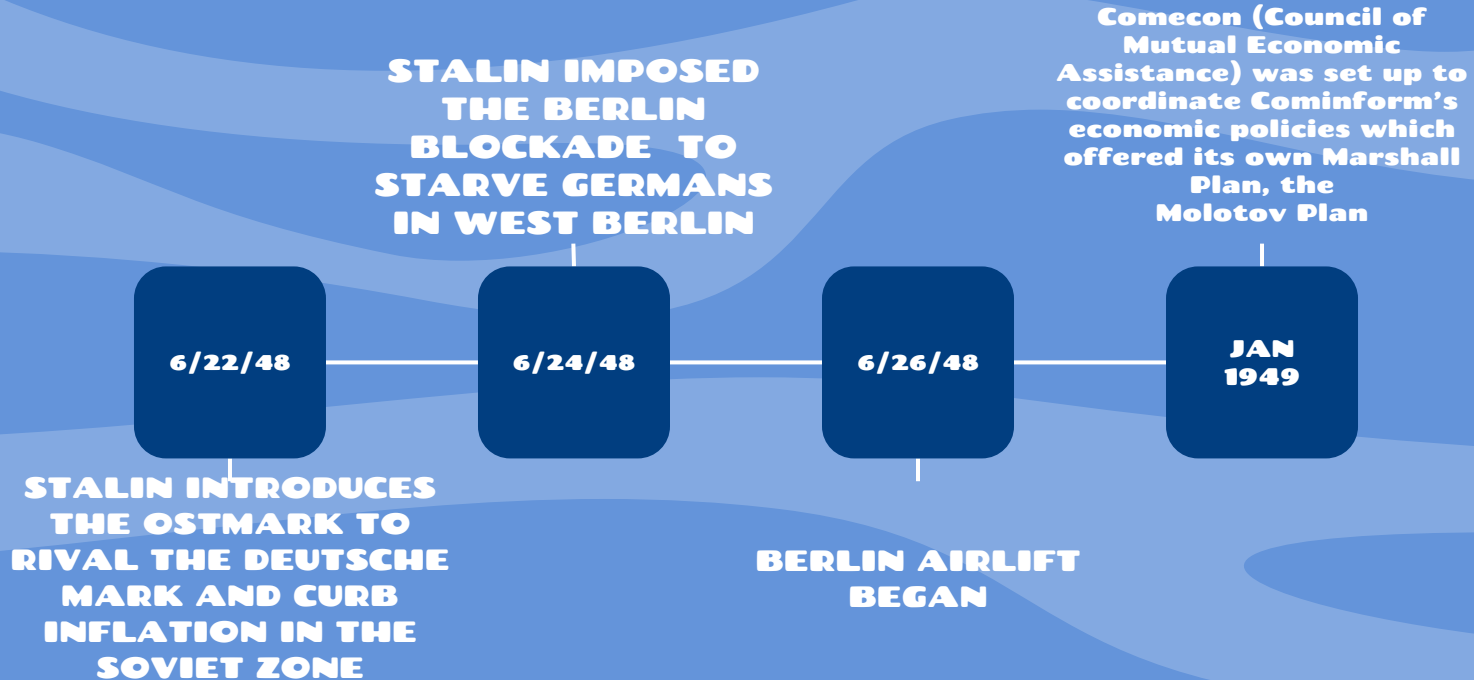
**THE COMINFORM WAS  
SET UP BY STALIN TO  
DRAW TOGETHER THE  
VARIOUS  
COMINFORMS  
ECONOMIC POLICY**

**6/5/47**

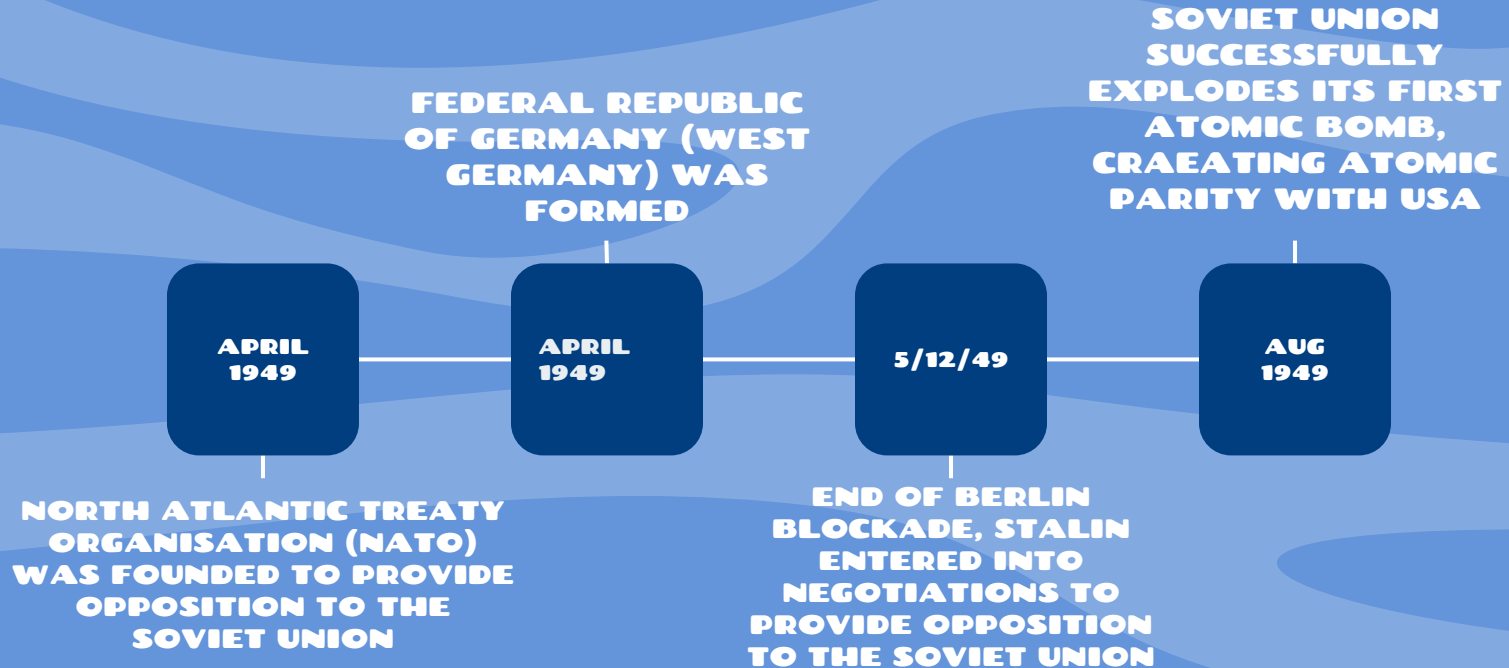
**6/21/48**



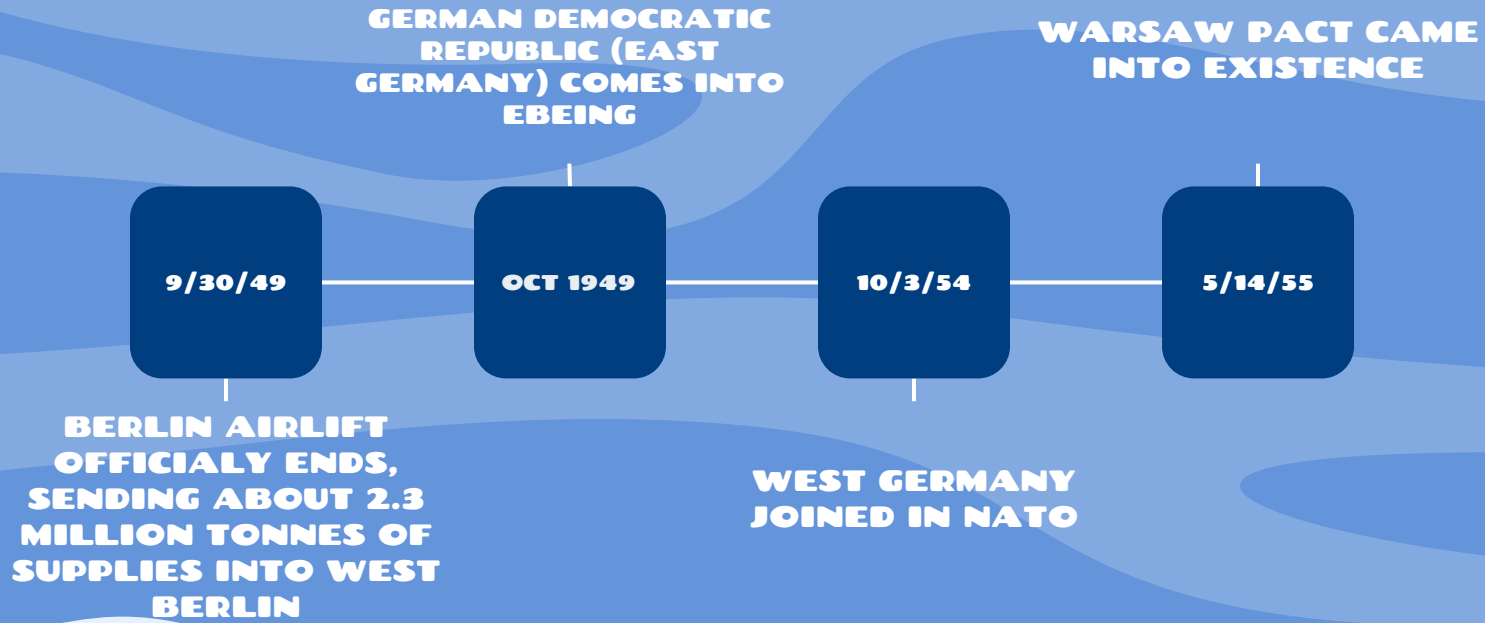
# POLAR BEAR TIMELINE



# POLAR BEAR TIMELINE



# POLAR BEAR TIMELINE



# TRUMAN DOCTRINE

## THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

DELIVERED

BEFORE A JOINT SESSION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, RECOMMENDING ASSISTANCE TO GREECE AND TURKEY

MARCH 12, 1947.—Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and ordered to be printed

MR. PRESIDENT, MR. SPEAKER, MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

The gravity of the situation which confronts the world today necessitates my appearance before a joint session of the Congress.

The foreign policy and the national security of this country are involved.

One aspect of the present situation, which I wish to present to you at this time for your consideration and decision, concerns Greece and Turkey.

The United States has received from the Greek Government an

- Greece and Turkey had depended on external support from Britain and heavily dependent on them after the war
- Communists were gaining prominence in Turkey + Greece believed that weak states would be more susceptible and spreading communism influence and threatening American interests in Europe

# MARSHALL PLAN:

Committed the USA to giving economic aid to reconstruct Europe and its economies, regardless of whether the countries were under communist influence or otherwise using more than 15 million dollars to pay



The USSR did not accept any aid from the Marshall Plan



An economically strong Europe was vital to the USA as Europe had become its main export market



USA saw that the economic situation in Europe would make communism an attractive alternative to hunger and poverty so the Marshall Plan would offer economic assistance and revitalise capitalist countries



USA also made an offer of assistance open to the USSR + satellite states, as if they accepted, they would open themselves to American influence / if not they would strain relations between their satellite states



It helped kick-start the economic recovery of Western Europe and succeeded in helping the contain the Soviet spread in Europe + made USA come off as more genuine and sincere rather than the USSR's focus only being its own survival



The Marshall Plan looked attractive to many Eastern European countries and Stalin forbade some countries from taking part in it as it threatened to further undermine Soviet influence

## **COMMUNIST INFORMATION BUREAU (COMINFORM)**

- GOAL: tighten his control on the satellite states, who were supposed to implement Soviet-style communism and trade mainly with Cominform members with contact with non-communist countries being discouraged
- Could not provide economic aid at the same rate as the Marshall Plan
- usually disadvantaged satellite states while profiting the USSR itself



**DEUTSCHE MARK:** prevent the problem of poverty + encourage the German to seek radical social change by embracing communism + vital solution to foster pro-democracy and pro-Western attitudes among the German people

# BERLIN BLOCKADE VS. BERLIN AIRLIFT



## BERLIN BLOCKADE

- Cut off all land and water pathways/communications/food/electricity between the Western zones in Germany and West Berlin
- Aimed to starve Germans in West Berlin into submission, and force the Western powers to abandon their plans of unifying their occupation zones into an eventual West Germany state in accordance with his wish to keep Germany divided and weak



## BERLIN AIRLIFT

- USA and Britain agreed to transport supplies into West Berlin by air, the only channel not blocked by the USSR
- Western powers flew supplies into West Berlin for the next 11 months
- Soviets did not shoot the planes of the Western powers down for fear of being seen as engaging in an act of war



# THE SLIDE TITLE GOES HERE!



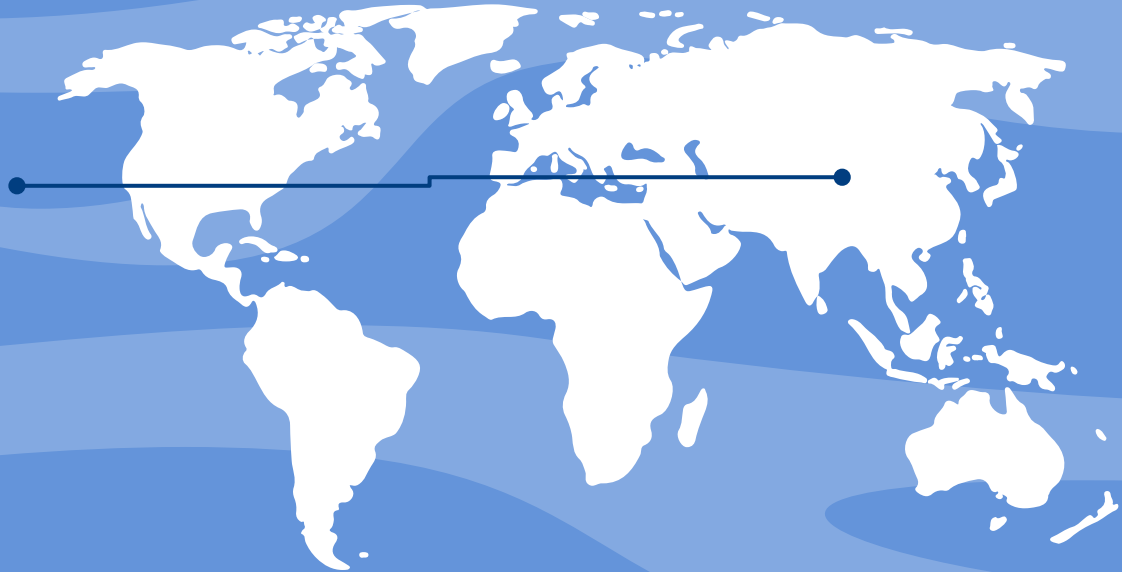
Do you know what helps you make your point clear?  
Lists like this one:

- They're simple
- You can organize your ideas clearly
- You'll never forget to buy milk!

And the most important thing: the audience won't miss the point of your presentation

# EFFECTS OF THE BERLIN BLOCKADE

- Humiliated the USSR
- Boosted the credibility of the Western powers, who were seen to be confident and purposeful in handling their crisis and whose technological prowess were displayed
- Berlin Blockade motivated France to strengthen the western zones of Germany



# NATO FORMATION (APR 1949)



**An American-European alliance that would commit the USA to further strengthen the security of Western Europe**

- Many western European countries feared the USSR would exert influence through military means
- NATO was formed so that the member states agreed to come to each other's defence if they were attacked by any external party

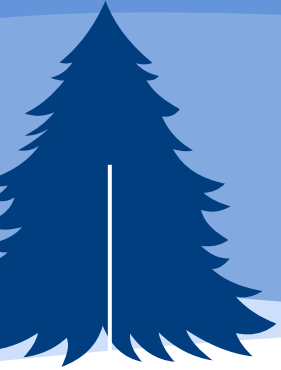
# WARSAW PACT (MAY 1955)

## A response to the perceived immediate threat posed by **NATO**



- Member states pledged to defend any other member when attacked by an external party + respect the national sovereignty and political independence of other member countries
- USSR had a dominant influence on decisions made by the Warsaw Pact + Warsaw Treaty armed forces

**BOTH ALLIANCES  
ATTEMPTED TO MINIMISE  
EACH OTHERS INFLUENCE  
BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE  
EUROPE AS WELL AS ADOPT  
POLICIES AIMED AT  
INCREASING THEIR OWN  
INFLUENCE**



# THANKS!

Do you have any questions?  
ask ur teacher lol  
@p0stc4rds\_



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