

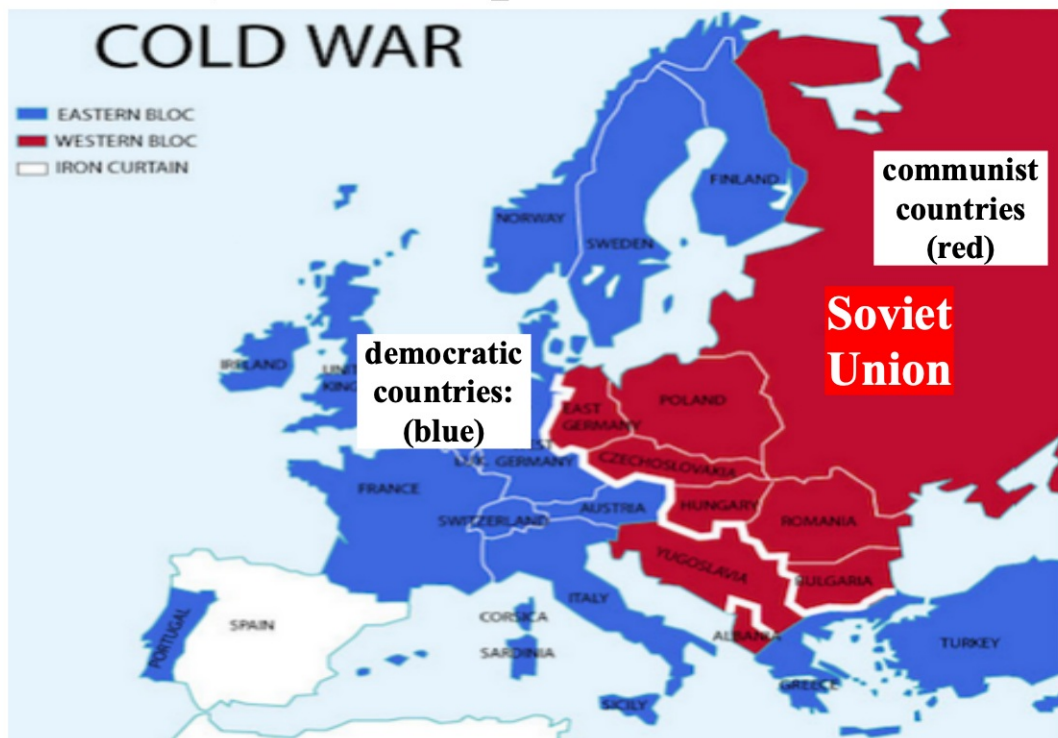
# Chapter 11: The 1st Cold War (1945–1991)



## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins

The **United States** and the **Soviet Union** (name of Russia when it was communist from 1917-1991) emerged as the world's only **superpowers** (the most powerful countries on Earth).

United  
States  
also



## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

Both nations created military alliances made up of nations they protected or occupied, which pledged to help each other in peace and war.



United  
States  
also



## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

The United States helped form the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**, made up of America and its Western European allies. NATO's goal was to stop the spread of communism in Europe and promote democracy.

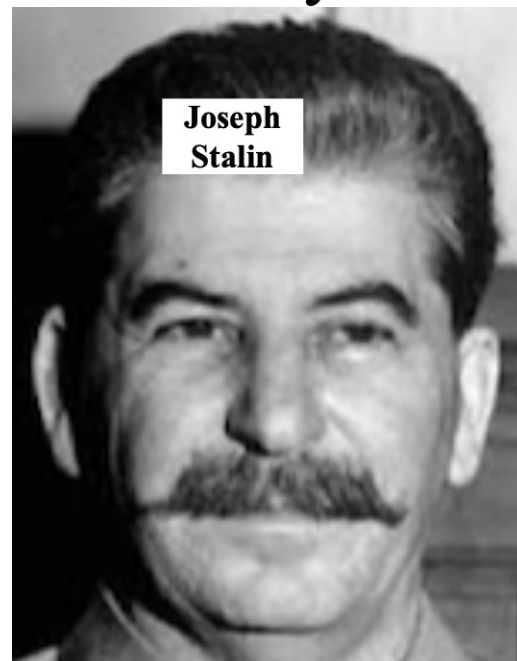


United  
States  
also



## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

Under **Joseph Stalin** (1924-1953), the Soviet Union created the **Warsaw Pact** with the eastern European countries that she controlled. The goal of the Warsaw Pact was to stop the spread of democracy in Europe and promote communism.



**Joseph  
Stalin**

**United  
States  
also**



## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

The U.S. has **democracy** (a system of government led by and for the whole population of a country, usually through representation) and **capitalism** (an economic system in a country where production and prices are controlled by buyers and sellers and ownership of businesses by citizens is possible).

United  
States  
also



## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

The Soviet Union had **communism** (a country where the government owns everything for the good of its people and where classes of society do not exist).





## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

The differences between democracy and communism in addition to deep distrust between the two countries was the basis for the **1st Cold War** from 1945-1991.



**United  
States  
also**



United States of America

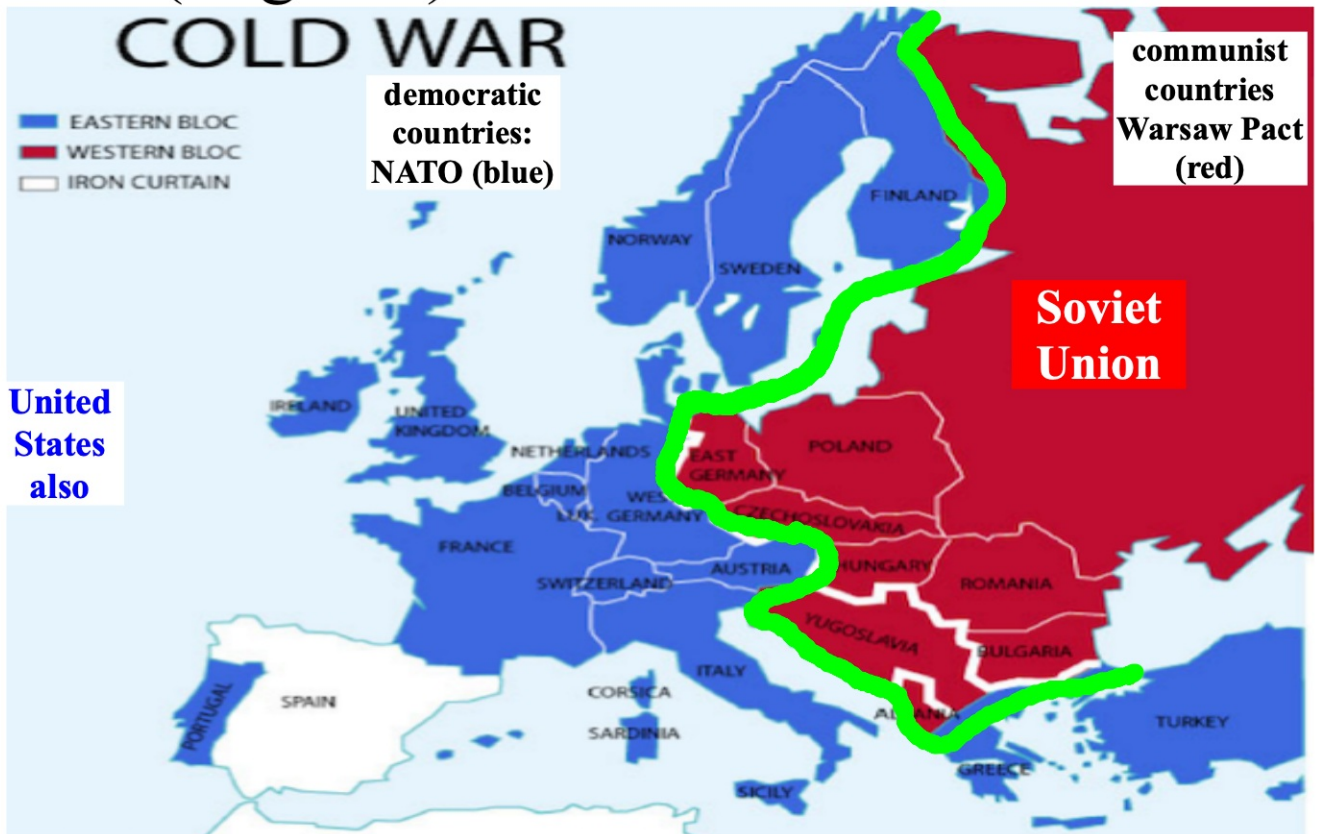
## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

The 1st Cold War was called that because the two countries never went to war directly with each other, but they were continually unfriendly to each other, like giving someone the “cold shoulder.” In addition, America and Russia have been in a 2nd cold war since the mid 2010s.



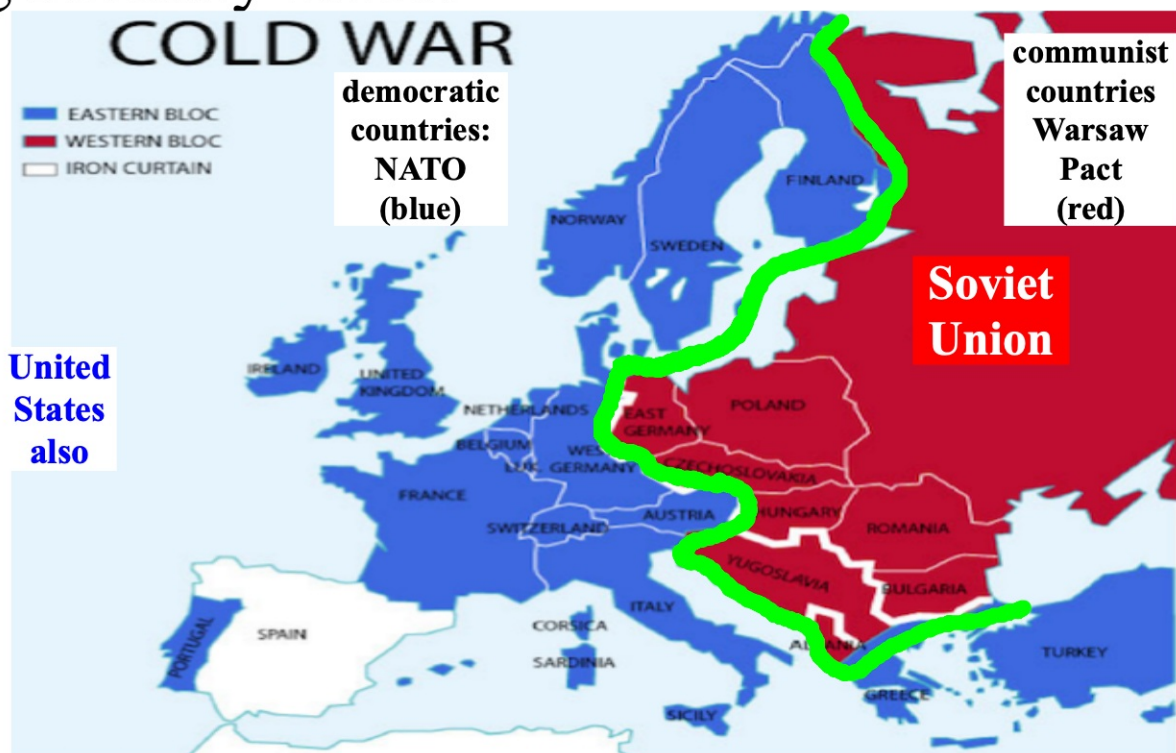
## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

The line between the democratic West and communist East in Europe was called the **Iron Curtain** (in green).



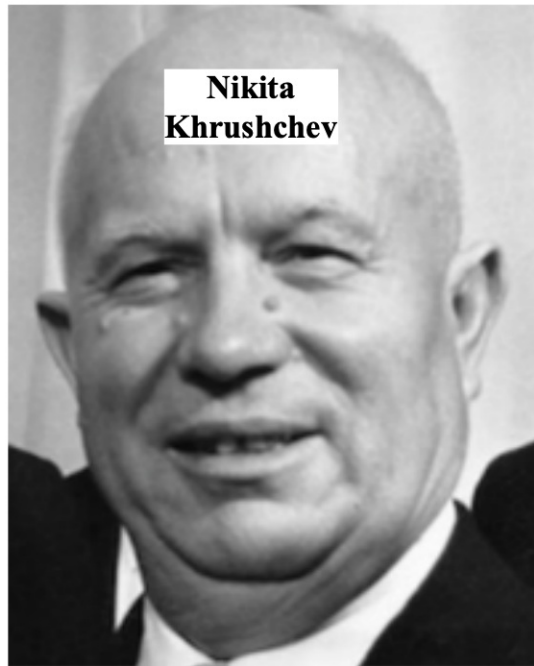
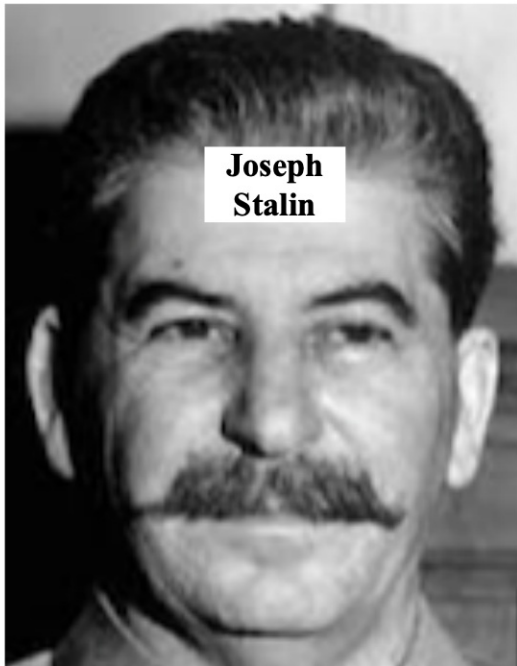
## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

An iron curtain is like a curtain on your window that cannot be opened. Many revolts challenging Soviet domination in Europe were extinguished using military force.



## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

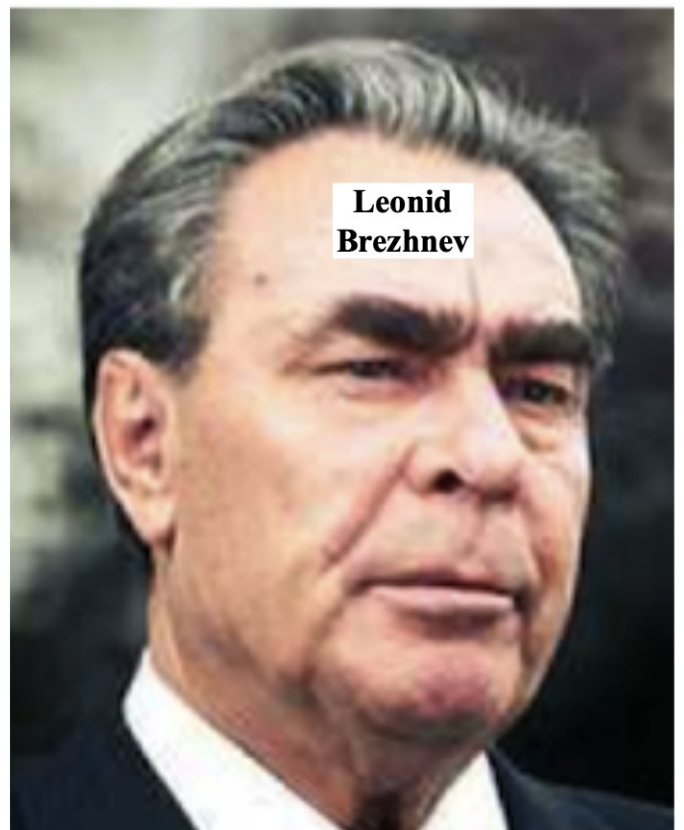
The Soviets wanted to spread communist beliefs around the globe. When **Nikita Khrushchev** came to power in 1953 after the brutal Joseph Stalin died, he eased censorship and increased tolerance.





## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

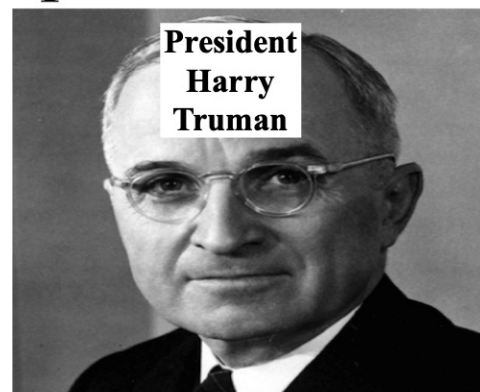
However, repression returned under the next Soviet leader, **Leonid Brezhnev**, when he came to power in 1964.



## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

U.S. President Harry Truman (1945-1953)

presented what was referred to as the **Truman Doctrine** (America's foreign policy to stop the spread of communism anywhere in the world).

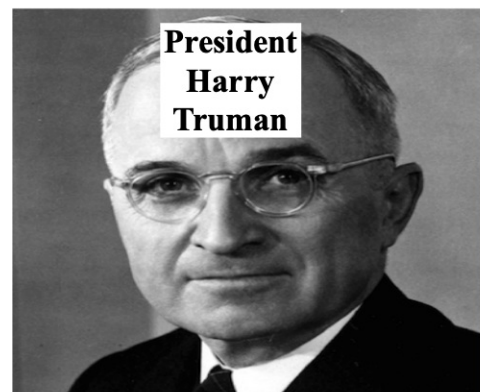


President  
Harry  
Truman

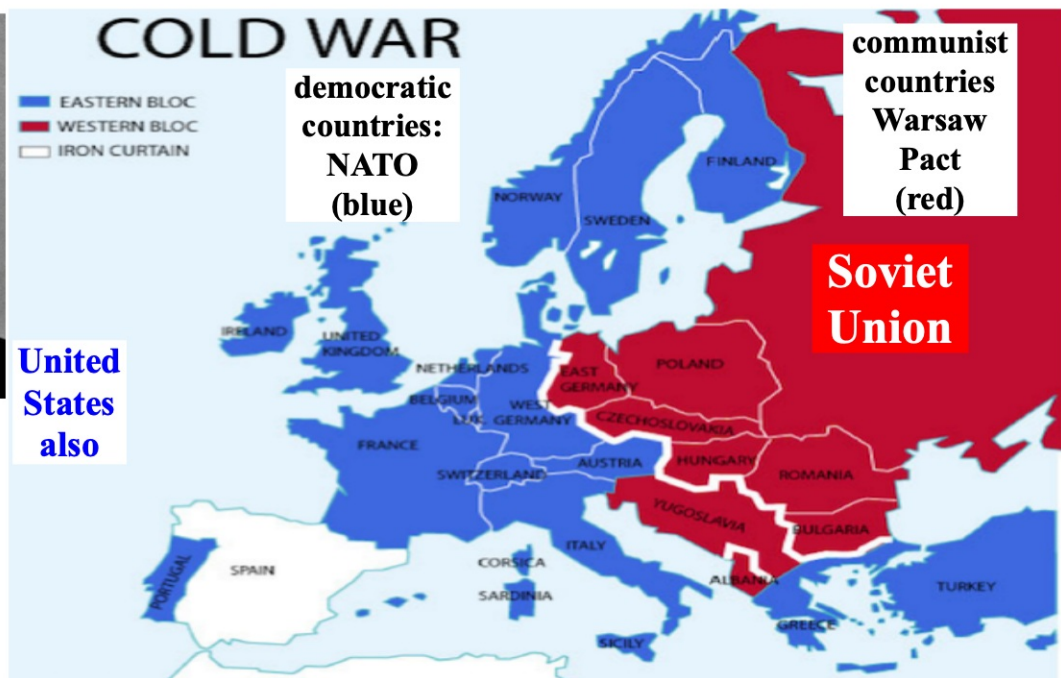


## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

American leaders followed a policy of **containment** during the Cold War. This was a strategy of keeping communism from spreading to other nations.



President  
Harry  
Truman





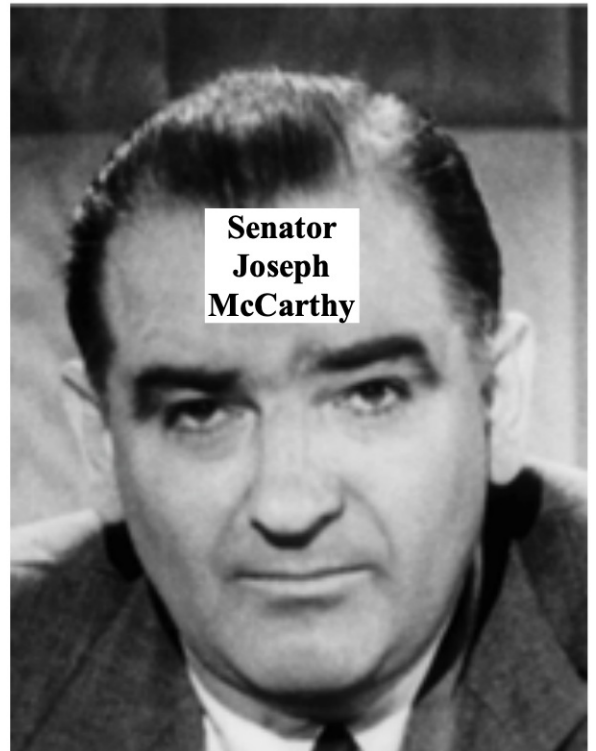
## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

The superpowers also engaged in an **arms race** (a weapons race) to develop the strongest and most nuclear weapons, especially after the Soviets detonated their first atomic bomb in 1949. To reduce the threat of war, the two sides held several



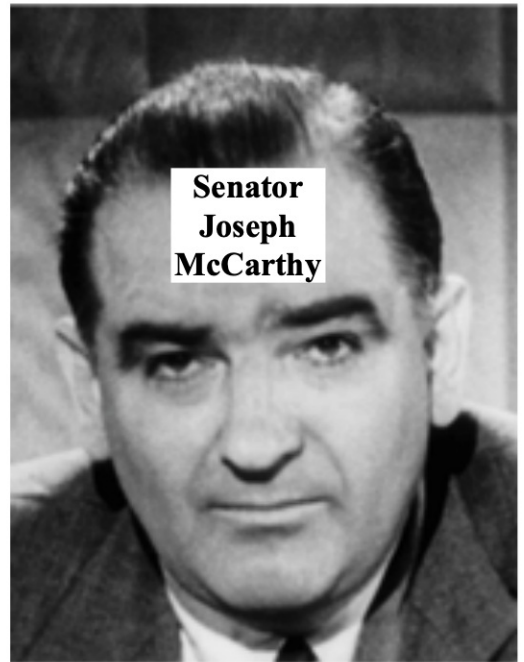
## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

In addition, the “**red scare**” (scare of communism spreading to America) in the United States resulted in Senator Joseph McCarthy leading a hunt in America for communists in the government and military.



## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

The House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) also sought out communist sympathizers. Eventually, McCarthy and his witch-hunt were stopped.





## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

Then, in 1959, **Fidel Castro** led a communist revolution in Cuba (island nation 90 miles from the U.S.) and became its leader.



## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

To bring down Castro's communist regime, U.S. President **John F. Kennedy** (1961-1963) supported an invasion of Cuba in 1961, but the attempt failed.



## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

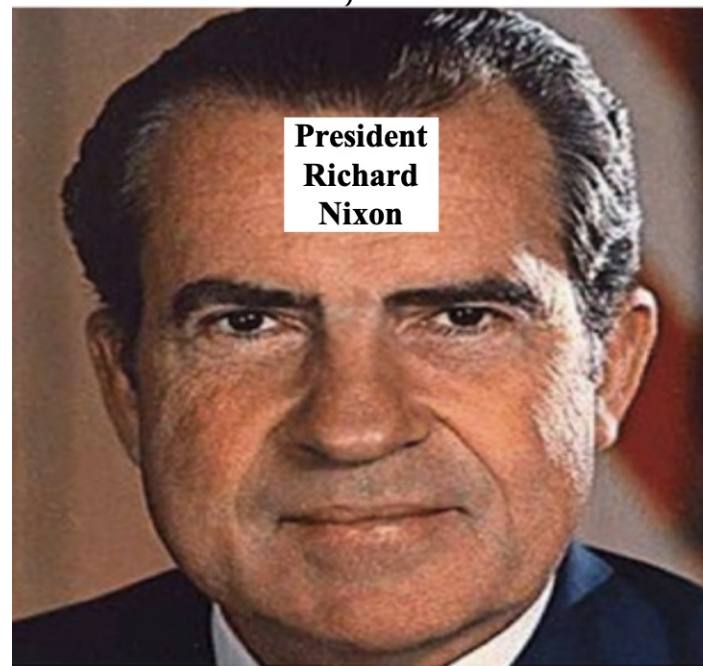
One year later, in October of 1962, the Soviets sent nuclear missiles to Cuba. Many feared a nuclear war. This was called the **Cuban Missile Crisis**. After the United States blockaded Cuba with its navy, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev agreed to remove the missiles.





## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

The late 1960s to late 1970s was called the **era of détente** (a relaxing of tension, especially between nations, by using negotiations or agreements). Richard Nixon, U.S. President from 1969-1974, used détente very successfully when



President  
Richard  
Nixon



China  
(communist)



## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

Détente ended, however, when the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979, when Jimmy Carter (1977-1981) was President.



## Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)

One issue that began to be discussed during the era of détente was intended to limit the use of **anti-ballistic missiles (ABMs)**. These weapons were designed to shoot down missiles launched by hostile nations.



## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

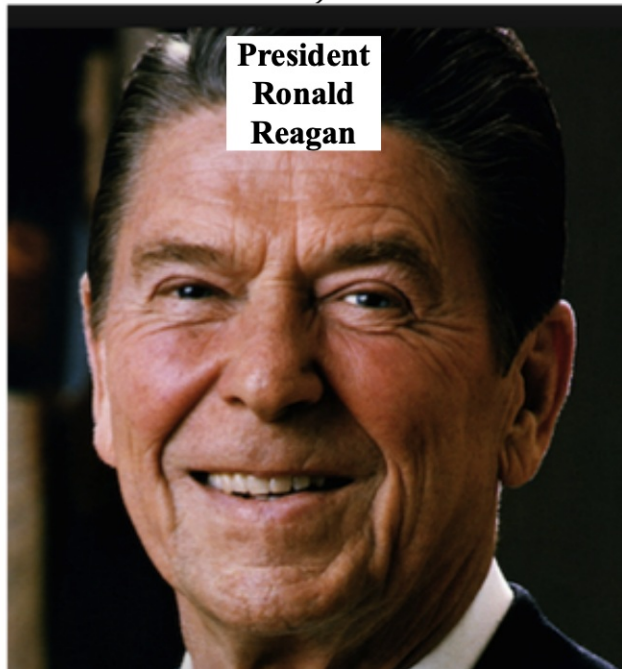
The ABMs were considered a threat because they could give one side more protection, which might encourage it to attack another country since it could defend itself better if attacked.





## **Section 1: The 1st Cold War Begins (cont.)**

Then, during the 1980s, U.S. President Ronald Reagan (1981-1989) proposed a missile defense program called “Star Wars.” Other agreements limited the number of nuclear weapons that nations could maintain, which eased cold war tensions.



President  
Ronald  
Reagan



## **Section 2: Communism Spreads in East Asia**

After World War II, **Mao Zedong** (communist Chinese dictator from 1949-1976) led communist forces in China to victory in 1949 over those who wanted democracy. Mao then began to reshape China's economy.



## Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)

First, he gave land to peasants, but then called for **collectivization**. Under this system, Mao moved people from their small villages and individual farms into communes of thousands of people on thousands of acres.



## **Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)**

Known as the **Great Leap Forward**, the program was intended to increase farm and industrial production. Instead, it produced low quality, useless goods and less food, as many were unmotivated to do their best. Bad weather also affected crops, and many people starved.





## Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)

To remove bourgeois beliefs (middle class materialistic values), Mao began the **Cultural Revolution**. Skilled workers and managers were removed from factories and forced to work on farms or in labor camps.





## **Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)**

This resulted in a slowed economy and a threat of civil war. Again, in an attempt to make everyone equal under the communist government, there was little ability or incentive to work harder since there was no individual benefit; no chance of ownership or increased pay.



## **Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)**

At first, the United States supported those who fled communist China and escaped to **Taiwan** (a democratic island nation off the coast of China that China says it still controls).



## **Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)**

The West was concerned that the Soviet Union and China would become allies, but border clashes led the Soviets to withdraw aid and advisors from China. U.S. leaders thought that by “playing the China card,” or improving relations with the Chinese, they would further isolate the Soviets.



## **Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)**

In 1979, the United States established diplomatic relations with China.





## Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)

**Korea** (a peninsula country in East Asia south of China) was an independent nation until **Japan** (island nation in the western Pacific Ocean east of China) invaded it in World War II.



## Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)

After the war, American and Soviet forces agreed to divide the Korean peninsula at the **38th parallel** (line of latitude between North and South Korea).



## Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)

Kim Il Sung, a communist, ruled **North Korea**, and Syngman Rhee, allied with the United States, controlled **South Korea**. In 1950, North Korean troops invaded South Korea, starting the **Korean War (1950-1953)**.





## **Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)**

The United Nations forces stopped them along a line known as the Pusan Perimeter in southern South Korea, and then began advancing north.

Mao sent Chinese troops to help the North Koreans. UN forces were pushed back south of the 38th parallel again.





## Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)

In 1953, both sides signed an armistice to end the fighting, but troops remain on both sides of the **demilitarized zone (DMZ)** (area between North and South Korea on the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel where no military can be) even today.



## **Section 2: Com. Spreads in East Asia (cont.)**

Over time, South Korea enjoyed an economic boom and a rise in living standards, while communist North Korea's economy declined. Kim Il Sung's emphasis on self-reliance kept North Korea isolated and poor.

North Korea and South Korea  
at night

