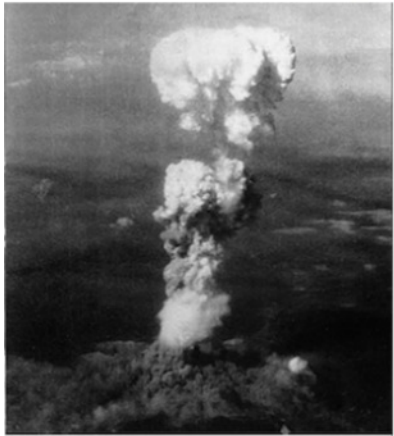
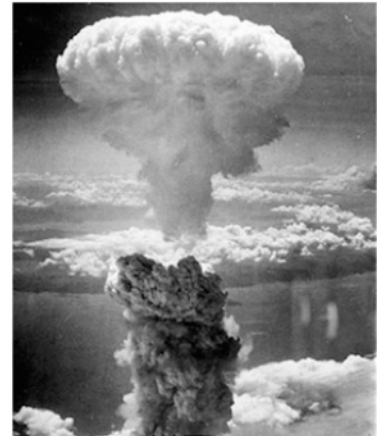


# Chapter 24: The Cold War (1945–1991)



Hiroshima



Nagasaki



## Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies

During the post-World War II period, American businesses expanded into the global marketplace. **Globalization** became normal as more and more countries bought and sold goods with other countries and began to rely on each other more and more. Other nations needed goods and services to rebuild. This led to a period of economic success that changed life in the United States. During the 1950s and 1960s, **recessions** (a slowing down of a nation's economy) were brief and mild.

## Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)

As Americans prospered, they left the cities to live in the suburbs. This trend is called **suburbanization** and is the opposite of **urbanization** (when people move to cities from the countryside). Also, job opportunities in the **Sunbelt** (the southern U.S.) attracted many people to that region. By the 1970s, however, a political crisis in the Middle East made Americans aware of their dependence on imported oil. The price of oil and gas rose substantially, which meant that people had less money to buy other products. The decades of prosperity ended in 1974 with a serious recession.

## Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)

During the period of prosperity in America after World War II, African-Americans and other minorities continued to face **segregation** (separation of groups in society based on race or ethnicity). This was common in America; even the U.S. Supreme Court, the country's top court, stated in the famous 1898 case *Plessy v. Ferguson* that it was ok to separate African-Americans and other races (the idea of separate but equal), thus leading to non-whites being treated differently. But in 1947, **President Truman** (1945-1953) began a trend in government when he announced that the U.S. military would no longer be segregated. A few years later, in 1954, the *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court case overturned the *Plessy* case (saying separation is inherently (automatically) unequal), but discrimination continued.

## Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)

Then, in 1955, **Rosa Parks**, an African-American woman and “mother of the Civil Rights movement,” refused to give up her seat to a white man on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama. What followed was the **Montgomery Bus Boycott**. Led by **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, the boycott was a 13-month protest and boycott of the Montgomery bus system. It finally ended with the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that segregation on public buses was unconstitutional, and also when Montgomery, Alabama realized it needed African-American bus riders to make a profit.

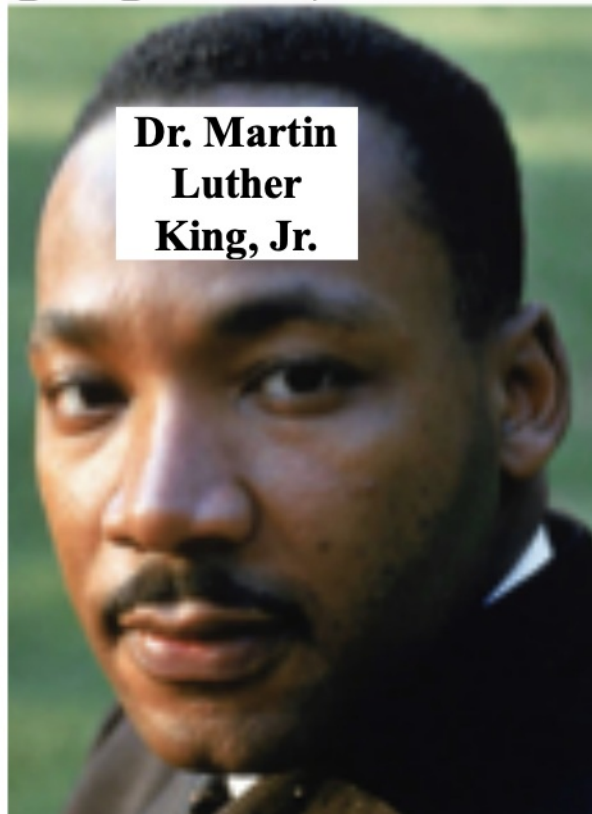


## **Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)**

In 1957, nine African-American students tried to enroll in an all-white high school in Little Rock, Arkansas. Called the **“Little Rock Nine,”** **President Dwight Eisenhower** (1953-1961) initially tried to stay out of the situation and allow states to handle their own segregation problems. Ultimately, because of increasing tension and violence, he reluctantly used the U.S. Army to help enroll the students and keep them safe.

## Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)

African-Americans also suffered from discrimination in jobs and voting. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. emerged as the main civil rights leader in the 1960s. King preached and used nonviolent protests as his way of educating Americans about the injustice of discrimination. He utilized **Freedom Rides** (people who rode buses into the segregated southern U.S. from 1961 on to protest segregation).



**Dr. Martin  
Luther  
King, Jr.**

## Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)

In the summer of 1963, King led more than 200,000 Americans to Washington, D.C. for a rally as a form of protest. At the Lincoln Memorial, speaker after speaker spoke of an America that not only spoke of freedom and liberty for all but a country that followed its beliefs. This **March on Washington** awoke many Americans to the continued injustice suffered by non-whites.



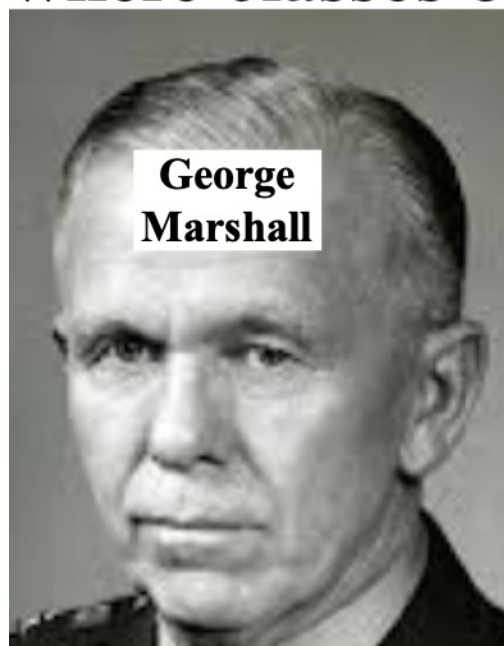


## **Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)**

The next year, 1964, during **Freedom Summer**, several groups tried to register African-Americans in the south during the summer in order to give them more say in the government and in their lives. Violence ensued. Because of **President Lyndon Johnson** (1963-1969), the U.S. Congress passed the **Civil Rights Act of 1964** and 1965, further eliminating discrimination against African-Americans. Other minority groups were inspired by King's successes. For example, the women's rights movement helped to end much gender-based discrimination. Other civil rights groups did not preach nonviolence, such as the Black Panthers, and after King's assassination in 1968, "Black Power" replaced the civil rights movement, stressing the need for African-Americans to do whatever was necessary to achieve equality.

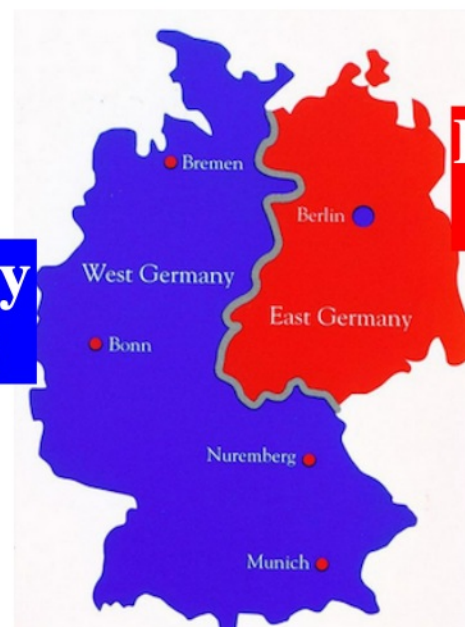
## Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)

Western Europe rebuilt after World War II. The **Marshall Plan**, named in 1948 after its creator, U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall, helped restore European economies by providing U.S. aid. Part of the aim of the Marshall Plan was to keep **democracy** (a system of government led by and for the whole population of a country, usually through representation) alive in Europe and prevent **communism** (a country where the government owns everything for the good of its people and where classes of society do not exist) from spreading there.



George  
Marshall

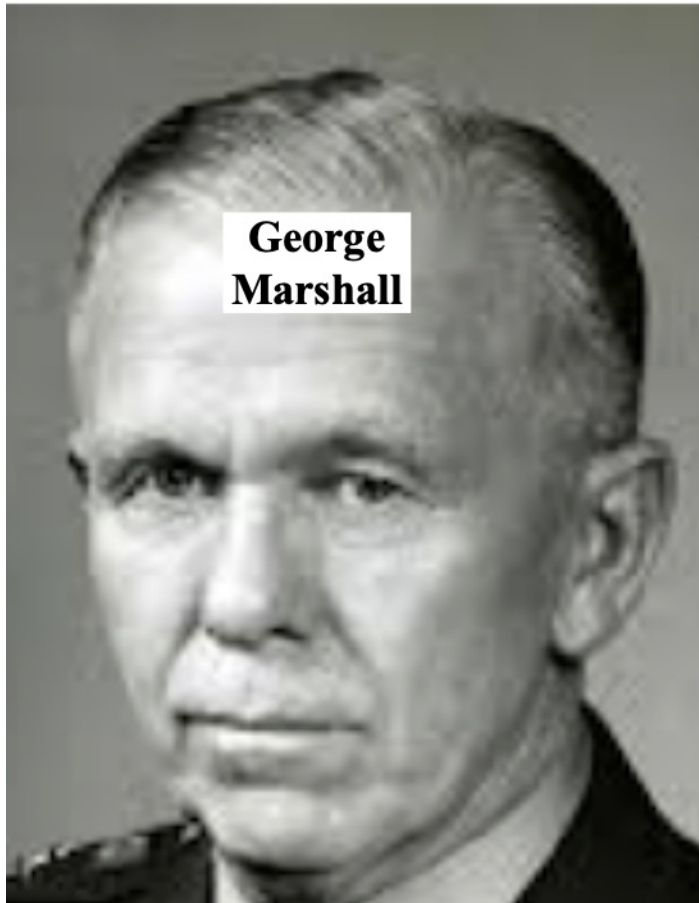
West Germany  
(democratic)



East Germany  
(communist)

## Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)

The goal was to allow **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) and **free market economies** (an economic system based on buyers and sellers with little or no government control) to grow.

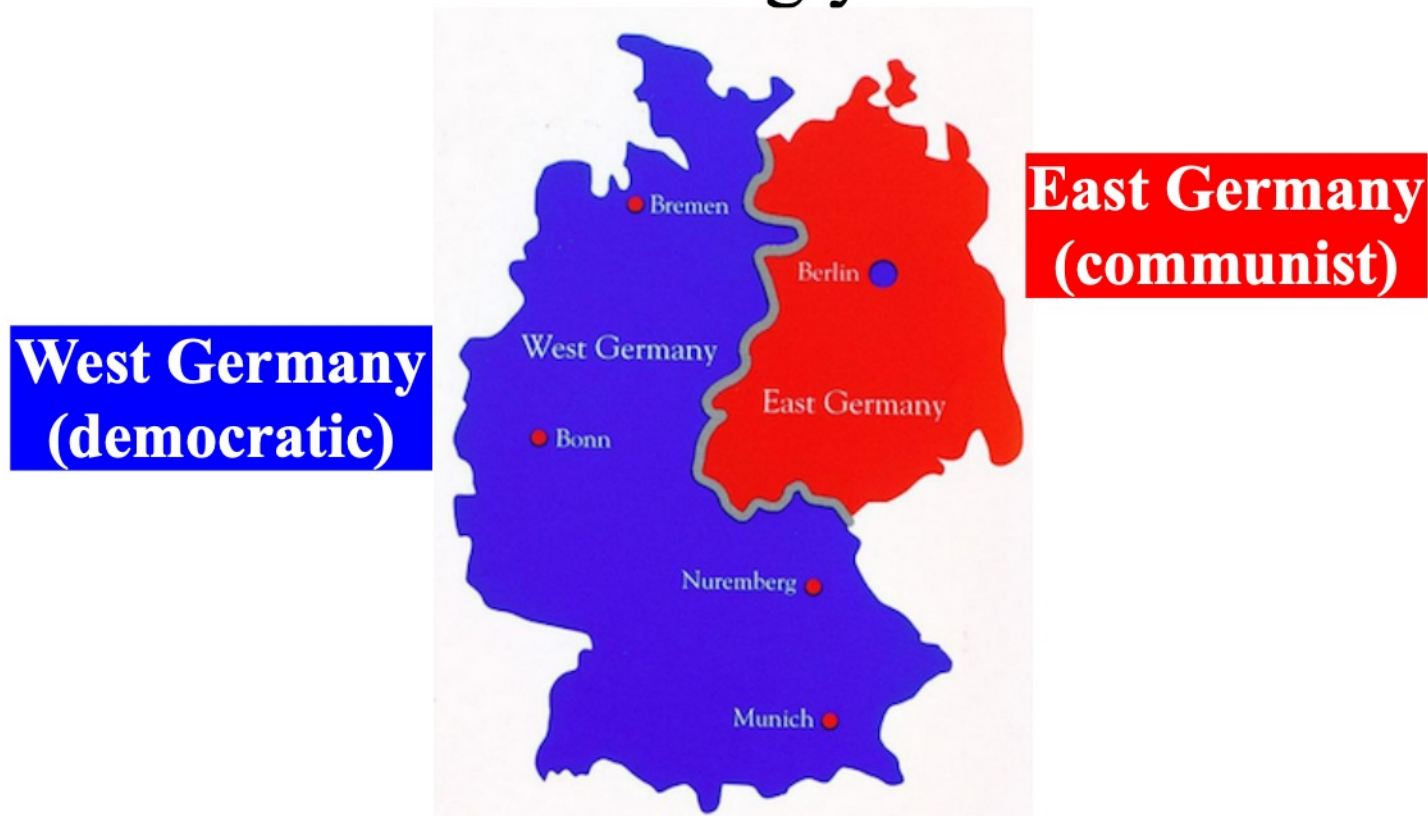


**George  
Marshall**



## Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)

After the war, Germany was divided into two different countries, the communist **East Germany** and the democratic **West Germany**, but reunited at the end of the Cold War in 1990. Under Konrad Adenauer, West Germany's chancellor from 1949 to 1963, West Germany built modern cities and re-established trade with the world, while communist East Germany stayed isolated and increasingly had economic problems.



## Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)

European governments also developed programs that increased government responsibility for the needs of people. These **welfare states** required high taxes to pay for their programs. During the 1980s, some leaders, such as Britain's Margaret Thatcher, reduced the role of the government in the economy. Western Europe also moved closer to economic unity with the **European Union**, an organization dedicated to establishing free trade among its members and a common currency called the Euro.



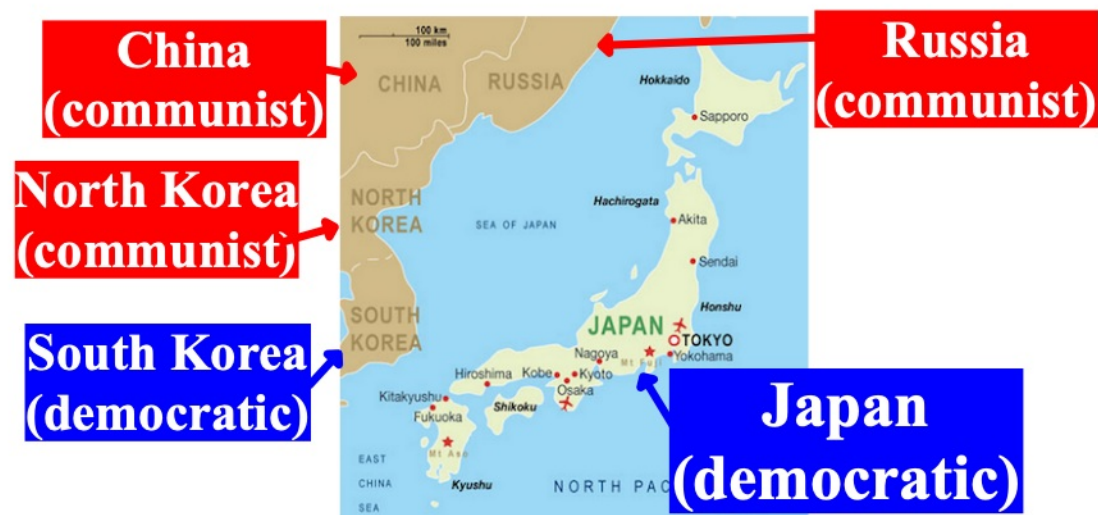
**Margaret  
Thatcher**



**European  
Union  
(democratic)**

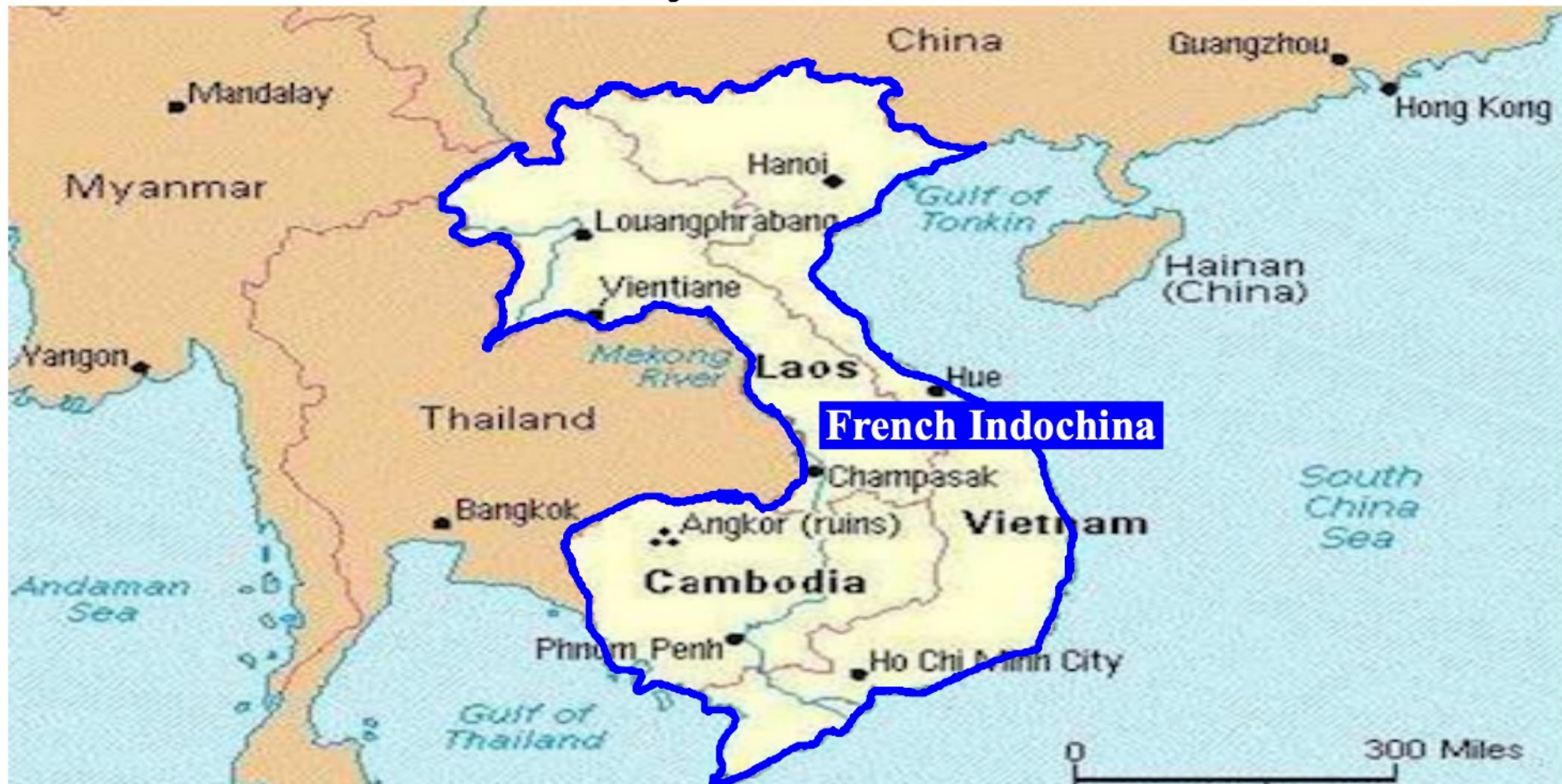
## Section 1: The Industrialized Democracies (cont.)

Japan also prospered after World War II, mostly due to American assistance. Just like in Europe, America was also concerned with keeping communism from spreading in Asia. Japan's **gross domestic product (GDP)** (a measure of how much a country spends in a year) soared. Like Germany, Japan built factories. The government protected industries by raising **tariffs** (taxes) on imported goods, making Japanese goods cheaper to buy than other countries' good sold in Japan. This helped create a trade surplus for Japan.



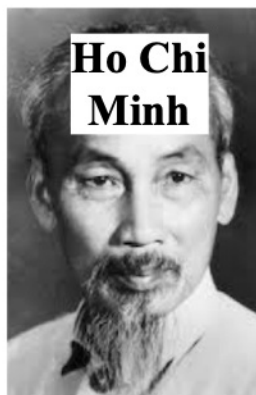
## Section 2: War in Southeast Asia

In the 1800s, France ruled the area in Southeast Asia called **French Indochina** (peninsula land directly south of China). During World War II, Japan controlled that region, but faced resistance from **guerrilla warfare** (those who use hit and run attacks against stronger forces). After the war, Japan left Vietnam and the French tried to reestablish its authority in Vietnam.



## Section 2: War in Southeast Asia (cont.)

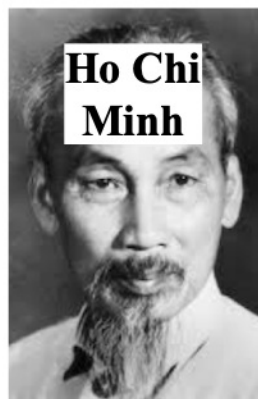
However, forces led by communist leader **Ho Chi Minh** (North Vietnamese communist dictator from 1945-1969) fought the French. The French left Vietnam in 1954 after the Vietnamese victory at **Dienbienphu**. After that, Ho Chi Minh controlled communist **North Vietnam** with China's support while the United States supported democratic **South Vietnam**.





## Section 2: War in Southeast Asia (cont.)

Ho Chi Minh wanted to unite Vietnam. He provided aid to the National Liberation Front, or **Viet Cong (VC)**, which was a communist guerrilla organization in South Vietnam that supported North Vietnam. American leaders saw Vietnam as an extension of the Cold War and developed the **domino theory**. This was the belief that if communists won in South Vietnam, then communism would spread to other governments in Southeast Asia. After a North Vietnamese attack on a U.S. Navy destroyer in 1964, Congress authorized the President to take military measures to prevent further communist aggression in Southeast Asia. The **Vietnam War (1964-1975)** began.



## Section 2: War in Southeast Asia (cont.)

Despite massive American support, the South Vietnamese failed to defeat the South Vietnamese Viet Cong (VC) and their North Vietnamese allies. In addition, the American attempt to win over the minds and hearts of those in North Vietnam in order to have a better chance of winning the war failed. Then, in early 1968, the North Vietnamese attacked cities all over the south in a surprise offensive called the **Tet Offensive**.



## Section 2: War in Southeast Asia (cont.)

Even though the communists were not able to hold any cities, the Tet Offensive marked a turning point in U.S. public opinion. Upset by civilian deaths from the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam as well as growing American casualties, many Americans began to oppose the war and anti-war protests increased throughout America. **U.S. President Nixon** (1969-1974) came under increasing pressure to terminate the conflict. To meet this goal, America began to put more and more responsibility of the war in the hands of the South Vietnamese. Called **Vietnamization**, this policy allowed America to exit the war. The Paris Peace Accord of 1973 established a ceasefire and American troops began to withdraw. Two years later, in 1975, communist North Vietnam conquered South Vietnam. Today Vietnam is a single, communist country.

## Section 2: War in Southeast Asia (cont.)

Neighboring **Cambodia** and **Laos** also ended up with communist governments. In Cambodia, guerrillas called the Khmer Rouge came to power. Led by the brutal dictator Pol Pot, their policies led to a genocide that killed about one third of the population. When Vietnam invaded Cambodia, the genocide ended. Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge were forced to retreat. Communism did not spread any farther in Southeast Asia.

**Laos  
(communist)**

**Cambodia  
(communist)**

**Vietnam  
(communist)**



## Section 3: The End of the Cold War

The **Soviet Union** (the name of Russia while it was communist from 1917-1991) emerged from World War II as a superpower with control over many Eastern European countries. For many people, the country's superpower status brought few rewards. Consumer goods were inferior and workers were poorly paid. Because workers had lifetime job security, there was little incentive to produce high-quality goods.



### Section 3: The End of the Cold War (cont.)

Still, the Soviet Union had some important technological successes. One example was **Sputnik**, the world's first artificial satellite, launched into space in 1957. But keeping up with the United States for decades in an arms race strained the Soviet economy. Then in 1979, Soviet forces invaded **Afghanistan** (country in central Asia directly south of the Soviet Union) and became involved in a long war. The Soviets had few successes battling the mujahedin, or **Muslim** (followers of the religion of Islam) religious warriors, creating a crisis in morale of money in the USSR (the official name of the Soviet Union).



**Soviet Union  
(communist)**

## Section 3: The End of the Cold War (cont.)

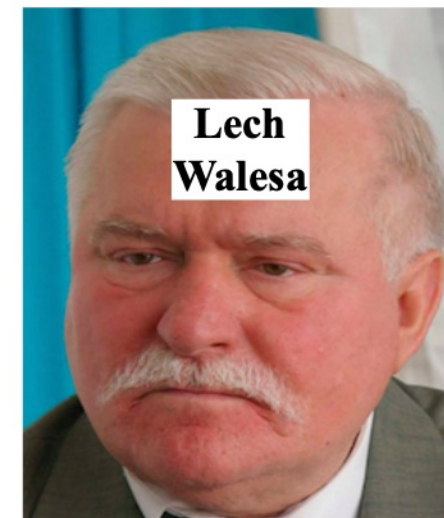
Then, new Soviet leader **Mikhail Gorbachev** (1985-1991) urged reforms. He called for **glasnost** (a policy within the Soviet Union of openly and frankly discussing economic and political realities). He ended censorship and encouraged people to discuss the country's problems. Gorbachev also called for **perestroika**, or a restructuring of the government and economy. His policies, however, fed unrest across the Soviet empire.



**Mikhail  
Gorbachev**

## Section 3: The End of the Cold War (cont.)

Eastern Europeans demanded an end to Soviet rule. Previous attempts to defy the Soviets had failed. When Hungarians and Czechs challenged the communist rulers in the past, military force subdued them. By the end of the 1980s, a powerful democracy movement was sweeping the region. In **Poland** (country in Europe between Germany and the Soviet Union), **Lech Walesa** led Solidarity, an independent, unlawful labor union demanding economic and political changes. When Gorbachev declared he would not interfere in Eastern European reforms, Solidarity was legalized. A year later, Walesa was elected president of an independent Poland.





## Section 3: The End of the Cold War (cont.)

Meanwhile, East German leaders resisted reform, and thousands of East Germans fled to the West. In Czechoslovakia, Václav Havel, a dissident writer, was elected president. One by one, communist governments fell. Most changes happened peacefully, but Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu refused to step down and he was executed. Many states regained independence. By the end of 1991, the remaining Soviet republics had all formed independent nations. On Christmas Day, 1991, the Soviet Union ceased to exist after 74 years of communist rule.

**Soviet Union (red border)  
(communist) 1917-1991**

**Russia (blue border)  
(democratic) 1991 on**



## Section 3: The End of the Cold War (cont.)

In 1992, Czechoslovakia was divided into Slovakia and the Czech Republic. Additionally, some communist governments in Asia, such as China, instituted economic reforms.

