

The Cold War c. 1945—1989

People of the Cold War

Winston Churchill—a staunch anti-communist he was keen to halt the spread of communism across Europe. Famously gave the ‘iron curtain’ speech at Fulton Missouri in 1946.

Franklin Roosevelt—his positive personal relationship with Churchill and Stalin meant that the alliance worked & decisions were made. Without him the relationship collapsed.

Joseph Stalin—could never understand why the allies would not allow him to hold power over Eastern European countries to prevent future threat of invasion from the West. An extremely paranoid dictator.

Harry Truman—the American President who succeeded Roosevelt hated communism, viewing it as a disease that needed to be contained. He was convinced that communists were attempting to take over the world & as leader of the free world it was up to him to stop it.

Hot war/ cold war: When WWII ended, the allies and Soviet Union returned to bickering & arguing in a war of propaganda.

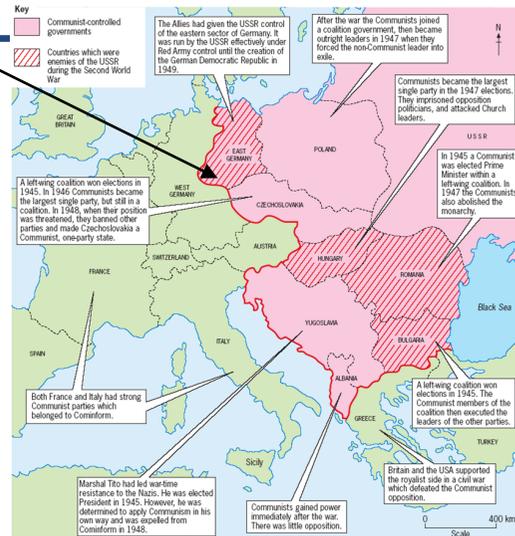
Yalta & Potsdam: A great deal was agreed at Yalta & post war Europe was re-drawn. At Potsdam the leaders disagreed on every point.

The atomic bomb: A bomb was tested by the Americans whilst the Potsdam Conference was in session. An arms race quickly developed.

Churchill’s Fulton Speech: A speech attacking Soviet expansion which referred to ‘an iron curtain’ descending across Europe.

The Truman Doctrine & Marshall Plan: Attempts by the USA to halt the spread of communism using money & promises of military support.

The Berlin Blockade: Stalin cut off supplies to West Berlin due to alleged “technical difficulties & shortage of coal”. The allies responded by airlifting in supplies.



Key words

Conflict: a struggle between two or more opposing forces, ideas, interests

Propaganda: information used to promote a political cause or idea

Democracy: a system where all of the people choose their leaders

Dictator: a leader who has complete power in a country.

Communism: all property is owned by the state and all people contribute and receive.

Capitalism: all trade and industry are owned by individuals rather than the state.

Soviet Union: the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics communist Russia (USSR).

Bizonia: the combination of the American and the British occupation zones of Germany on 1st January 1947.

Containment: The policy of the USA which aimed at halting the spread of communism.

1000 - 1483

Medieval England

Norman - Angevin - Plantagenet

1500 - 1750

Early Modern England

Renaissance - Tudor - Stuart

1750 - 1900 Modern Britain

Industrial Revolution
Hannovarian

1900 - 2000

20th Century Britain

Great War - WWII - Cold War