

CAUSES OF THE COLD WAR



Essential Understanding

- The **Cold War** set the framework for **global politics** for **45** years after WW2, and influenced **domestic** politics and the role of **government** in the economy.



The U.S. & Soviet Union had different **goals** and **ideologies** (ways of thinking about things), this **intensified** the Cold War.

Capitalism &
Democracy

United States

Soviet Union:

Dictatorship



Contain
Communism

Spread
Communism

● The Cold War lasted from about 1945 to the **COLLAPSE** of the **Soviet Union** in 1991.”



Post-War Outcomes

- **Soviet** forces occupied most of **Eastern and Central Europe** and eastern Germany. **West Germany** became **democratic** while **East Germany** remained under **Soviet domination**.



•

Post-War Germany



The Division of Berlin



- In response to the Soviets attempt to take over Berlin, in 1949, the United States and Great Britain -



Airlifted food and supplies to the people of West Berlin.

The Berlin Wall Goes Up (1961)



**Checkpoint
Charlie**

Europe was in Ruins

- Much of Europe was in **ruins** following World War II. **Soviet forces** occupied most of Eastern and Central Europe and the **eastern** portion of Germany AND WEST BERLIN
- The United States felt it was in its best interest to **rebuild** Europe and prevent **political** and **economic instability**.



- The United States instituted the **Marshall** plan to rebuild **Europe**. The Marshall Plan provided massive **financial aid** to rebuild European economies and prevent the spread of communism.

Post-War Outcomes

- Following its defeat, **Japan** was occupied by **American** forces.



- When it returned to self-government, it became a **democracy** and a strong **ally** of the United States.



REBUILDING JAPAN



- The U.S. and other nations imposed strict limitations on Japan after the war.
- **General Mac Arthur** was responsible for overseeing the rebuilding of Japan and the organization of the new government.
- Japan's Constitution was modeled after the U.S. Constitution.



The plan of government in Japan is still referred to as "Mac Arthur's Constitution".

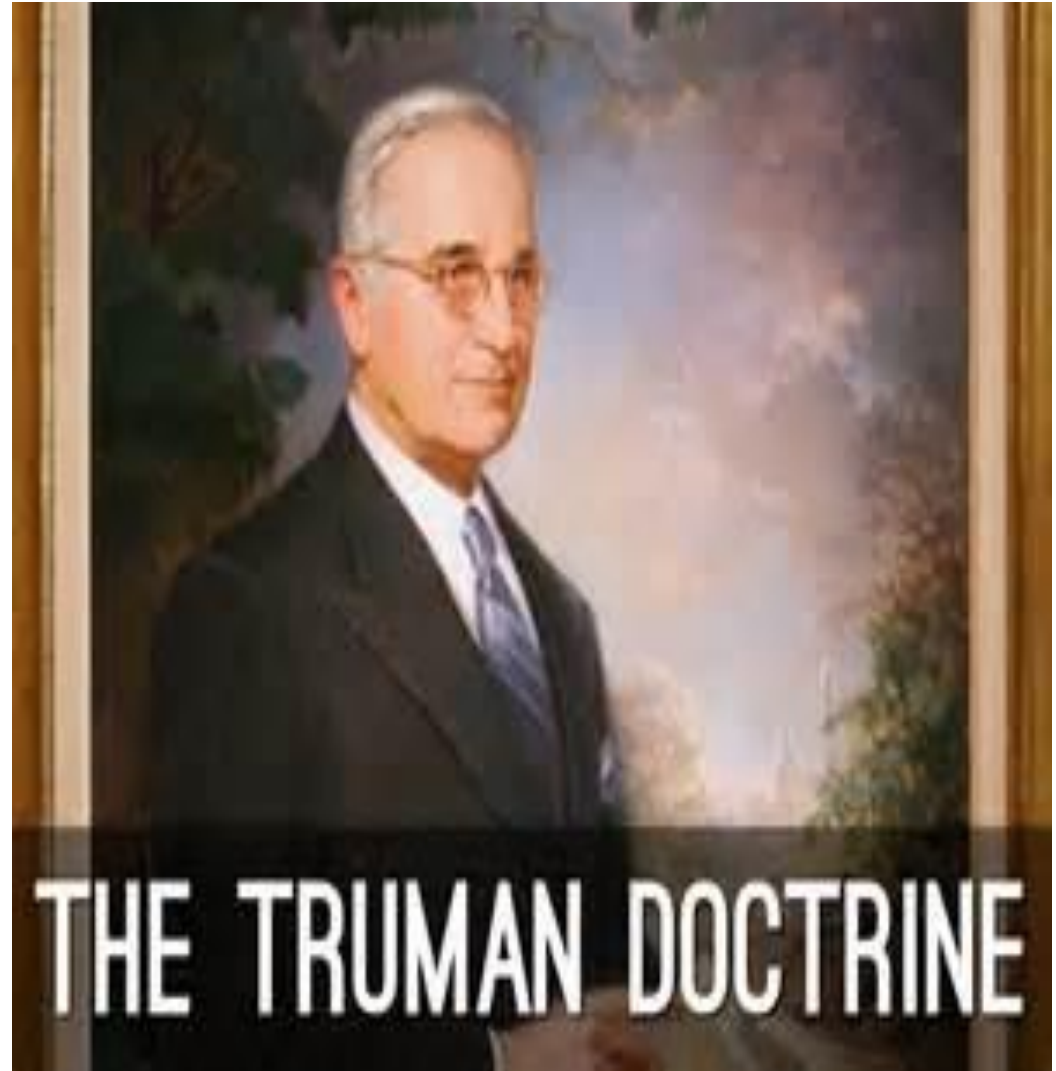
Post-War Outcomes


- The **United Nations** was created near the end of WWII to create a body for the nations of the world to try to prevent future **global wars.**



Basic US Cold War Policy

- The **Truman Doctrine** of “containment of communism” was a guiding principle throughout the Cold War.
= Not to roll it **back** but To keep it from **spreading** and resist **communist** aggression into other countries.
- The US launched the **Marshall Plan** to provide massive **financial aid** to rebuild **European economies** and prevent the spread of communism there.



A low-angle photograph of several nuclear missiles, likely Minuteman III, pointing upwards towards a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The missiles are arranged in a diagonal line from the bottom left towards the top right. Each missile has a white body with black bands and a red nose cone. The perspective creates a sense of depth and scale.

After the Soviets **matched** the US in nuclear weaponry, the **threat** of a **war** that would **destroy** both was ever present.

Under President **Eisenhower** the US adopted a policy of **“massive retaliation”** to deter any nuclear strike by the Soviets.

The **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)** was formed as a **defensive alliance** to prevent a Soviet invasion of Western Europe.



North Atlantic Treaty Organization (1949)



- ❖ United States
- ❖ Belgium
- ❖ Britain
- ❖ Canada
- ❖ Denmark
- ❖ France
- ❖ Iceland
- ❖ Italy



- ❖ Luxemburg
- ❖ Netherlands
- ❖ Norway
- ❖ Portugal
- ❖ 1952: Greece & Turkey
- ❖ 1955: West Germany
- ❖ 1983: Spain

The **Soviet allies** in eastern Europe formed the **Warsaw Pact**.



For nearly **50** years both sides maintained large military **forces facing** each other in **Europe**.



Warsaw Pact (1955)

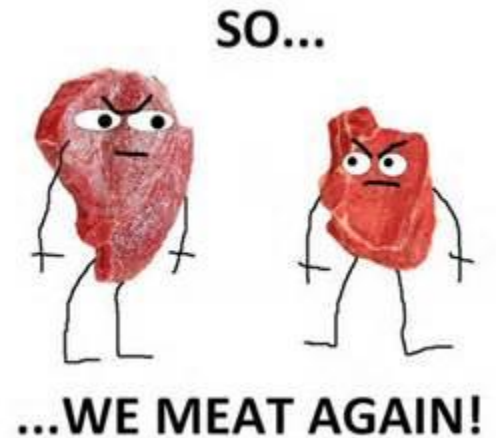


- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| } U. S. S. R. | } East Germany |
| } Albania | } Hungary |
| } Bulgaria | } Poland |
| } Czechoslovakia | } Rumania |

The **communist** takeover in **China** shortly after WWII **increased** American **fears** of a communist world.

Rather than strong allies, **China** and the **Soviet Union** became **rivals** for territory and influence

Under President **Nixon** in the **1970s**, the US **exploited** this .



Cold War...Hot Spots



The US government's anti-communist strategy of containment led to **involvement** in **two wars** in **Asia** and a **near war** in the **western hemisphere**, close to home.

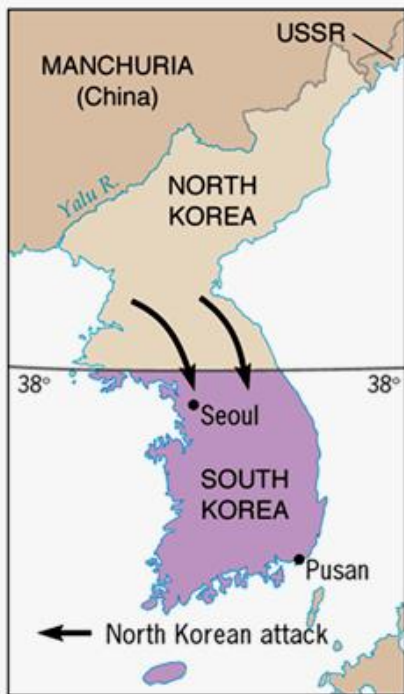


The Korean War

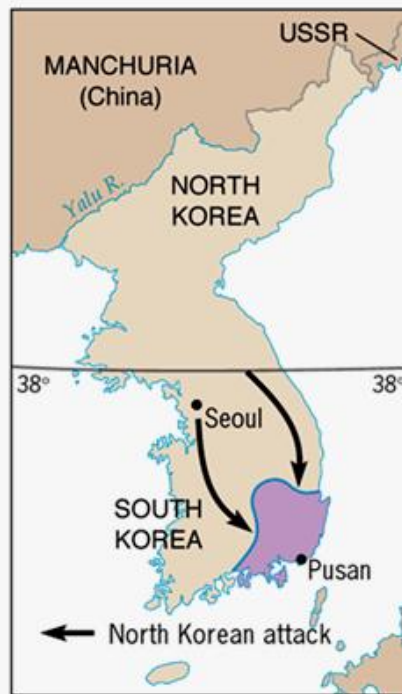
- After communist **North** Korea invaded South Korea, American military forces led a **United Nations** counterattack that drove deep into North Korea. The war eventually ended in a **stalemate**. Communism was **contained**, however.



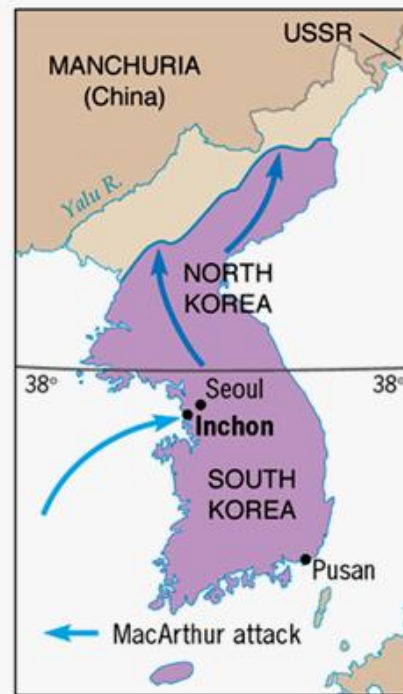
The Shifting Map of Korea [1950-1953]



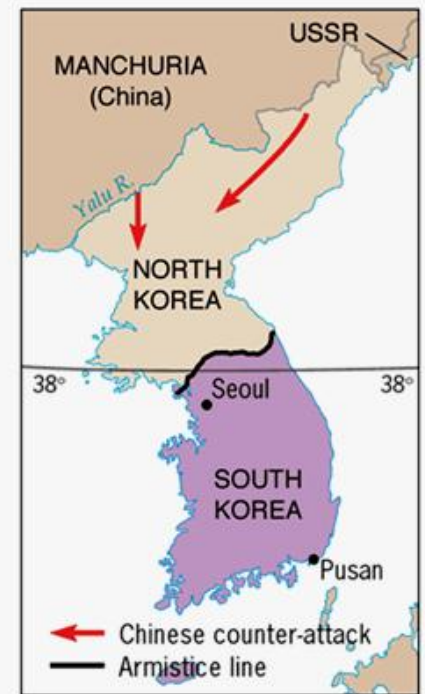
June 25, 1950



Sept. 14, 1950



Nov. 25, 1950



July 27, 1953

The Vietnam War

The US involvement in **Vietnam** showed the power of American public **opinion** in **reversing foreign** policy. It **tested** the **democratic** system to its limits and left

scars on American society that have not yet been erased. It made many **Americans** deeply **skeptical** of future **military** or even peacekeeping interventions.





Beginning in the 1950s and continuing to the early 1960s, the **communist** government of **North** Vietnam attempted to install a communist government through force in **South** Vietnam. Following the policy of containment, the US **helped South Vietnam** resist.



17th Parallel



The Vietnam War

In his **inaugural** address, President Kennedy pledged the US would “pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, **support** any friend, **oppose** any foe, in order to assure **liberty**.” ALSO “**Ask** not what your country can do for you, **ask** what **you** can do for your country.”

The American military buildup in Vietnam began with “**advisors**” under President Kennedy

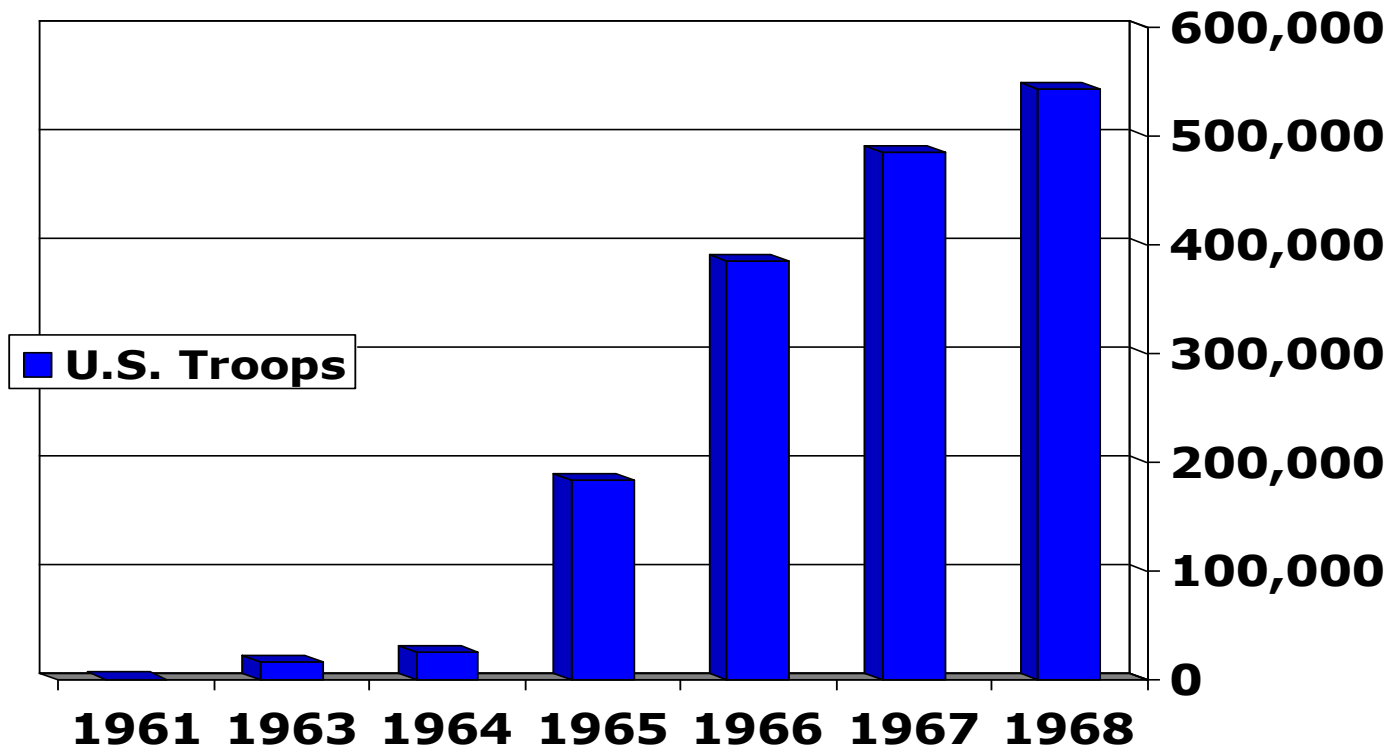




After President Kennedy was assassinated, in 1963, the buildup **intensified under** President Lyndon **Johnson**. The scale of **combat grew** over the 1960s.



U.S. Troop Deployments in Vietnam





American military forces repeatedly defeated the **North** Vietnamese forces in the field, but could not force an end to the war on favorable terms by fighting a **limited** war.



The Ground War

1965-1968

- ⌘ No territorial goals
- ⌘ Body counts on TV every night (first "living room" war)



- ⌘ Viet Cong supplies over the Ho Chi Minh Trail

The Air War: A Napalm Attack



Who Is the Enemy?

⌘ Vietcong:

- ↳ Farmers by day; guerillas at night.
- ↳ Very patient people willing to accept many casualties.
- ↳ The US grossly underestimated their resolve and their resourcefulness.

The guerilla wins if he does not lose, the conventional army loses if it does not win.
-- Mao Zedong





War
"brought
home" by
television

The **country** became **bitterly divided**.
While there was **support** for the military
among many, **others opposed** the war
and active **opposition** to the war **grew**,
especially on **college** campuses.

Impact of the Vietnam War

Johnson announces (March, 1968):



*...I shall not
seek, and I will
not accept, the
nomination of my
party for another
term as your
President.*

After **Johnson declined** to seek **re-election**, President **Nixon** was **elected** on a pledge to bring the war to an honorable end.



“**Vietnamization**” was his policy to **withdraw US troops** and turn the fighting over to South Vietnam, with the U.S. military aid.



“Vietnamization” failed

Ultimately “**Vietnamization**” failed. The South Vietnamese were unable to resist invasion of the Soviet-supplied North Vietnamese army. In **1975** the country was united under **communist rule**.

Unlike returning WWII veterans, who came home to cheers, **Vietnam veterans** often returned to outright **hostility**. It took years to heal America. Today, Vietnam veterans are honored for their service and sacrifices.



A United Vietnam

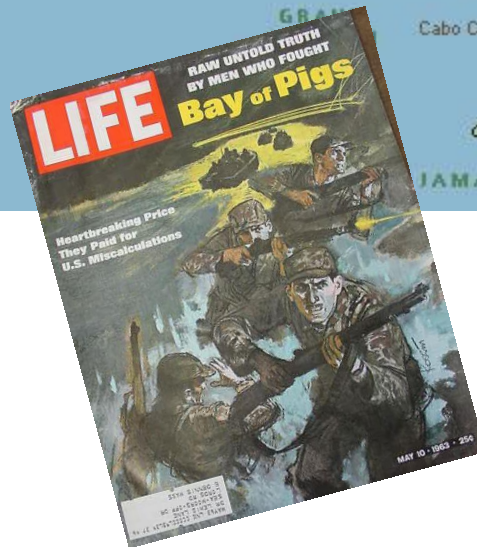
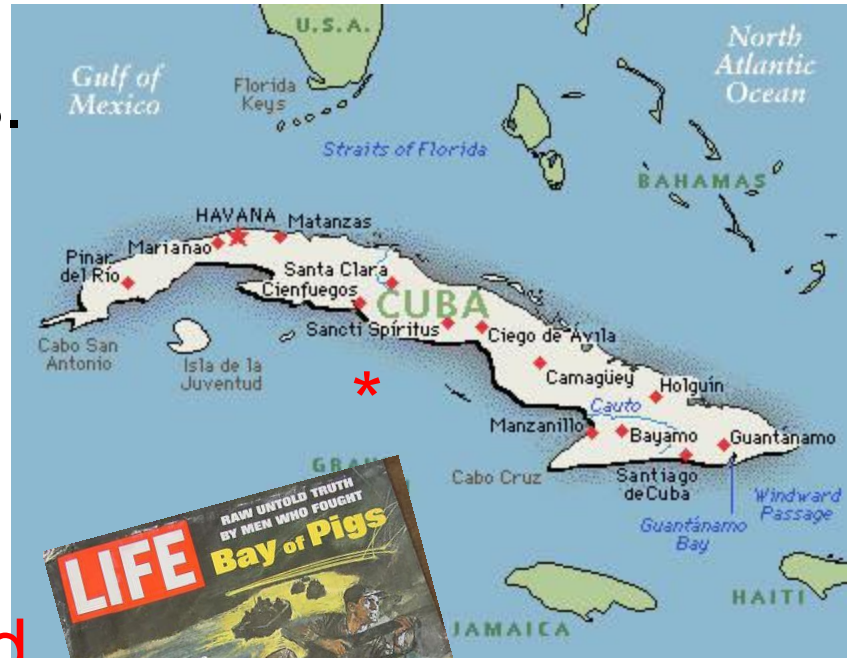


The Cold War—Cuba

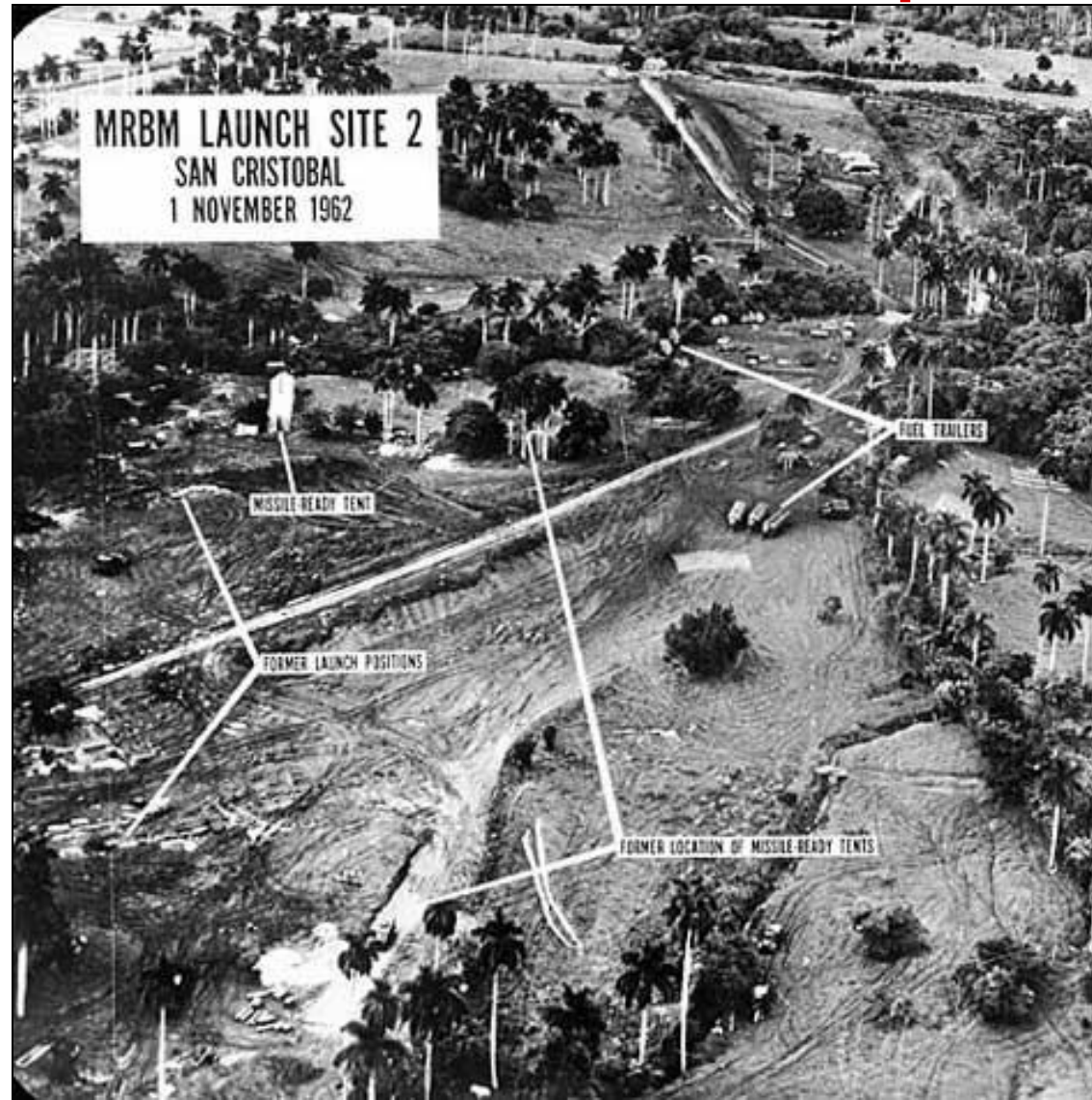
Cuba was also the site of a Cold War confrontation. **Fidel Castro** led a **communist revolution** in the late 1950s.



Many Cubans fled to Florida and later **attempted** to **overthrow** Castro in the **failed Bay of Pigs** invasion.



Next Crisis under Kennedy! What would you do? View from our U2 planes



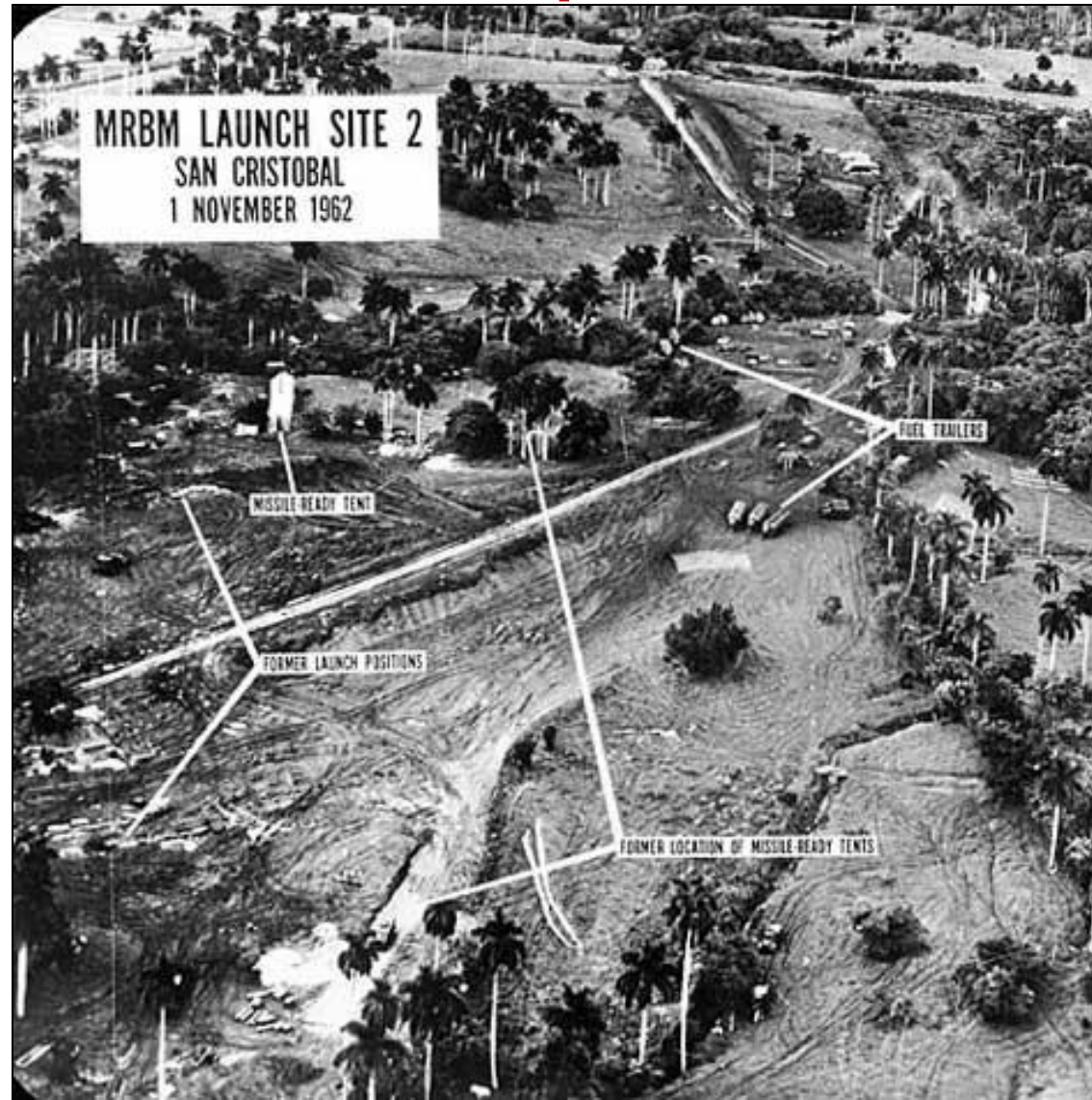
The Cold War—Cuba



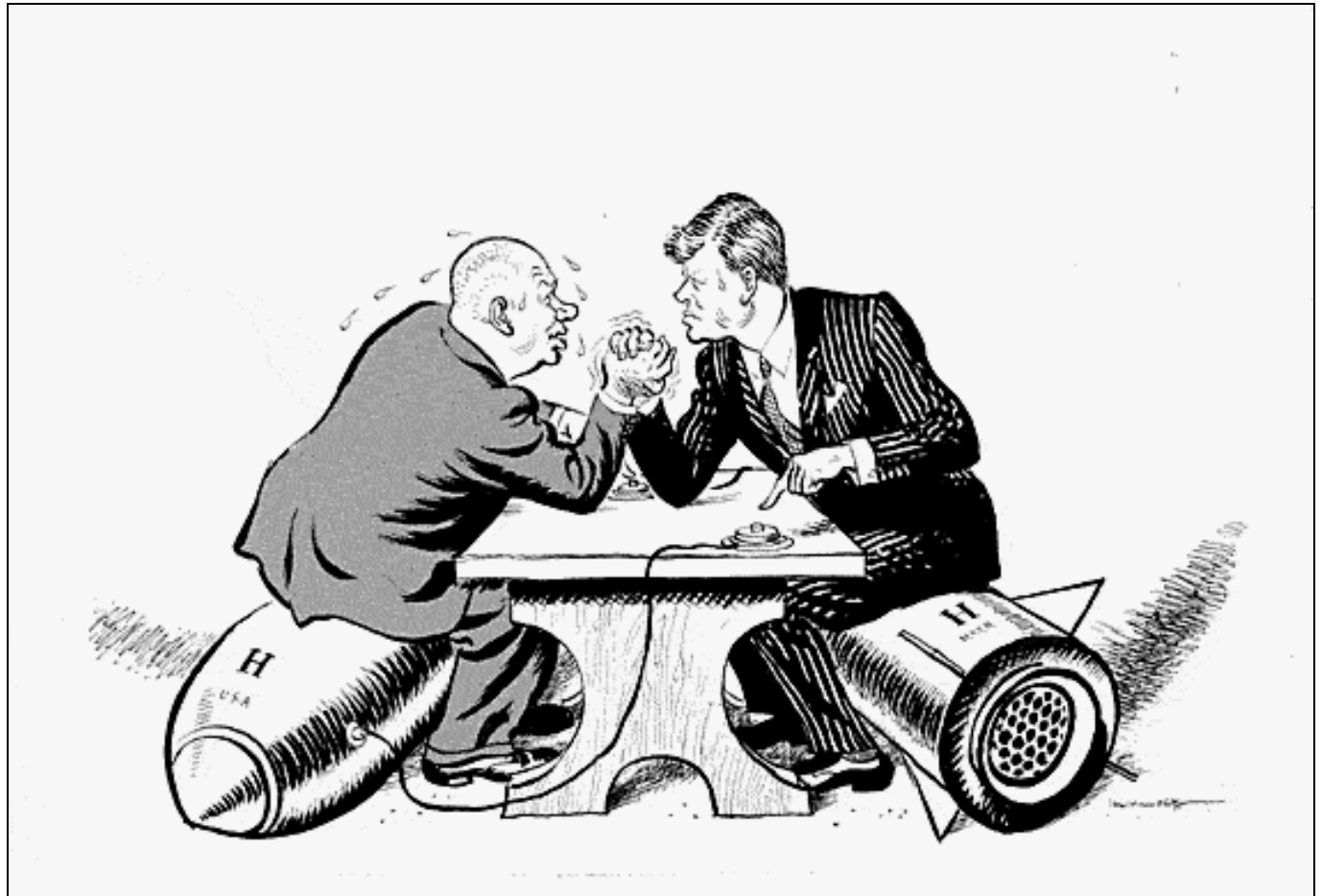
In 1962 the Soviets stationed missiles in Cuba. President Kennedy ordered them to remove their missiles. For several days, the world was on the brink of nuclear war! In the end, the Soviet leadership “blinked” and removed their missiles.



Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)—view from our U2 planes



Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)



We went eyeball-to-eyeball with the Russians, and the other man blinked!

Cold War Foreign Policy

The cold War made foreign policy a major issue in every election during the period.



- **President Kennedy**, a WWII veteran was **assassinated** in 1963 in Dallas, Texas. This began a period of internal strife and divisiveness spurred by division over Vietnam
- **President Nixon** was forced from office by the **Watergate scandal**. He **resigned** before being **impeached**.

Cold War Foreign Policy



A **strong military** was the key to America's victory over the Soviet Union in the Cold War.

Millions of Americans **served**, defending freedom **in** wars and **conflicts that were not always popular**. Many were killed or wounded. As a result of their service,

American ideals of **freedom** and **democracy prevailed** over Soviet communism.



Virginia and the Cold War

The heavy **military expenditures** during the Cold War **benefited** Virginia's **economy** more than any other state. Especially **Hampton Roads** with several large naval and air bases and **Northern Virginia** home to the Pentagon and many private contractors.



Cold War at Home



The **fear of communism** and the threat of **nuclear war** affected American life throughout the Cold War.

During the 1950s and 1960s, **schools held drills** to train children what to do in a nuclear attack and **people** were urged to **build bomb shelters** in their basements or underground in their yards.





Cold War at Home

Fears were increased by the conviction of **Julius and Ethel Rosenberg** and **Alger Hiss** for **spying** for the Soviet Union.



Senator Joseph **McCarthy** played on those fears accusing many government officials based on

flimsy or no evidence.

McCarthyism = false accusation based on rumor.



Alger Hiss. What does perjury mean?



Rosenbergs



"IT'S OKAY --- WE'RE HUNTING COMMUNISTS"



- What do you think the term McCarthyism means?



End of Cold War



Both **internal** and **external pressure** caused the **collapse** of the **Soviet Union**. Internal pressures: Nationalism in the Soviet republics + Gorbachev “glasnost” and “perestroika” (openness and economic restructuring) policies + increasing military expenses + economic inefficiencies all were factors.



Commonwealth of Independent States

End of Cold War



External pressures: In the US, President Reagan challenged the moral legitimacy of the Soviet Union. One example was his speech at the Berlin Wall



where he said, “Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.”

Reagan’s increased military spending AND economic pressure on the Soviet Union (Arms and Space Race).



Star Wars Defense System



Berlin Wall Speech

Internal Pressures

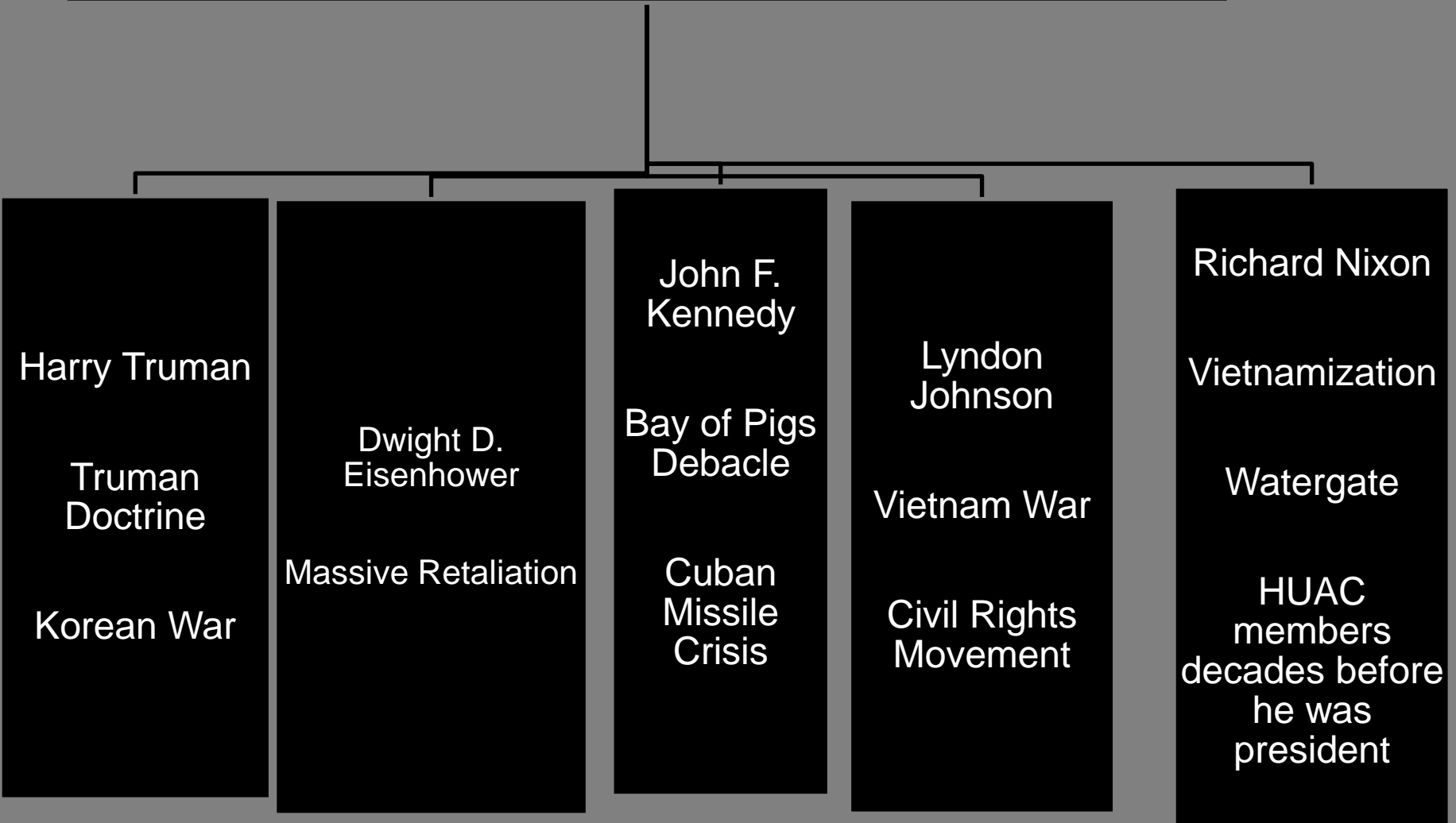
- Increasing Soviet military expenses to compete with the United States
- Rising nationalism in Soviet republics
- Fast-paced reforms (market economy)
- Economic inefficiency
- Gorbachev “glasnost” and “perestroika” (openness and economic restructuring)

External Pressures

Role of President Reagan:

- Challenged moral legitimacy of the Soviet Union; for example, the speech at Berlin Wall (“Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall”) or when he called them an “Evil Empire”
- Increased U.S. military AND economic pressure on the Soviet Union (Arms and Space Race)

Presidents During the Cold War



Post Cold War Policy—New Goals

With the end of the Cold War, the US **redirected** its **goals** and policies to focus on



foreign aid,

humanitarian aid

a support of **human** rights.



Humanitarian aid is generally accepted to mean the **aid** and action designed to save lives, alleviate suffering and maintain and protect human dignity during and in the aftermath of man-made crises and natural disasters, as well as to prevent and strengthen preparedness for the occurrence of such situations.

Foreign aid-- money, food, or other resources given or lent by one country to another.

Post Cold War Presidents' Foreign Policies



George H. W. Bush 1989-1993

- Fall of communism** in Eastern Europe
 - Reunification of Germany (and the Wall comes down to reunify Berlin)
 - Collapse of Yugoslavia
 - Break up of the Soviet nation

--**Persian Gulf War 1990-1991 (fought in Iraq)**

- First war where American combat roles

--**Operation Desert Storm**



Post Cold War Presidents' Foreign Policies



William J. Clinton, 1993-2001

--North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)



--Full diplomatic relations with Vietnam



--Lifted sanctions against S. Africa after end of apartheid (segregation)



--NATO action in former Yugoslavia (Bosnian War)



Post Cold War Presidents' Foreign Policies

George W. Bush, 2001-2009



--Terrorists attacks on 9/11 2001



--War in Iraq

--War in Afghanistan

