Origins of the Cold War

I. The West vs. the Soviet Union

A. Was There Any Way to Have Avoided the Cold War?

B. Deep Roots of Suspicion and Mistrust

C. Temporary Wartime Alliance

D. Conduct of the Cold War

A. Was There Any Way to Have Avoided the Cold War?

- 1. Western view—the Soviet Union started it
- 2. Soviet and New Left view—the United States started it
- 3. Mirror Image—individuals in prominent positions on both sides fostered it

B. Deep Roots of Suspicion and Mistrust

- 1. Bolshevik Revolution (November 1917)
 - a. Marxism vs. Capitalism
 - b. "Revolutionary" vs. "Bourgeois Diplomacy"
- 2. Russia Leaves the War (March 1918) Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
- 3. Allied intervention in Russia 1918–1920

Marxism and Its Sources

- A. Marxism can be seen to consist of three components:
 - 1. Dialectical Materialism (from German philosophers)
 - 2. A system of political economy (mostly from British economists)
 - 3. A theory of state and revolution (from French socialists)

Treaty of Brest-Litovsk (1918)



Russian Civil War



B. Deep Roots of Suspicion and Mistrust (continued)

- 4. Rapallo Treaty between Germany and the Soviet Union 1922
- 5. English and French Attitudes and Actions toward the Soviet
 Union in the 1930s
- 6. Stalin's Response to English and French Attitudes and Actions (Nazi-Soviet Pact)

Europe between the Wars



Munich 1938



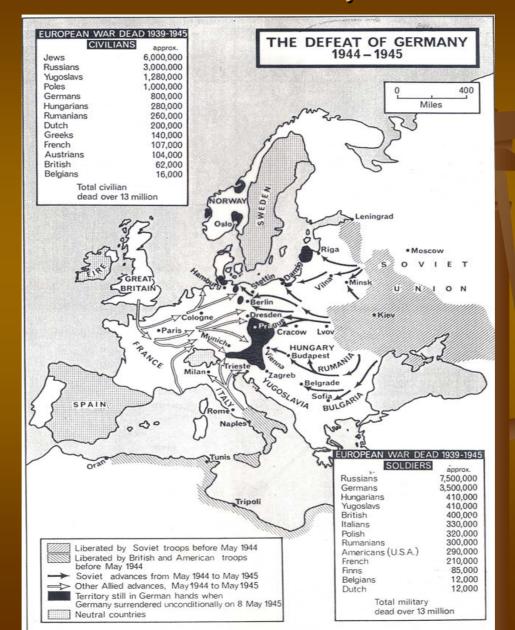
C. Temporary Wartime Alliance

- 1. Problem of the Second Front
- 2. Concern other side would seek a separate peace
- 3. Teheran 1943; Yalta 1945; Potsdam 1945
 - a. Great Britain (Winston Churchill to Clement Atlee)
 - b. United States (Franklin Delano Roosevelt to Harry S Truman)
 - c. Soviet Union (Joseph Stalin to Joseph Stalin)

World War II in Europe



The Defeat of Germany 1944-1945



Post-World War II Central Europe



D. Conduct of the Cold War

- 1. Foreign Policy (Mirror-Image) Assumptions
- 2. Action-Response Spiral
- 3. Creation of West Germany → the Berlin Blockade 1948–1949
- 4. Internal Phenomena Resulting from Cold War Mentality

1. Foreign Policy (Mirror-Image) Assumptions

- a. They are out to get us
- b. Brinkmanship, Games of Bluff, and Mutual Assured
 Destruction (MAD)
- c. The other empire is evil
- d. Any action taken in the national interest is moral and justified
- e. We have to maintain a large military force because they do

2. Action-Response Spiral

- a. London Conference (September 1945) Council of Foreign Ministers

 → Stalin's Speech (February 9, 1946)
 - → Churchill's "Iron Curtain" Speech (March 5, 1946)
 - → Stalin's Response to Churchill's Speech (March 13, 1946)
- b. Soviet occupation of Northern Iran (threat by HST to drop a-bomb, 1946)
- c. Marshall Plan (June 5, 1947) → Molotov Plan (October 5, 1947)
 - (1) Cominform (1947–1956)
 - (2) Council of Mutual Economic Assistance (Comecon) (Jan. 1949)

How Did the Allies Divide up Germany & Berlin?



3. Creation of West Germany → the Berlin Blockade 1948–1949

- a. Differing Views among the Occupying Powers of Governing Post-War Germany
- b. Formation of Bizonia by Great Britain and U.S. (January 1, 1946)
- c. Currency Reform for American, British, and French Zones (February 1948) new currency 'Deutsche Mark'
- d. Formation of Trizonia by France, Great Britain, and U.S. (May 1948)
- e. Berlin Airlift (June 24, 1948 to May 12, 1949)

5 German Deutsche Mark



How did Stalin React to Trizonia?

- 1948, Stalin blockaded all supply lines into Berlin (roads, railways & canals)
- 2 million Berliners faced starvation

How useful is this cartoon as an indicator of East-West relations in 1948?



2. Action-Response Spiral (continued)

- d. Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) created (May 23, 1949) → German Democratic Republic (East Germany) created (October 7, 1949)
- e. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (April 4, 1949) → Warsaw Pact (May 14, 1955)
- f. Refusal to Seat Communist China in UN → Soviet boycott of UN (1950) → UN Police Action in Korea (1950–1953)

4. Internal Phenomena Resulting from Cold War Mentality

