



Cold War

Origins

Revision

1945 - 1949

ORIGINS OF THE COLD WAR

Origins: the seeds of conflict



Even before WW2 ended there were reasons why the 'West' and the 'East' would split - The Russian Revolution, appeasement, the Nazi-Soviet Pact and the actions of both sides during the war made a post-war alliance look very unlikely.

The Potsdam Conference



After a successful meeting at Yalta little was agreed at Potsdam. Stalin now occupied Eastern Europe and the new leadership of the West had little time for Stalin.

The Eastern Bloc Formed



At Yalta, Stalin agreed to allow Eastern European countries under Soviet influence hold democratic elections.

By 1946 it became clear Stalin would not allow this to happen.

The Marshall Plan / Aid



As the West saw more countries fall under Stalin's control and following the 'Truman Doctrine' the USA decided to flood Europe with aid to help prop up the war-torn economies.

The Berlin Blockade



Berlin was deep inside the Soviet zone of a greater Germany.

To try and squeeze the West out of their zones in Berlin the Soviets blocked all road, canal and rail access.

The Berlin Airlift



Rather than give up and face a humiliating defeat over West Berlin, the USA began a massive airlift dropping supplies to the blockaded population.

Stalin allowed the planes to fly over the Soviet zone.

NATO Formed



NATO - North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, was a military alliance set up by the West.

This meant Europe was clearly split into two opposing alliances. The USA / West and USSR in the East.

Cominform + Comecon



Stalin enrolled all countries in influence into Cominform by 1947.

In response to Marshall Aid Stalin set up Comecon. A Soviet led economic alliance of communist countries.

Date	Cold War Timeline	1848 - 1949		
1848	Communist Manifesto - Karl Marx	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Oct 1917	The R _ _ _ _ _ Revolution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1918	International Cominterns set up in the West	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1918 - 21	Soviet Civil War - Britain supports the Whites	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1938	Appeasement - Munich Crisis (Stalin isolated)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aug 1939	The N _ _ _ S _ _ _ _ _ P _ _ _	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Feb 1945	The Y _ _ _ _ Conference	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aug 1945	Two U.S. a _ _ _ _ _ b _ _ _ _ _ end WW2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aug 1945	The P _ _ _ _ _ Conference	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1946	Eastern _ _ _ _ _ takes shape	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mar 1946	The _ _ _ _ _ Curtain Speech	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1946	The G _ _ _ _ _ Civil War Intensifies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jan 1947	B _ _ _ _ _ : US and Britain merge zones	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mar 1947	The _ _ _ _ _ Doctrine	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
June 1947	The _ _ _ _ _ Plan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
June 1948	The B _ _ _ _ _ B _ _ _ _ _	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1948 - 49	The B _ _ _ _ _ A _ _ _ _ _	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jan 1949	C _ _ _ _ _ established	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Apr 1949	N _ _ _ _ established	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Colour code the red circles to classify events into major causes.



Soviets to Blame



USA / West to Blame



No Blame Misunderstandings



Ideological Differences

Yalta Agreed



JAPAN

- Stalin agreed to enter the war and help the USA fight against Japan once Germany had surrendered.

ELECTIONS

- They agreed that as countries were liberated from occupation by the German army, they would be allowed to hold free, fair elections to choose the government they wanted.

WAR CRIMINALS

- The Big Three agreed to hunt down and punish war criminals who were responsible for the genocide in the Nazi concentration camps.

GERMANY

- They agreed that Germany would be divided into four zones amongst the Allies: USA, France, Britain and USSR.

UNITED NATIONS

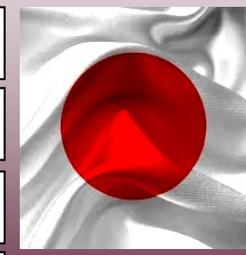
- The Big Three all agreed to join the new United Nations Organisation, which would aim to keep peace after the war.

EASTERN EUROPE

- The Big Three agreed that Eastern Europe should be seen as a 'Soviet sphere of influence' as Stalin was concerned about the future security of the USSR.

February 1945

Potsdam Agreements



Soviets can harvest their zone
USSR take any amount reparations

Bonus 10 % for Soviets
10% of reparations from other zones to USSR

Nazi War Criminals
To be captured and put on trial

Japan
Must surrender without condition

July 1945

Potsdam Disagreements



Stalin's Influence in East
Forming 'Eastern Bloc' - pro leaders in Poland

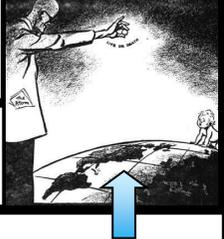
Boundaries for Zones
Disagreements at to where these should be

USSRs role ending war with Japan
USA now did NOT want Stalin involved.

Severity of German Punishment
Stalin wanted German crippled - USA did not

July 1945

Changes between Ya + Po

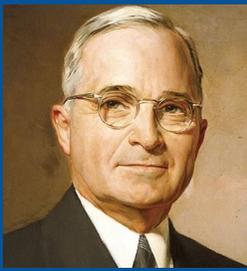


Leadership - less friendly
RIP FDR died - replaced by hardliner Truman.
Churchill replaced by Attlee

Eastern Bloc taking shape
Stalin had begun to insert pro communists into Eastern Europe - Poland.

US Atomic Weapon
The USA now tested this new weapon - advantage over Stalin (and Japan).
"If it works I'll sure have a hammer on these boys" - Harry Truman.

US President Harry Truman



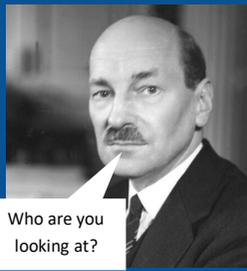
President at Potsdam Conference.

Did not like Stalin and was openly anti-communist.

Aim = to limit Stalin's influence in eastern Europe and backtrack on idea that the USSR should join the fight against Japan. Did not want Germany crippled after WW2.

"tired of babying the Soviets"

British PM - Clement Attlee



British Prime Minister.

He took over from Churchill at Potsdam - who had lost the British general election in July 1945.

Although a socialist he became increasingly concerned about Stalin and his tactics in Eastern Europe.

Who are you looking at?

"anti-Communist struggle"

Stalin + Eastern Bloc



Stalin wanted a **buffer zone** of pro-Soviet countries.

He (justifiably?) said he wanted to stop invasion from the West as in WW1 + WW2.

Salami Tactics = take each part, country by country - rigged voting, violence + murder.

" If the Slav (majority of east European) people are united no one will dare move against them" Stalin

1945 - 49

Iron Curtain Speech



Churchill's words were clear enough. This was a turning point - arguably the start of the Cold War!

"From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic an **iron curtain** has descended across the continent."

March 1946

Yalta and Potsdam = 

Stalin + Eastern Bloc = 

Marshall Plan / Aid = 

Berlin Blockade / Airlift = 

Unit Overview = 

Poland



After WW2 Communists joined a coalition government then took over as the majority.

Other non-communist party leaders were forced into exile.

Formation of the Eastern Bloc - 1947

Hungary



Communists took over the majority of the government.

Opposition leaders put in prison.

Church leaders attacked.

Formation of the Eastern Bloc - by 1947

Czechoslovakia



Communists took over the majority of the government.

Then banned all other parties thus creating a **ONE party, communist state.**

Formation of the Eastern Bloc - by 1948

Meanwhile ... Greece Civil War

Communists V Monarchists

Civil war started after Nazis abandoned Greece

Communist Winning

Britain unable to continue to help monarchists

Britain Appealed

To the USA to help in fight to stop communists

Impact = USA Support

One of the reasons for Marshall Aid / Plan



1945 - 49

Truman Doctrine



"I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation."

Nutshell = USA to stand against Stalin's Expansion in Europe

March 1947

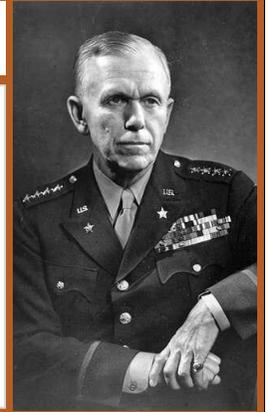
George Marshall

U.S. Secretary of State.

Believed that the best way to stop communism was to make people prosper.

He crafted and delivered the generous and far-sighted Marshall Plan.

He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953.



Marshall Aid



George Marshall believed every country in Europe was so poor it was in danger of falling to communism. He felt that US aid was needed to stop ...

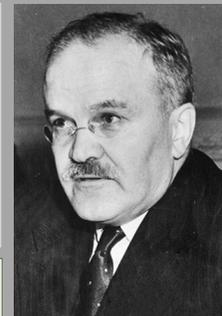
\$13 billion dollars.

1947

Vyacheslav Molotov / Plan

Stalin's Minister of Foreign Affairs

He attacked the Marshall Plan naming it "Dollar Imperialism". He rejected any idea of allowing U.S aid into the Eastern Bloc. He created his own economic plan that developed into COMECON.



"Dollar Imperialism"

Cominform



Cominform was an alliance of the communist parties / governments in Europe to coordinate their activity **under the direction of Stalin** during the early Cold War.

October 1947 = Communist Club

Cold War Origins - Revision 1 of 2

Part 1 - is a free member resource.

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