

UNIT IV: THE COLD WAR

4.1 – 4.3

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE DEFINING EVENT OF THE 20TH CENTURY WAS; WORLD WAR I, COMMUNISM, RADIO, TALKING FILMS, THE GREAT DEPRESSION, WORLD WAR II, ATOMIC BOMBS, TELEVISION, THE EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET, SPACE TRAVEL, VIETNAM ... ?



THE DEATH OF ELVIS

Lincoln

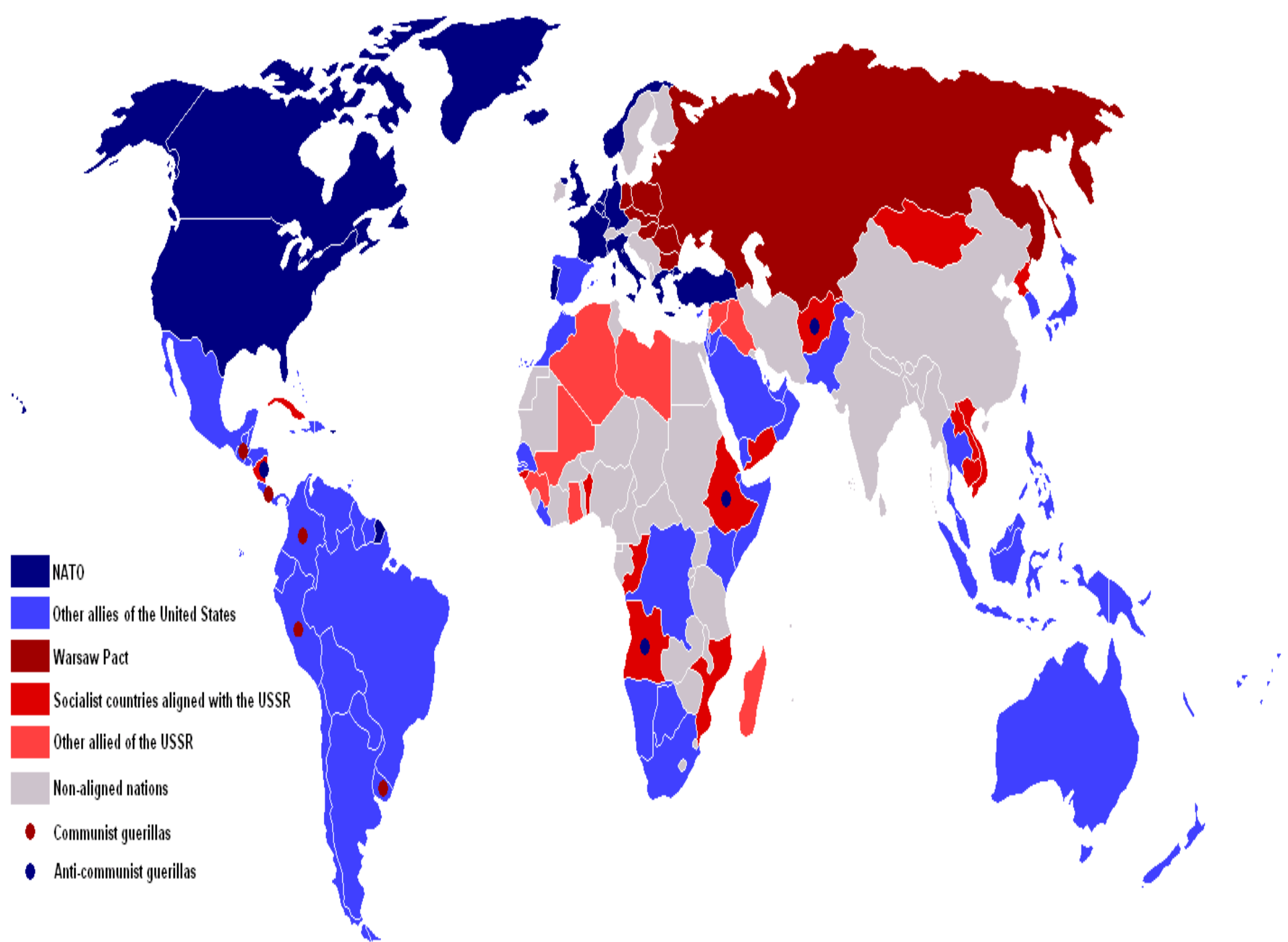
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The Cold War





Meeting the Aliens

- Soviet and American troops meet at the Elbe River in Germany in April 1945.
- Both were surprised at how “normal” the others were...



Let's Go Back.....

- Russian Civil War 1917 – 1922 ??????
- Yalta and Potsdam - ??????????????????????????????
- What is a Superpower????
- Who were the superpowers after W.W.II?

What was the Cold War?

- Period of **high tension between the 2 superpowers, the US and the USSR, from 1945-1990.**
- Often considered a war **between communism and capitalism**
- Involved **threat of war rather than open conflict**

- As the 2 dominant powers after WWII, the US and the USSR affected every country in the world
- They both thought **THEIR** way was the best way
- When they got along, everyone exhaled. But when they clashed over an issue, the world held its breath.
- Open conflict could mean **NUCLEAR WAR!!!**

From Allies to Enemies

- Relations deteriorated very quickly because of 2 key speeches:
 1. **Stalin's 'Two Hostile Camps' speech**
 2. **Churchill's 'Iron Curtain' speech**

Joseph Stalin

- In **Feb. 9th, 1946**, Stalin gave a speech to voters in Moscow.
- In it he predicted that the unevenness of development in capitalist countries would result in a split of **two hostile camps** with war the inevitable result.
- He also warned that the future would not bring internal or external peace.

Two Hostile Camps Speech

- In Washington Stalin's words were interpreted to mean that war with the West was inevitable.
- [Copy of His Speech](#)



Winston Churchill

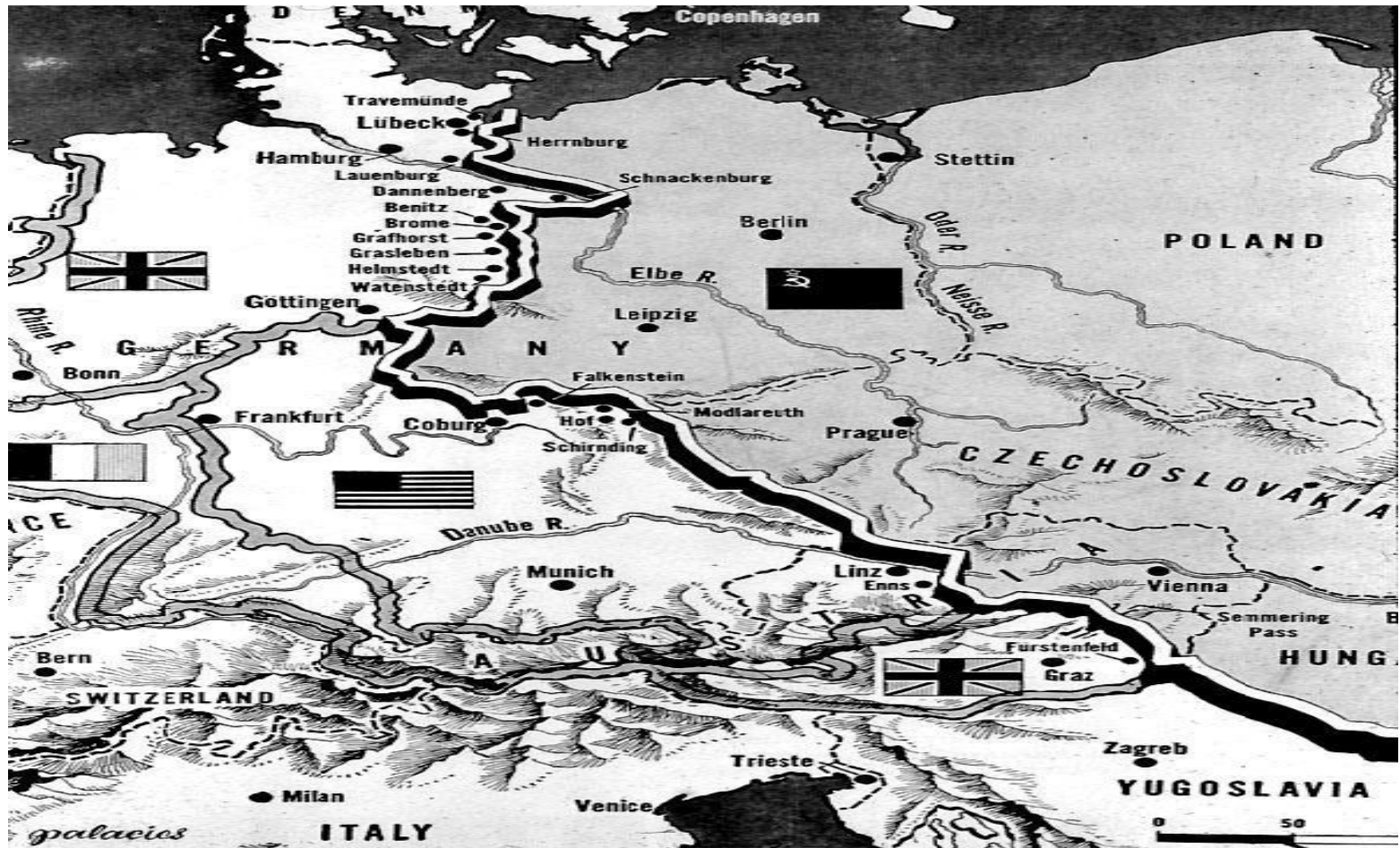
- Winston Churchill's "Sinews of Peace" address of **5 March 1946**, at Westminster College, used the term "**iron curtain**" in the context of Soviet-dominated Eastern Europe
- Winston Churchill gave this speech at Westminster College, in Fulton, Missouri, after receiving an honorary degree.
- With typical oratorical skills, Church introduced the phrase "Iron Curtain" to describe the division between Western powers and the area controlled by the Soviet Union.

Iron Curtain

- His speech convinced many Americans that **Truman's** "get tough" approach to the soviets was the right one.
- As such the speech marks the onset of the Cold War. The speech was very long, and here excerpts are presented.
- **Churchill Sinews of Peace (Iron Curtain)**
- **Speech**



“An iron curtain has descended..”



DBQ

- What is the source about?
- Which views are represented in the cartoon?
- What does the source reveal about Western attitudes toward the Soviet Union?

