

What problems will the world have to deal with now that World War II is over???

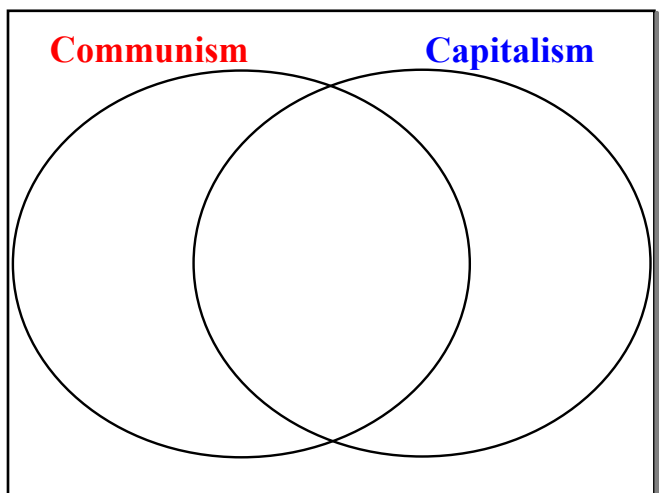
- Come up with three predictions

Cold War =

- Time period that started after WWII and lasted until 1989 (or 1991)
- Conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union
- **Capitalism/Democracy** vs. **Communism**
- Very tense period of time because of the new threat of nuclear war

'Superpowers'

- The United States and USSR were considered the two superpowers of the world
- First two countries to develop nuclear capabilities
- USA = most powerful Democracy
- USSR = most powerful Communist country



Early Cold War (1948 - 1959)

- United States wants to avoid getting into another major war, so they adopt the policy of **CONTAINMENT** to deal with the threat of Communism

Containment = allow Communism to exist where it already is, but prevent the spread of Communism to new nations

Early Examples of Containment

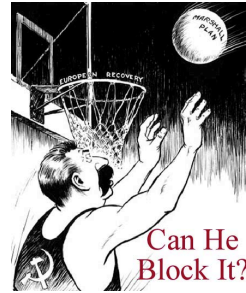
1) Truman Doctrine --

- Speech given by US President, Harry Truman that states the U.S. will protect the "free peoples" of the world from the threat of Communism
- Specifically mentioned helping Greece and Turkey from turning into Communist nations



2) Marshall Plan --

- USA is afraid that WWII damaged the economies of W. Europe so much that Communism could spread into these countries
- Solution: USA will provide economic aid to western European democracies to stabilize their economies (Billions spent by the U.S.) = **SUCCESS for USA**



First major "Conflict" between USA and USSR

** Berlin Airlift



City of Berlin

- Located in Soviet occupation zone
- Each Allied power got control over a section of the city

Problem =

- Since the city was located in the USSR Zone, the Soviets could blockade all routes to the city (roads, RR's, Canals, etc...)
- The Soviets tried to force the whole city to become part of the Communist Zone



Solution =

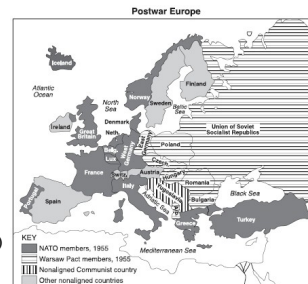
- USA and other Allies got 'over' the blockade by flying in necessary supplies
- The airlift was so successful that the Soviets lifted the blockade and gave up



- Defensive Alliances created after the Berlin Airlift
- ***COLLECTIVE SECURITY*** = a group of nations agree not to attack each other and to defend each other against an attack from one of the others, if such an attack is made.

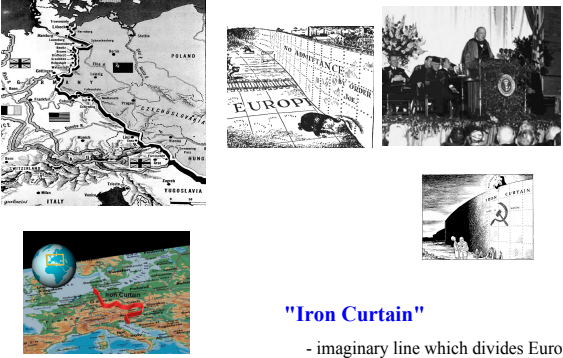
NATO

- Democracy
- Capitalists
- (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)



- Warsaw Pact**
- Communists
- USSR and Satellite Nations

Source: Larry S. Krieger et al., World History: Perspectives on the Past (D.C. Health and Co. (adapted))



"Iron Curtain"
- imaginary line which divides Europe into **Communism (East)** and **Capitalism (West)**