



Origins of the Cold War

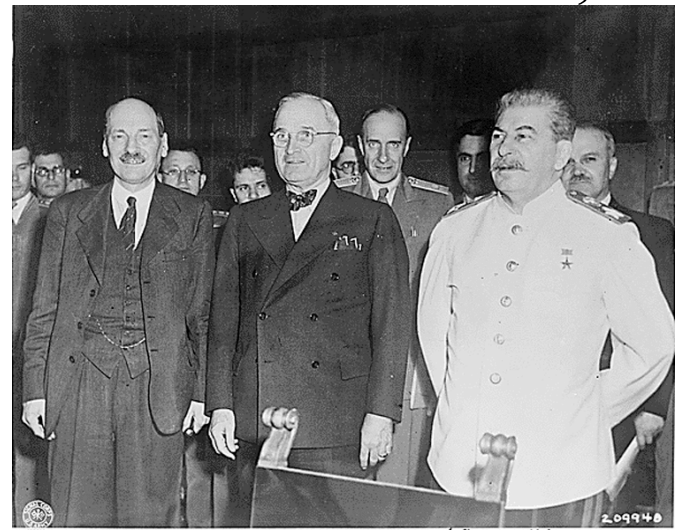
Truman is NOT FDR

- Didn't trust Stalin & did not feel connection to Allies
 - Doesn't listen to WC on keeping troops east of line to see what Stalin will do in SoI → Withdraws troops to line & UK follows.
 - Thinks he can mediate like FDR
- Stalin: Why do these silly Americans negotiate E.EUR on moral/legal grounds? Objective reality.



Potsdam Conference

- **July-Aug, 1945** in eastern GER
- New Big Three: Stalin, Truman, Attlee
- \$20B in GER reparations (1/2 to USSR)
- **Neisse River** confusion; USSR obviously wants eastern one to make POL smaller
- Stalin wants, but doesn't get:
 - Base in Bosphorus, Soviet trusteeship of ITA-Afr. Colonies, four-power control of Ruhr, Western recognition of Soviet govts. in ROM & BUL
- Agreement: Four powers take reparations out of Zones, W. Neisse border, Stalin helps w/JPN

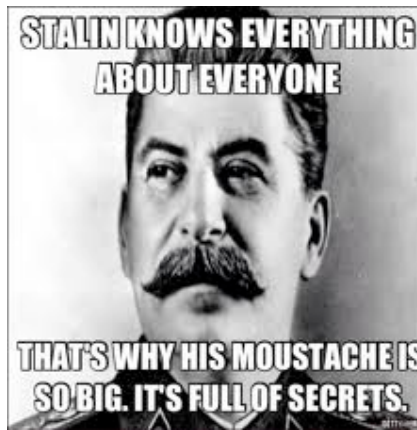


Truman's Journal 8/2/1945

In which I tell Stalin
we expect to drop the most
powerful explosive ever made on
the Japanese. He smiled and said
he appreciated my telling him—
but he did not know what I was
talking about—the Atomic Bomb!
HST.

Peace?

- Sept.-Dec. 1945 – Foreign ministers meet to draw up peace treaties for FIN, HUN, ROM, BUL
 - Stalin accepts some democratic measures in E.EUR → Basically lies.
- No more Four Policemen idea
- KISSINGER: Despite losing 20M people in WWII 20M in purges, and devastating W. RUS, Stalin was aggressive and had no fear of bomb. Didn't think US would use it.
 - Aggressive pro-war propaganda campaign post-war because he realized USSR couldn't exist w/ a peaceful foreign policy



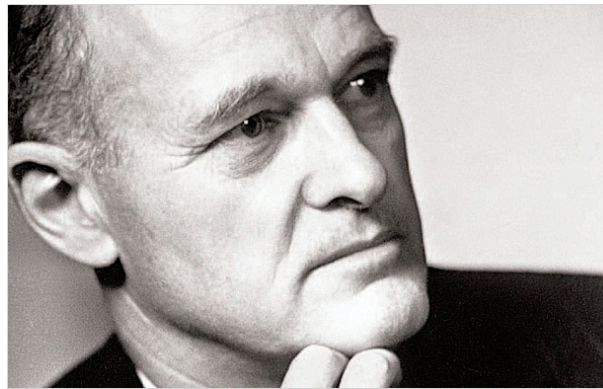
Iron Curtain

- **3/5/1946** – Churchill gives “Iron Curtain” speech
 - Russians will control E.EUR, US/UK need to ally and avoid war at all costs
 - Sept. 1947 – **Cominform** – group of worldwide Communist parties in FIN, YUG, POL, CZE, ALB, BUL, ROM, HUN



George Kennan

- Leading anti-Soviet advisor under HST
 - E.EUR occupation inevitable b/c USSR forces already occupied area
 - BUT believed USSR couldn't maintain domination
 - AMBROSE: All his predictions come true, but not for four decades
 - “**Long Telegram**” (1946) – “[USSR needed to be] contained by the adroit and vigilant application of counterforce at a series of constantly shifting geographical and political points” → Foundation for **Truman Doctrine** (“Containment”)



Brisk

- Amb. Harriman thinks USSR will need money, so use as bargaining chip to stand firm on issues
- Apr. '45 – HST meets w/ Molotov over free POL elections → Molotov says POL more important to them b/c of proximity
 - World angry @ US double-standard – demand free elections, but control LAm.
- May '45 – HST Ends Lend-Lease & USSR embargo
 - USSR/UK outraged → HST rescinds order



Molotov

“American influence would never be as great as American power” – HST



Frosty

- USSR wants \$6B in aid contingent on following US demands in E.EUR → Nope.
- Instead, Stalin issues new 5-Year-Plan based on kleptocracy in USSR & E.EUR
- June '45 – US accepts POL Communist gov.
- Problems w/ GER occupation—FRA/USSR wanted to weaken GER, while US/UK wanted to rebuild



“You. Give
me your
money.”



COLD

- **Massive retaliation** – HST threatens to use bomb if any country tries to get too powerful
 - AMBROSE: Doesn't work b/c bombs not strong enough to act as deterrent & we didn't have enough
 - Red Army was just as much of a deterrent
 - A-Bomb = ultimate weapon, needed ultimate situations
- Stalin reacts to “Iron Curtain” speech with “call to war”
 - Removes USSR from World Bank, IMF
 - Claims equal partnership w/Turks in Dardanelles (Aug '46)
 - → HST sends aircraft carriers and Stalin backs down
 - Many historians claim this is the beginning of the Cold War

