

# Chapter 17-1



- **Two Superpowers Face Off**
  - Former Allies Diverge
  - The Soviet Union Corrals Eastern Europe
  - United States Counters Soviet Expansion
  - The Cold War and a Divided World

# Former Allies Diverge

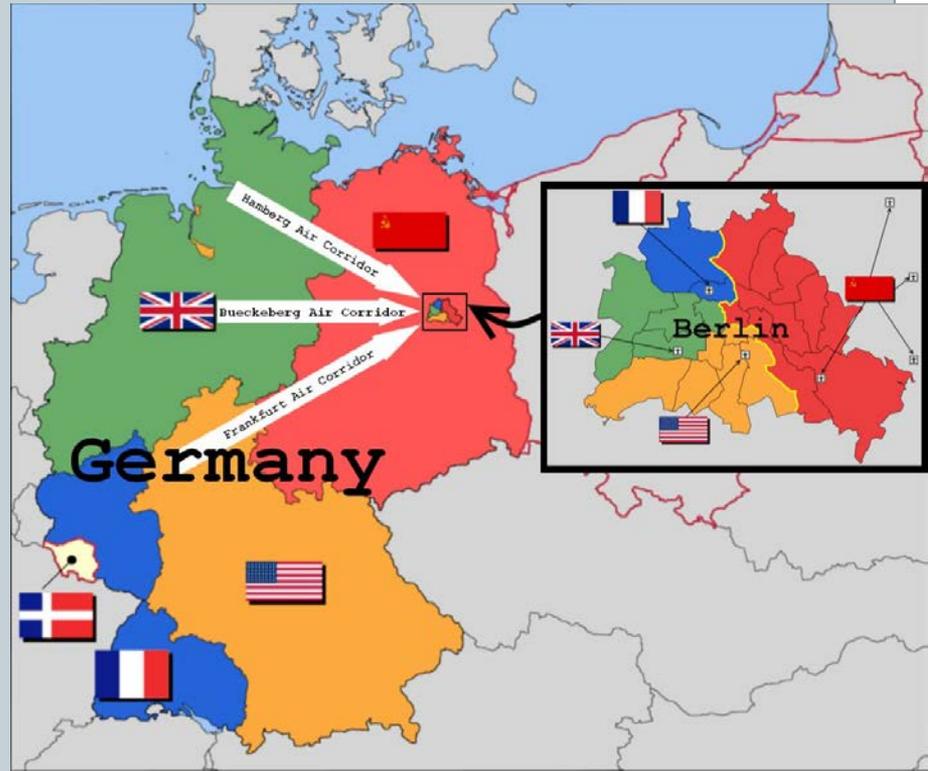
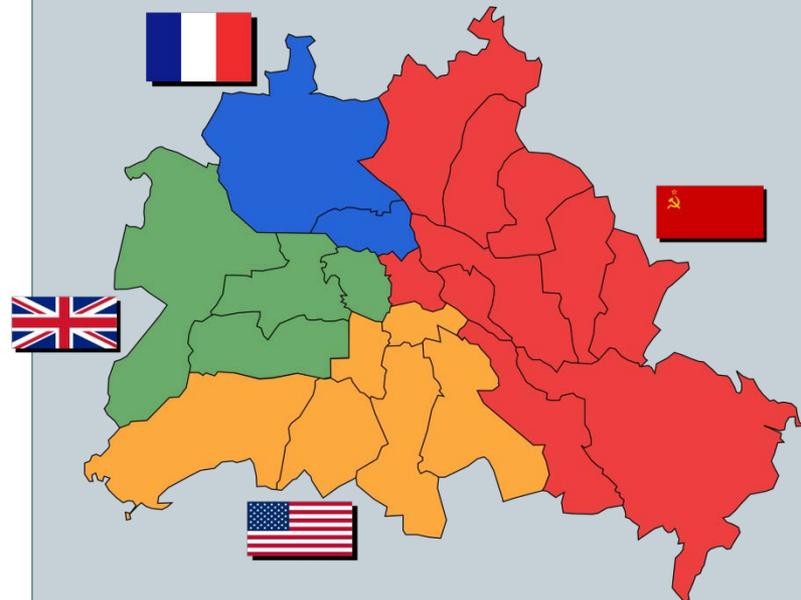


- Before World War II was over the leaders of the Allies (Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin) met in Yalta and agreed to divide Germany into zones of occupation.
- They also agree Germany would pay the Soviets for loss of life and property, and Stalin agrees to free elections in Poland.
- Churchill warns Stalin can not be trusted.

# Potsdam Conference



- ▶ Germany is split into 4 zones. Each zone to be occupied by U.S., Britain, France, and U.S.S.R.
- ▶ Berlin (Germany capital) is split into 4 zones, occupied by same 4 countries.
- ▶ Stalin agrees to open elections in Poland, but then has a change of heart. Stating “A freely elected government in any of the eastern European countries would be anti-Soviet.”



# Former Allies Diverge



- After the war 50 countries agree to form the United Nations, an international organization intended to protect its members against aggression.
- An eleven member security council was formed to settle disputes, and the five permanent members (Britain, France, China, US and the USSR had the real power with their ability to veto.
- The United States and the Soviet Union split sharply after the war, and clash over Europe.

# UN Functions:



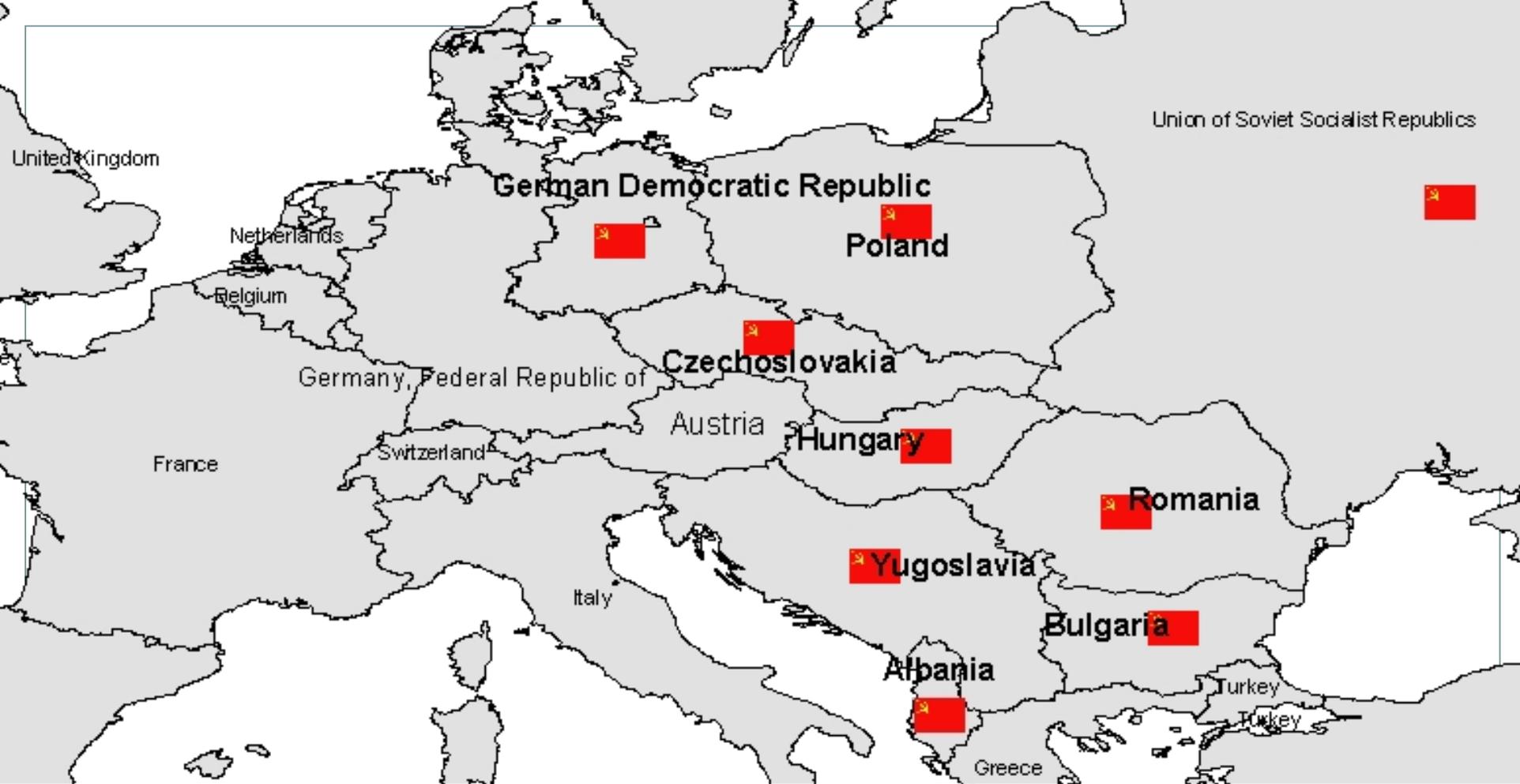
**To maintain international peace and security in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations; to investigate any dispute or situation which might lead to international friction;**

- to recommend methods of adjusting such disputes or the terms of settlement;
- to formulate plans for the establishment of a system to regulate armaments;
- to determine the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression and to recommend what action should be taken;
- to call on Members to apply economic sanctions and other measures not involving the use of force to prevent or stop aggression;
- to take military action against an aggressor;
- to recommend the admission of new Members;
- to exercise the trusteeship functions of the United Nations in "strategic areas";
- to recommend to the [General Assembly](#) the appointment of the [Secretary-General](#) and, together with the Assembly, to elect the Judges of the International Court of Justice.

# The Soviet Union Corrals Eastern Europe



- After World War II, the major goal of the Soviet Union was to shield itself from another invasion from the west.
- Stalin installed communist governments in eastern European countries such as Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Poland, and Yugoslavia.
- Germany, including its capital city of Berlin, was divided into east and west sections.
- Churchill claimed an “**Iron Curtain**” had fallen on eastern Europe, because of Soviet control.



**EASTERN EUROPEAN NATIONS TAKEN OVER BY THE USSR AFTER WWII:**

**EAST GERMANY, ALBANIA, BULGARIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, HUNGARY,  
ROMANIA & POLAND**

**YUGOSLAVIA, WHILE COMMUNIST, REMAINED INDEPENDENT**

# U.S. Counters Soviet Expansion



- President Truman declared it was time to stop Soviet expansion and influence by adopted a policy of containment.
- Truman's support for countries that rejected communism was called the Truman Doctrine.
- The Marshall Plan was a \$12.5 billion program in 1948 that provided food, machines and other materials that achieved spectacular success.

# How Europe was to be Reconstructed under the Marshall Plan



- ▶ **Modernization of industrial equipment**
- ▶ **Creation of sound currencies and national budgets**
- ▶ **Expansion of trade and increase in exports**
- ▶ **Increased economic cooperation among European countries**
- ▶ **Removal of quantitative restrictions in foreign trade**
- ▶ **Increase in production, especially in agriculture and energy industries**
- ▶ **Improvement in transportation systems**

# U.S. Counters Soviet Expansion



- In 1948 the French, British, and Americans decided to withdraw from Berlin, but the Soviets wanted to remain to keep their former enemy weak.
- Since Berlin lay within their occupation zone, Stalin decided to cut off highway, water, and rail traffic into western Berlin in a gamble to frighten western nations.
- To break the blockade, British and American officials launched the Berlin Airlift. For 11 months planes took off every 3 minutes, day and night to fly food and supplies to West Berlin.
- By May of 1949, Stalin called off the blockade.

# The Cold War and a Divided World



- The increasing conflicts between the USSR and the US were the beginnings of the Cold War, a state of diplomatic hostility between the two superpowers. They used spying, propaganda, diplomacy, and secret operations in dealing with each other.
- 10 Western European nations joined the United States and Canada in 1949 to form a defensive military alliance called NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)
- In response the Soviets developed their own alliance system in 1955 known as the Warsaw Pact which included their eastern European allies.

# The Cold War and a Divided World



- By 1949 the Cold War had heated up enough to threaten to destroy the world as both superpowers became nuclear powers.
- President Truman authorized the development of the hydrogen bomb, which was 1000 times more powerful than the atomic bomb.
- When President Eisenhower became president he adopted a policy of brinkmanship, which said the US would retaliate instantly to an Soviet attack on its interests with massive retaliation.

# The Cold War and a Divided World



- The next battleground for the superpowers was in space.
- The Soviets launched the satellite in August of 1957 called Sputnik I.
- The Soviets shot down a U-2 spy plane sent up by the United States Central Intelligence agency or CIA to spy on Soviet territory.
- This incident brought the tension and mistrust between the two superpowers to new heights.