

Cold War & Recovery

Post-War Political and Economic Framework

- **Bretton Woods Conference (1944): created International Monetary Fund (IMF)**
 - Lay foundations for modern monetary system; based on U.S. dollar
 - IMF (World Bank) designed to loan money to struggling countries to prevent economic crises and anarchy; instrumental in post-war economic boom.
- **United Nations created in 1945: Security Council** (12 nations including 5 permanent members had powers to act; **General Assembly** had powers to advise (included all nations of the world))

Western Europe Political Recovery

- Economic hardship after WW II: scarcity of food, runaway inflation, black markets
- Many people believed Europe was finished.
- Suffering was worst in Germany

Western Europe Political Recovery

POLITICAL RESTRUCTURING:

- Christian Democrats inspired by common Christian and European heritage.
- Rejected authoritarianism & narrow nationalism; had faith in democracy and cooperation.
- Socialists and Communists also emerged with increased power and prestige, especially in France and Italy.
 - Pushed for social change and economic reform with considerable success.
 - Result: social reform and political transformation created foundations for a great European renaissance.

“Economic Miracle”

- Unprecedented economic growth in European history
- Europe entered period of rapid economic progress lasting into late 1960s.
- By 1963, western Europe produced more than 2.5x more than before the war.

“Economic Miracle”

- Causes:
 - Marshall Plan aid helped western Europe begin recovery in 1947
 - Korean War in 1950 stimulated economic activity.
 - Economic growth became a basic objective of all Western European governments.
 - Governments accepted Keynesian economics to stimulate their economies.
- Germany and France were especially successful and influential.
- In most countries many people willing to work hard for low wages; expanding industries benefited.
- Increased demand for consumer goods.
- Many economic barriers eliminated and a large unified market emerged: Common Market.

European Unity

Council of Europe: Created in 1948

- European federalists hoped Council would quickly evolve into a true European parliament with sovereign rights, but this did not happen.
- Britain, with its empire and its “special relationship” with U.S., opposed giving any real political power—**sovereignty**—to the council.

European Economic Community (EEC)

- **Treaty of Rome, 1957**
 - Created European Economic Community (EEC) or the Common Market
- First goal of treaty: Gradual reduction of all tariffs among the Six in order to create a single market almost as large as the U.S.
- Other goals:
 - Free movement of capital and labor.
 - Common economic policies and institutions.
 - Tariffs were rapidly reduced and regions specialized in what they did best.

European Economic Community (EEC)

- EEC encouraged hopes of political and economic union → frustrated in 1960s by resurgence of more traditional nationalism.
- **Euratom** (European Atomic Energy Agency) also created by agency.
- Communist states responded by forming their own economic association → **COMECON**

Cold War in the 1950s

Events

- 1949, Communists in China led by **Mao Zedong** win Chinese revolution → Establish "**Peoples Republic of China**" ("Red China")
- 1949, Soviets successfully test atomic bomb

Korean War 1950-1953

- After WW II, Korea divided at 38th parallel: North was communist, South was not
- Cause: 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea (supported by Soviet resources)
- UN (led by US & **Gen. Douglas MacArthur**) sent forces to push back communists
 - Soviets boycotting UN for U.S. refusal to allow "Red China" into UN Security Council
- China sends hundreds of thousands of troops to push back UN
- Result: cease-fire and border at 38th parallel restored; still in existence today

Hydrogen Bomb

- Developed by US in 1952 & USSR in 1953:
world now has two superpowers



Warsaw Pact 1955

- Collective security organization of eastern bloc nations to counter NATO.
- U.S. policy of "**massive retaliation**" between 1953-55
- U.S. policy now is to help Eastern European countries remove communism.
- U.S. vows to destroy USSR with nuclear weapons if it tries to expand
- **Brinkmanship**: the art of going to the brink of war to force the other side t back down.

Khrushchev

- Power struggle emerged after Stalin died in 1953; Khrushchev emerged a few years later
- Stalin's heirs realized reforms were needed.
 - Widespread fear and hatred of Stalin's political terror resulted in reduction of power of secret police and gradual closure of forced labor camps.
 - Agriculture in bad shape.
 - Shortages of consumer goods.
 - Hard work and initiative in decline due to poor living conditions.

De-Stalinization

- **1956:** Khrushchev took startling initiative against hard-liners by denouncing Stalin's crimes in a closed session.
- Secret anti-Stalin speech probably most influential statement in Russia since Lenin addressed the crowd on arriving in April 1917.
- **Gosplan:** Resources shifted from heavy industry and the military toward consumer goods and agriculture – Centralized Economic Planning

De-Stalinization

- De-Stalinization resulted in communist reformers and the masses seeking greater liberty and national independence.
- Poland: March 1956, riots resulted in release of more than 9000 political prisoners

Hungarian Uprising 1956

- Students and workers in Budapest installed a liberal Communist reformer as new chief in October 1956.
- Hungarian nationalists staged huge demonstrations demanding non-communist parties be legalized; turned into armed rebellion and spread throughout the country.
- Hoped U.S. would come in and help achieve Hungarian independence***

Hungarian Uprising 1956

- Soviet tanks and troops responded by invading Hungary and crushing the national democratic revolution.
- ***After Hungarian invasion, most eastern Europeans hoped for small domestic gains while obediently following USSR in foreign affairs.***



Relations between USSR & U.S. Improve with ascension to power of **Nikita Khrushchev**

- Seeks “peaceful co-existence” with the West in order to focus on Soviet economy
- Resulted in significant reduction in cold war tensions between 1955 & 1957.

- Khrushchev sought to prove communism was superior to capitalism and the USSR would be the model communist state in the world → **"we will bury you."**
- Khrushchev began wooing new nations of Asia and Africa with promises and aid, even if they were not communist.
- 1958, relations sour with Khrushchev's ultimatum for Allies to leave Berlin: 6 month deadline passes without incident, extended indefinitely

Cold War in 1960s



U-2 Incident

- U.S. spy plane shot down over USSR
- Khrushchev demanded an apology from Eisenhower; Eisenhower refused
- Khrushchev and Eisenhower summit aborted



Berlin Wall: Built in 1961

- 2 million East Germans escaped to West Berlin between 1949-1961 → Soviets frustrated
- Khrushchev threatened President Kennedy: USSR would sign peace treaty with East Germany who would then control access to Berlin; Soviets would protect East Germany's right to control flow into Berlin.
- Berlin Wall built instead of enforcing ultimatum to U.S. → ended future crises over Berlin

Berlin Wall: From West Berlin



Berlin Wall: Guard Tower



Checkpoint Charlie



Cuban Revolution

- Cuba won independence from Spain during the Spanish-American War (1898)
- Platt Amendment—allowed the US to be involved by a presence of a military base (Guantanamo)
- US invested in businesses and plantations → but only made the rich richer
- US supported the Batista Dictatorship from 1939-1959

Cuban Revolution

- Peasant revolt under Fidel Castro
- 1959 - Batista fled
- Castro
 - Supporter of democracy suspended elections
 - Established a communist dictatorship
 - Seized control of industry and nationalized them
 - Executed rivals
 - Cuba became an ally of the Soviet Union

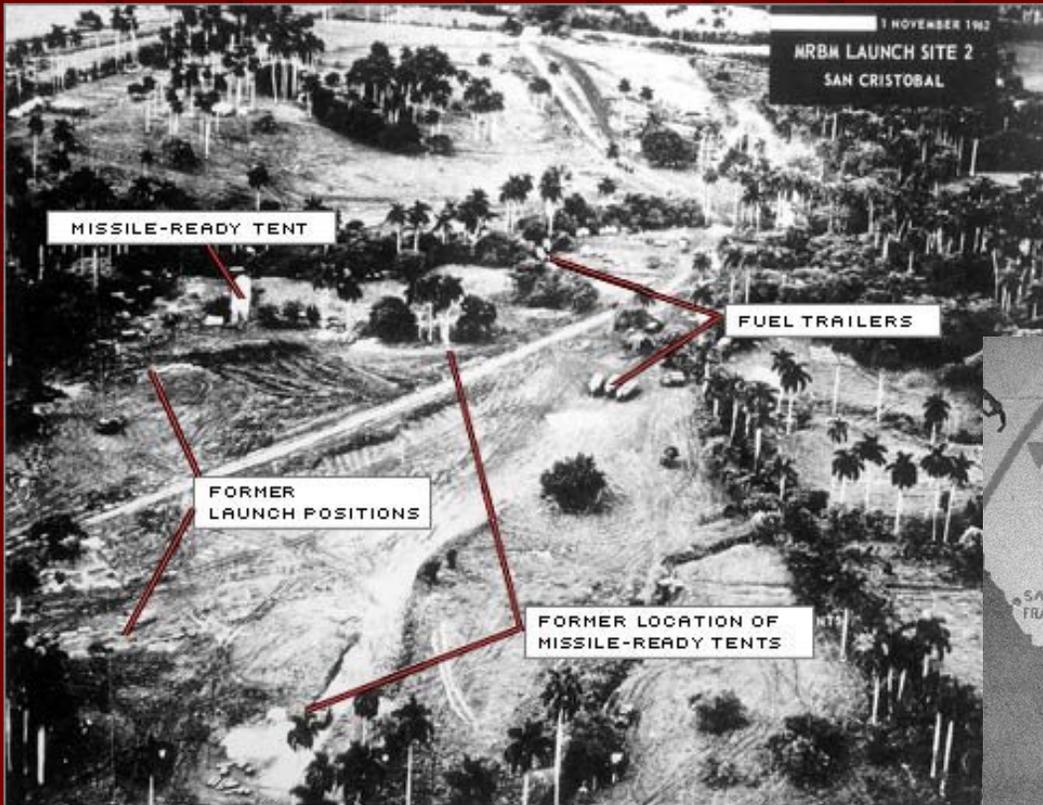
Bay of Pigs

- US placed an embargo on Cuba
- Attempt to overthrow → trained and supported a group of Cuban exiles
- 1961—Bay of Pigs Invasion failed
 - Didn't use full force and the exiles were captured
 - USSR and Cuba realize the extent to which the US will go

Cuban Missile Crisis

- 1962: U.S. demanded Soviets remove their newly installed nuclear missiles from Cuba.
- Crisis became the closest USSR and US came to nuclear war
- U.S. placed blockade (naval quarantine) on any further missiles into Cuba
- Khrushchev agreed to remove missiles in return for U.S. removing its missiles from Turkey and vowing not to invade Cuba in the future.
- Crisis weakened Khrushchev and contributed to his downfall in 1964

Cuban Missile Crisis





Nuclear Test Ban Treaty 1963

- Khrushchev, Kennedy & Britain signed historic treaty banning atmospheric testing in an attempt to reduce Cold War tensions
- France refused to sign (was in the process of developing own nuclear weapons program)
- China became a nuclear power in 1964 leading to its estrangement with Soviet Union

Fall of Khrushchev 1964

- His cold war foreign policies → erratic & ultimately unsuccessful (Berlin, Cuban Missile Crisis)
- Expensive space and armaments programs postponed any significant shift to consumer goods.
- Most important reason: agricultural projects backfired
- Resurgence of conservative Stalinists led to quiet removal of Khrushchev in October, 1964

Leonid Brezhnev

- Became new General Secretary (1964-1982)
- Beginning in 1964, USSR began a period of stagnation and limited re-Stalinization
- Massive arms buildup started in response to humiliation of Cuban Missile Crisis



Vietnam

- After Japanese removed after WW II, French tried to reassert control of Indochina
- **Ho Chi Minh** led the independence movement in the north
- 1954, defeated French forces at **Dien Bien Phu**
- 1954, Vietnam was divided into North (communist) and South (pro-Western); civil war resulted
- U.S. defeated in attempt to prevent communist takeover of South Vietnam; Vietnam unified in 1975

Vietnam War (1964-1973)

- U.S. fought unsuccessful war in Southeast Asia to prevent communism from spreading into South Vietnam.
- “Domino Theory”: U.S. believed if Vietnam fell to communism, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand would also fall (perhaps even India) (1964-1973)

Science and Technology

- “Big Science” became new model for science after WW II
- U.S. emerged as leader in Big Science after WW II
- Science not demobilized after WW II either in U.S. or USSR
- Large portion of all postwar scientific research went for “defense” (25%!)

Space Race

Part of Cold War competition to achieve technological superiority

- 1957, USSR launched *Sputnik*, an orbiting satellite using long-range rockets
- US fearful Soviets could now launch a nuclear missile into space and then down to U.S.
- Resulted in development of **ICBMs** (Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles)

Space Race

- U.S. countered with creation of NASA and vastly increased educational funding for science.
- 1961, Soviets sent world's first cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin, into orbit.
- President John F. Kennedy responded by increasing funds for space.
- 1969, Apollo Program - put first man on the moon; 4 more moon landings followed by 1972.

Massive Growth of Scientific Community

- Four times as many scientists in Europe and North America in 1975 as in 1945.
- Highly specialized modern scientists and technologists worked as members of a team, which completely changed work and lifestyle of modern scientists.
- **James Watson and Francis Crick** win Nobel Prize in 1962 for discovering structure of **DNA**

The Youth Movement and Counterculture

- Counter-Culture: rebellion against parents, authority figures and status quo
- Baby boom after WW II developed distinctive and international youth culture.
- Many raised in economic prosperity and more democratic class structure.
- New generation influenced by revival of leftist thought created a “counter-culture”
- Some youth rebelled against conformity and boredom of middle-class suburbs.
- Rock music helped tie counter-culture together

Student Revolts in the Late 1960s

Causes of Student Revolts

- Opposition to U.S. war in Vietnam triggered revolutionary ferment among youths
 - Influenced by Marxist current in French universities after 1945 & new left thinking in US
 - Believed older generation & US fighting immoral & imperialistic war against Vietnam
- Students in western Europe shared US youth's rejection of materialism and belief that postwar society was repressive and flawed.
- Problems in higher education: classes overcrowded; little contact with professors; competition for grades intense; demanded even more practical areas of study to qualify for high-paying jobs after college
- Some students warned of dangers of narrowly trained experts ("technocrats") who would serve the establishment to the detriment of working class.

Czechoslovakia

- Due to Khrushchev's reforms in USSR, 1960s brought modest liberalization and more consumer goods to eastern Europe
- 1968, reform elements in Czechoslovak Communist party gained a majority and voted out long-time Stalinist leader.
- **Alexander Dubcek** elected leader: ushered new period of thaw and rebirth in famous "Prague Spring" of 1968.
- Czech reformers building "socialism with a human face" frightened hard-line communists.
- Soviet troops brutally invaded Czechoslovakia in August 1968.
- Czechoslovakia became one of most hard-line communist regimes well into 1980s.
- Brezhnev Doctrine: Soviet Union and its allies had right to intervene in any socialist country whenever they saw the need