

MVZn5012

ENEMY IMAGE AND THE POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY OF CONFLICTS IN IR

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Fall 2021

Week 8: Enemies of America

On the Agenda for Today

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Enemies of America

- Introduction
- Who are America's Greatest Enemies?
 - How do we find them?
- Changing Enemies
- Axis of Evil
- The 'Traditional' Enemies: Soviets/Communists/Russia



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

The FAKE NEWS media (failing @nytimes, @NBCNews, @ABC, @CBS, @CNN) is not my enemy, it is the enemy of the American People!

RETWEETS

50,994

LIKES

161,862



1:48 PM - 17 Feb 2017

79K

51K

162K

Introduction

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- **Who are the prominent enemies of the United States of America?**
 - Perception vs. truth
 - The answer depends on the agent + time
- **How do we find out?**
 - Learn history
 - Look into official U.S. documents
 - Ask the American people



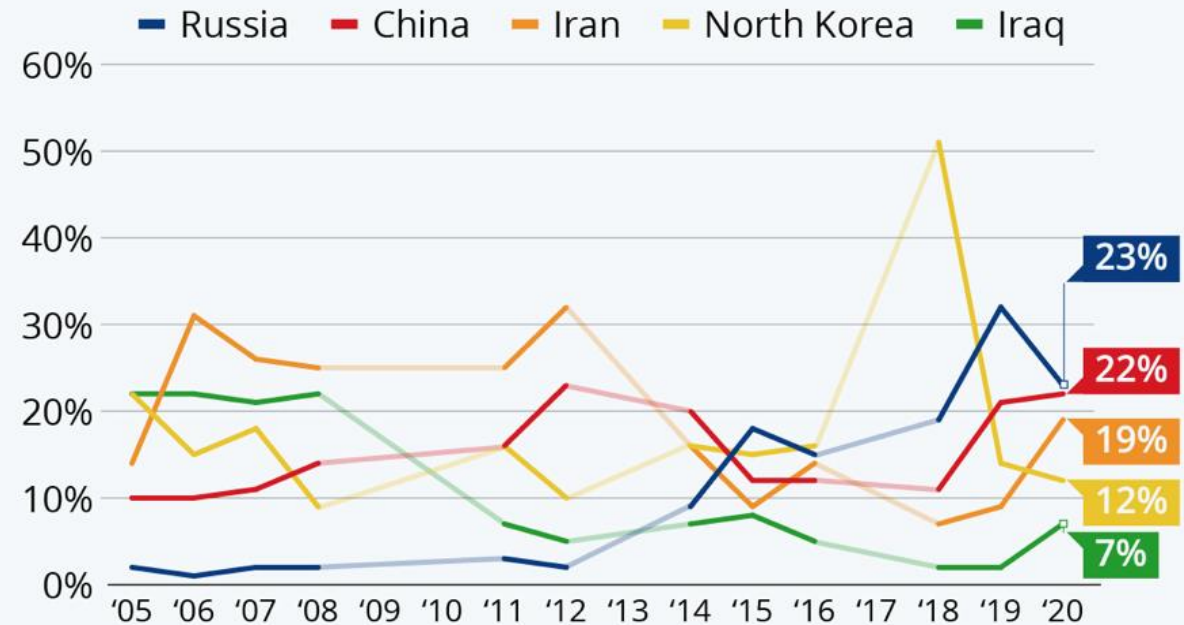
Enemies of America

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- Which **Country** do Americans see as Their **Biggest foe**?
- Polls, 2005-2020
- **Mirrors international politics**
- Russia, China, Iran, North Korea, Iraq
- **No unanimity** or even a majority to a specific enemy- **why?**

The United States' Biggest Enemies

Share of Americans who said the following countries were the single greatest enemy of the U.S.



Surveys of approximately 1,000 U.S. adults conducted in early February
Source: Gallup

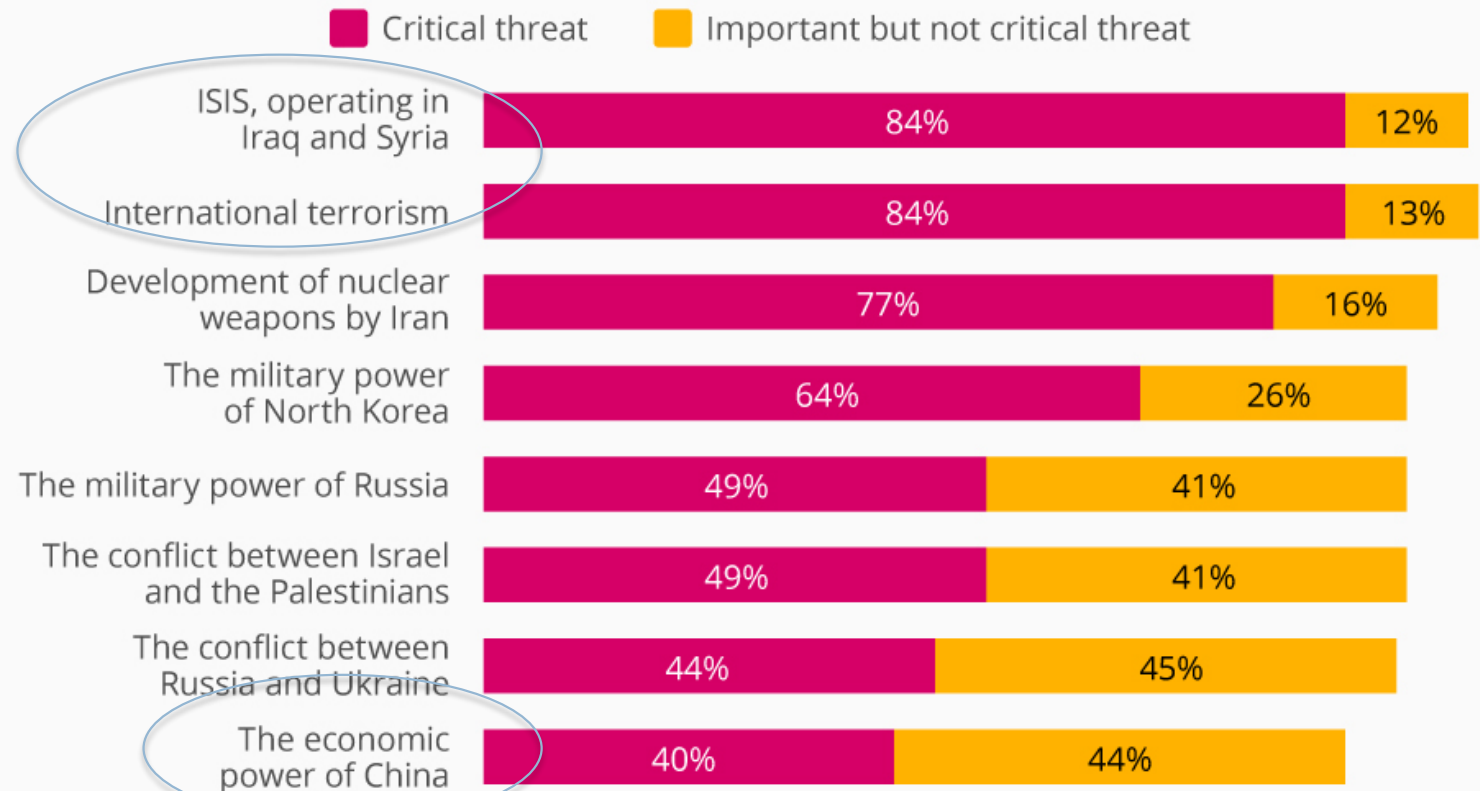
Enemies of America

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- 2015
- Specific threats rather than an 'enemy'
- Terrorism, Conflicts, China's economic power
- Traditional enemies were low on the list, but rising nowadays

Americans View ISIS As Their Greatest Threat

% of people in the United States considering the following a critical/important threat



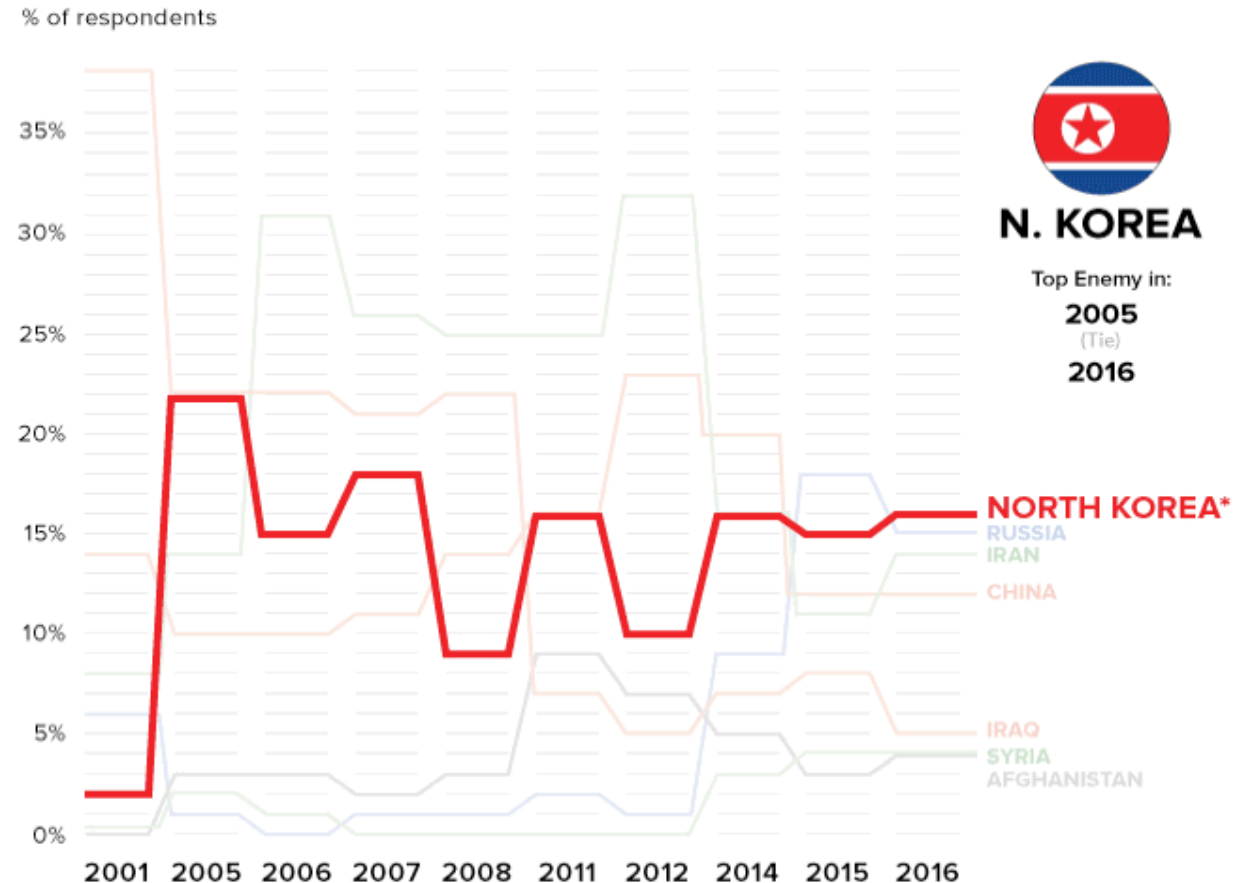
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Changing Enemies =>

- America's biggest foe isn't a **constant**
 - The identity of America's arch-nemesis changes as **global events** unfold
- Americans were asked (unprompted) to name the country that is their "**greatest enemy**"
- The rankings **fluctuate** over time

Q What one country anywhere in the world do you consider to be the United States' greatest enemy today?



SOURCE: Gallup News Service
*North Korea/Korea (non-specific)

visualcapitalist.com



Enemies of America

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National Security Strategy (NSS) =>

- **Arrangements** of a state **for dealing** with national security issues
- The overall **vision** of a state's national security **goals** + most appropriate **means** to achieve them
- Hints to the **institutionalized perception of state enemies**
- **Non-specific enemz**



NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY

of the United States of America

DECEMBER 2017





Enemies of America

National Security Strategy (NSS) => TABLE OF CONTENTS

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“We are rallying the world against the rogue regime in North Korea and confronting the danger posed by the dictatorship in Iran, which those determined to pursue a flawed nuclear deal had neglected”. (p1)

“A central continuity in history is the contest for power. The present time period is no different. Three main sets of challengers—the revisionist powers of China and Russia, the rogue states of Iran and North Korea, and transnational threat organizations, particularly jihadist terrorist groups—are actively competing against the United States and our allies and partners”. (p-25)

Axis of Evil



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VAALGqKPaT4>

The Classic Enemy: The Soviet Union

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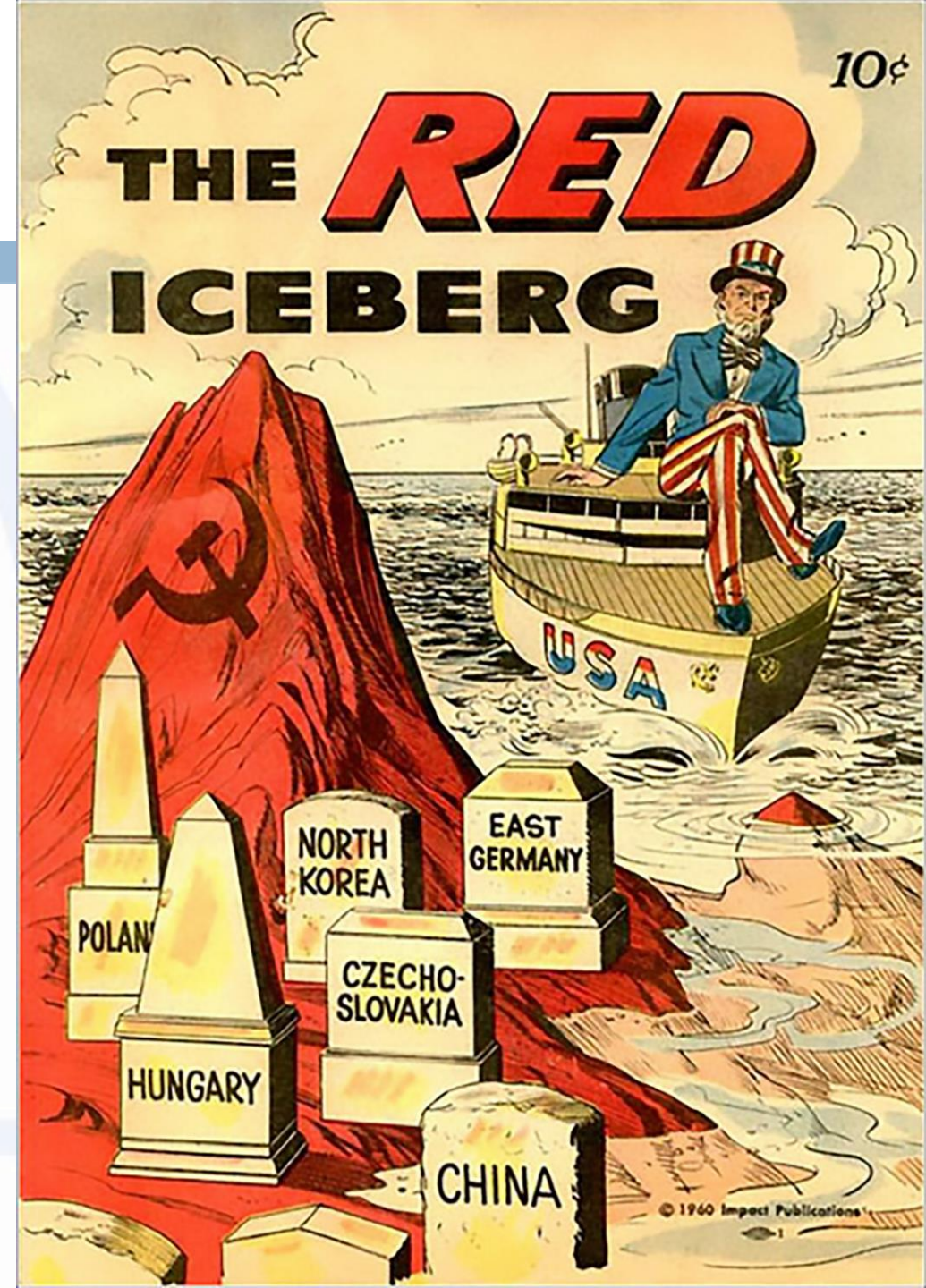
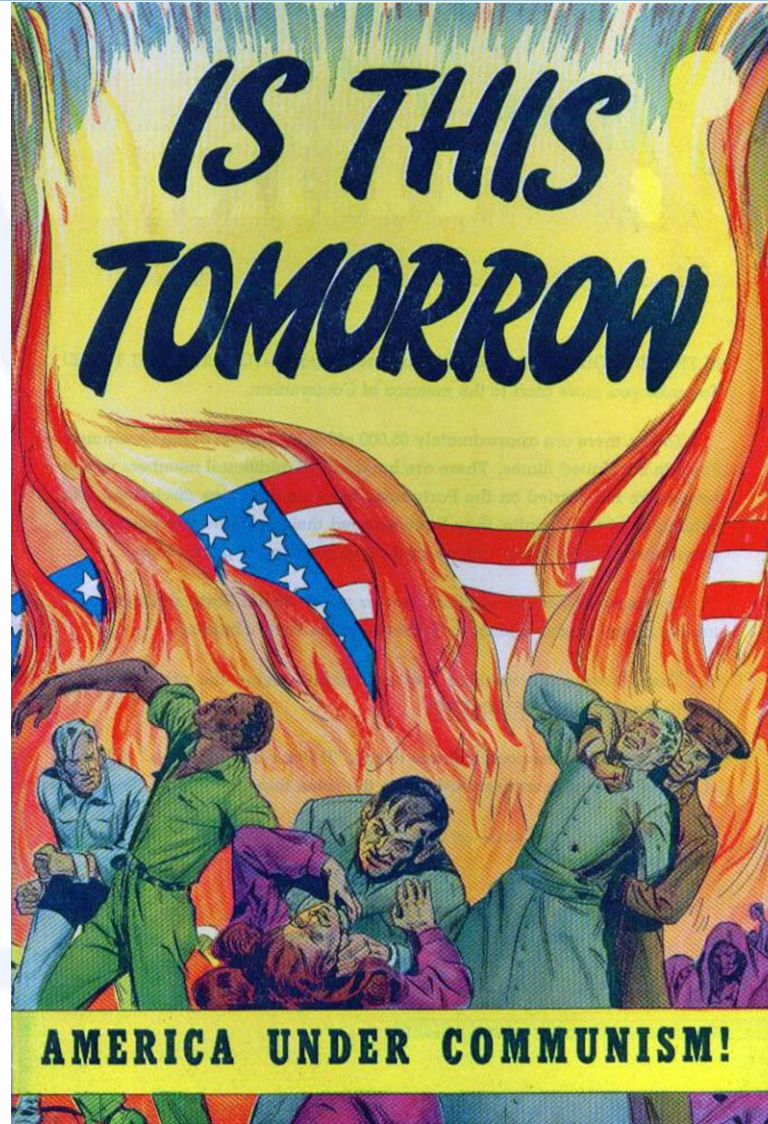
- Relations between the Soviet Union & the US were driven by a **complex interplay of ideological, political, and economic factors**
 - Shifts between cautious **cooperation** & superpower **rivalry**
- 1917: Bolshevik (Communist) Revolution: **Lenin's** party took control of Russia
 - 1922: The **Bolshevik party** formed the Union of **Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR)**
- 1919-1920 **Nationalism**, Labour unrest + **anarchist bombings** in the US => '**Red Scare I**'
- **US opposed Communism** as state ideology + feared **unrest** in **Europe** & at home



The Red Scare

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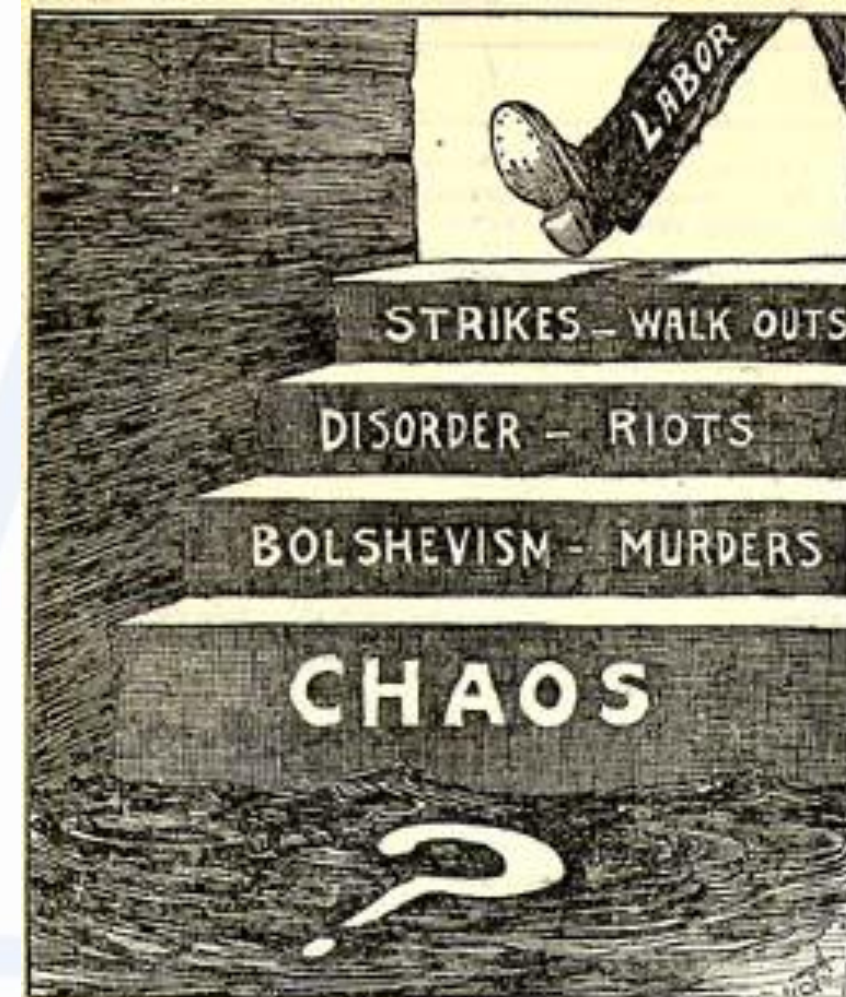
- 1919-1920



Between World Wars

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- 1920's: American **famine relief program** + commercial ties with the Soviet (**New Economic Policy, 1921-1929**)
- 1933: **Diplomatic relations**
 - Formal **recognition** in exchange for staying out of US internal affairs, yet-
 - Stalin's **totalitarian regime**- Major obstacle to friendly relations with the West
- **World War II: US/Soviet alliance** based on the common goal of **defeating Nazi Germany**
- However, Soviet **aggressive + antidemocratic** policy toward **Eastern Europe** created **tensions**



STEP BY STEP

-- Greene in the New York Evening Telegram

The Truman Doctrine

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- Post WWII: **Red Scare II** in the US
 - 1938: Formation of **The House Committee on Un-American Activities** “to investigate alleged disloyalty and subversive activities on the part of private citizens ... suspected of having Communist ties”

“One way of life is based upon the will of the majority, and is distinguished by free institutions, representative government, free elections, guarantees of personal liberty, freedom of speech and religion and freedom from political repression.

*The second way of life is based upon the will of a minority imposed upon the majority. It relies upon **terror and oppression**, a controlled press and radio, fixed elections, and the suppression of personal freedoms.”*

The Red Scare II

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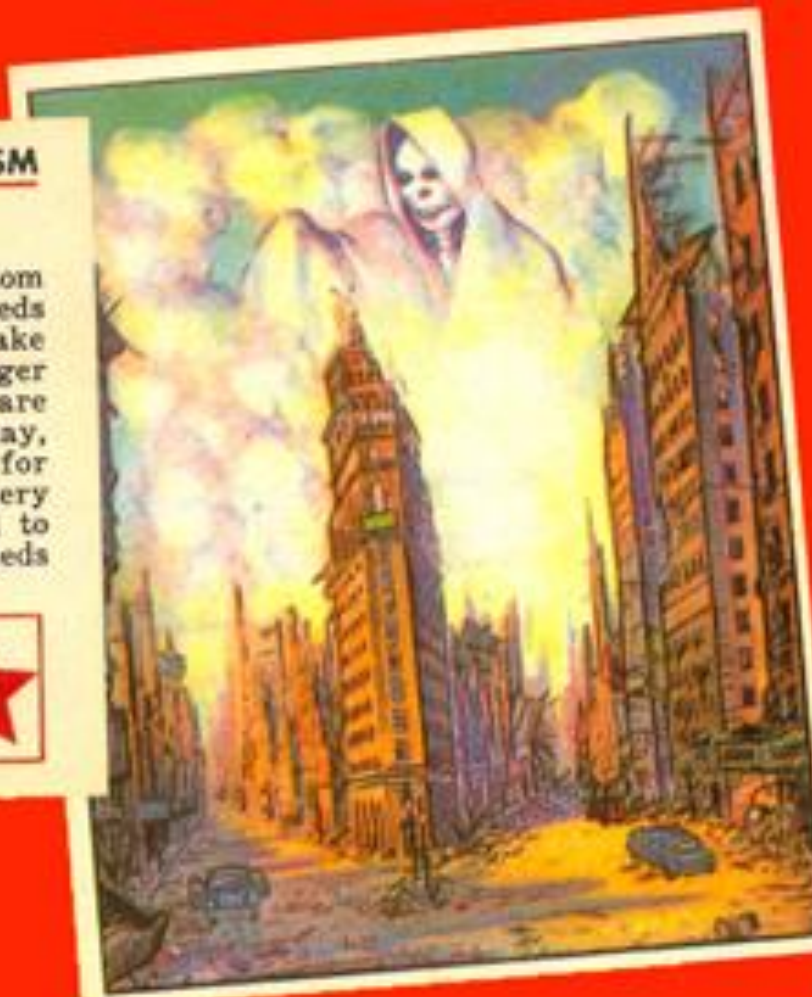
CHILDREN'S CRUSADE AGAINST COMMUNISM

23. Ghost City

The picture is an artist's idea of what an atom bomb could do to a great American city. The Reds like us to think of this. They think it will make us afraid. But actually, we are growing stronger by realizing that this could happen to us. We are working to make America stronger day by day, week by week. We must continue to work for peace through the United Nations and in every possible way. But an America fully prepared to defend itself is not likely to be attacked. The Reds understand this language.



**FIGHT THE
RED MENACE**



CHILDREN'S CRUSADE AGAINST COMMUNISM

72. Olga And Ivan

A knock at the door — and the typical Russian family fears the worst. They are told where to work, where to live and what subjects they must master at school. Their daily routine insists on absolute obedience to their leaders and following Communist doctrine. A simple anti-communist remark by anyone of them could result in a visit by the police. An explanation will be demanded. Prison without fair trial or appeal faces all. This is life under Communism!



**FIGHT THE
RED MENACE**

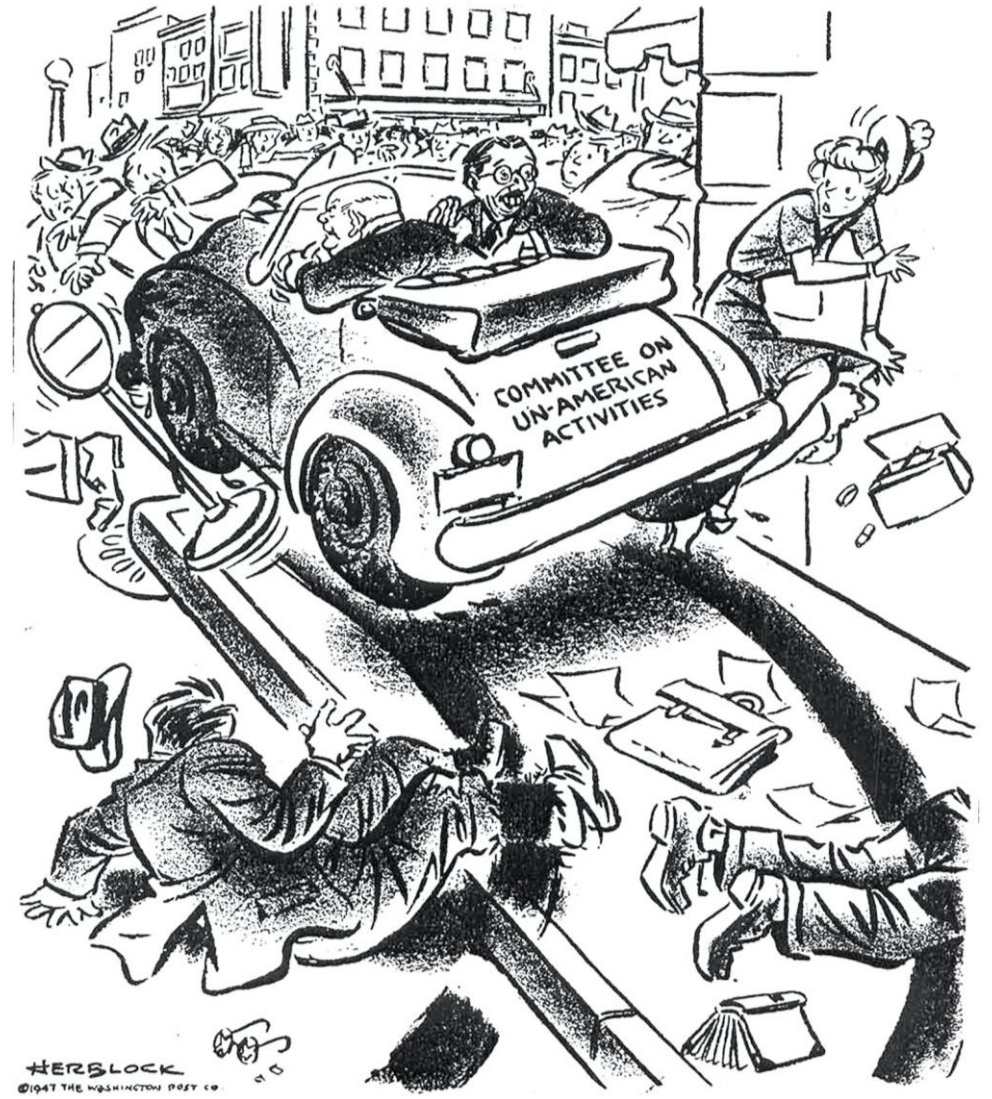


McCarthyism: 1950-1954

“You Read Books, Eh?”



“It’s Okay—We’re Hunting Communists”



The Cold War

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- Late 1940s: **Cold War** + **communist containment** focus in U.S. foreign policy
 - **No actual military combat**, but communism/state-control, capitalism/democracy battle played out in **proxy conflicts** around the globe (e.g. **Vietnam**)
 - Competition for **dominance** in **spaceflight**
 - **Nuclear arms race**: Mutually assured destruction strategy (**MAD**)
 - 1952: U.S. Federal Civil Defense Administration commissioned + distributed the film “**Duck and Cover**” to teach school kids what to do in case of a **nuclear attack**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqCxcnhNAeQ>

The Cuban Missile Crisis

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- **1962: The Cuban Missile Crisis**

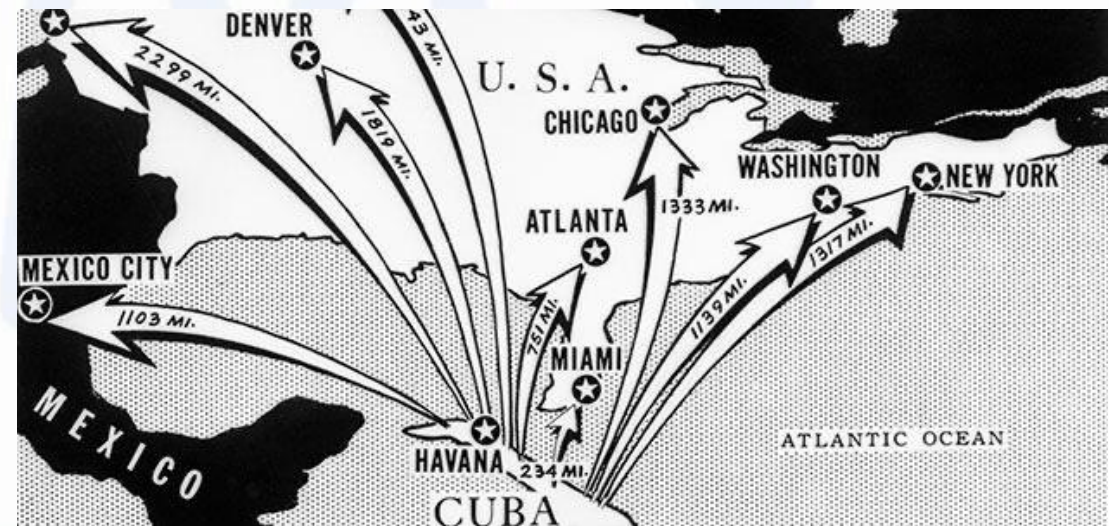
- **Closest** the Soviet Union and the US ever came to **nuclear war**

- Later that summer, a direct telephone link between the White House and the Kremlin was set (the **'Hotline'**)

- 1963-1971: US/Soviet **agreements to limit nuclear testing** + **Strategic Arms Limitation Talks**

- 1972: President Nixon visits Moscow

- Signed the **Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty** and **Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty Interim Agreement**



Shaky Relationship

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- **Relations stabilized** over the next several years
 - Ongoing efforts to **contain the threat of unchecked nuclear proliferation**
 - Attempts to **cooperate**
- **1979: Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, condemned by the US**
- **1981-1989: Attempts to negotiate cutting weapons on both sides=> Strategic Arms Reduction Talks**
 - **1985: Mikhail Gorbachev assumed control of the Soviet state**
 - **1986: Reykjavik summit**



Tear Down This Wall

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- Reagan encouraged by Gorbachev's openness to **loosening control over Eastern Europe**
- June 12, 1987: **'Tear down this wall' speech** at the Brandenburg Gate in **Berlin**
 - Reagan's famous **appeal** to his Russian counterpart

Russia Under Gorbachev

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- 1987: Reagan and Gorbachev signed first **nuclear arms reduction treaty**
- 1989: President George H.W. **Bush** assumed office
 - **Slow** and **careful** approach
- 1989: **Fall of the Berlin Wall**
- **Yeltsin's** push for **democratization**, Soviet-controlled states demanded independence, German reunification
- 1991: Failed communist coup **weakened Gorbachev** further- **resigned**



"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition
New York: Today, clear, mild for the season. High 44. Tonight, cloudy late, breezy. Low 34. Tomorrow, cloudy, then colder, windy. High 45. Yesterday, high 46, low 26. Details, page C12.

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GORBACHEV, LAST SOVIET LEADER, RESIGNS; U.S. RECOGNIZES REPUBLICS' INDEPENDENCE

By FRANCIS X. CLINES
Senior New York Times

MOSCOW, Dec. 25 — Mikhail S. Gorbachev, the trailblazer of the Soviet Union's retreat from the cold war and the spark for the democratic reforms that ended 70 years of Communist tyranny, told a weary, anxious nation tonight that he was resigning as President and closing out the union.

"I hereby discontinue my activities as the 14th President of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics," declared the 60-year-old politician, the last leader of a totalitarian empire that was under attack across the six years and nine months of his stewardship.

Mr. Gorbachev made no attempt in his brief, heavily worded television address to mask his bitter regret and concern at being forced from office by the creation of the new Commonwealth of Independent States, composed of 11 former republics of the collapsed Soviet empire under the informal leadership of Boris N. Yeltsin of Russia.

"A New World"

Within hours of Mr. Gorbachev's resignation, Western and other nations

horribly as Mr. Gorbachev spoke, a disappointed people, freed from their decades of dictated misery, faced a frightful spark for the democratic reforms that ended 70 years of Communist tyranny, told a weary, anxious nation tonight that he was resigning as President and closing out the union.

"I am very much concerned as I am leaving this post," the union President told the people. "However, I also have feelings of hope and faith in you, your wisdom and force of spirit. We are the unders of a great civilization and it now depends on all and everyone whether or not this civilization will make a comeback to a new and decent living."

Still Against Commonwealth

In departing, the Soviet leader took comfort in the world's supporting his singular achievements in nuclear disarmament. But even more, he firmly warned his people that they had not yet learned to use their newly won freedom and that it could be put at risk by the

RETAILERS REPORT SALES FELL SHORT OF DIM FORECASTS

Last-Minute Buying Spree Fails to Carry Merchants Ahead of Last Year's Receipts

By EBEN SHAPIRO

Retailers would probably like to forget Christmas 1991. While most merchants had been prepared for a sluggish season, many said sales turned out to be even worse than expected. Even the last-minute shopping frenzy was not enough to give merchants anything to cheer about.

As recently as a month ago, many retailers had hoped to exceed last year's sales by 5 percent. But results through the close of business on Monday indicate that spending will be flat or up slightly in December. The major retail chains are scheduled to release their final

Next Session...

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- 'Enemies of America' part 2



Thank You For Your Attention!

Questions???