

Module 15

Cold War Conflicts



Lesson 1

Cold War: Superpowers Face Off



Setting the Stage

- In late 1943, as World War II raged, leaders of the United States, Britain, and the Soviet Union met together at Tehran, the capital of Iran, to discuss a joint strategy for defeating Germany and to open discussion about how to set national borders after the war. Starting in June 1944, the Soviet army marched west, and the American army, joined by other European allies, marched east. When the two forces met at the Elbe River in Germany on April 25, 1945, they embraced each other warmly because they had defeated the Nazis. Their national leaders, however, regarded each other much more coolly. This animosity caused by competing political philosophies would lead to a near half-century of conflict called the Cold War.

#1a Complete Guided Reading -Outline for pgs. 562 – 564.

I. Long-tern Consequences of World War II

A. Destructive War

- 1.
- 2.

B. Demographic and Social Consequences

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

C. Economic and Environmental Consequences

- 1.
- 2.

#1b Outline continued...

II. Allies Become Enemies

A. Before World War II

1.

2.

B. Yalta Conference: A Postwar Plan

1.

2.

C. Creation of the United Nations and Geneva Conventions

1.

2.

D. Differing U.S. and Soviet Philosophy and Goals

1.

2.

NATO vs. Warsaw Pact

Key

- Warsaw Pact
- NATO
- Non-aligned Nations



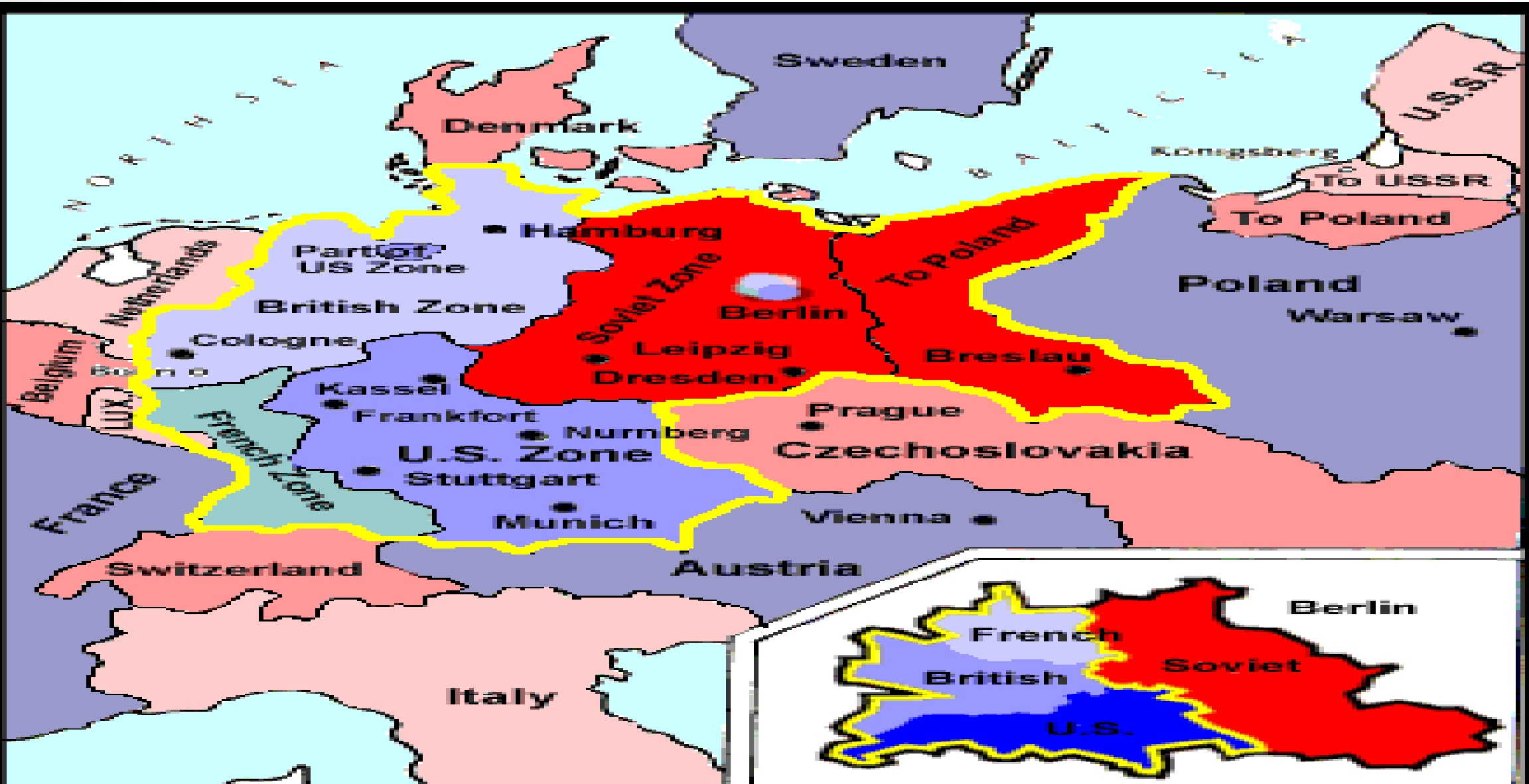
Two Sides Face Off in Europe

- Each Superpowers' armies confronted each other in Europe after WWII with the creation of military alliances.
- The United States formed **NATO** with Western European nations.
- The Soviet Union formed the **Warsaw Pact** with Eastern European nations.
- The two alliances in Europe faced each other along the **Iron Curtain**, the tense line between the democratic West and the communist East.

The Iron Curtain



The Division of Germany



A Wall Divides Berlin

- The city of Berlin, Germany was a key focus of the Cold War tensions.
- The city was split into democratic West and communist East.
- In the 1950s, West Berlin became a showcase for West German prosperity.
- A massive exodus of low-paid East Germans, unhappy with communism, fled into West Berlin.
- To stop the exodus, East Germany built a wall in 1961 that sealed off West Berlin.
- The Berlin Wall was a massive concrete barrier, topped with barbed wire and patrolled by guards.

The Division of Berlin, Germany



The Berlin Wall





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#2

As you read this lesson, take notes to explain how each of the following actions or policies led to the Cold War between the **United States** and the **Soviet Union**.

1. Meeting at Potsdam, Germany

2. Policy of containment

3. **Truman Doctrine**

4. **Marshall Plan**

5. **Warsaw Pact**

6. Formation of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (**NATO**)

7. Policy of brinksmanship

8. Launching of ***Sputnik I***