

During the Cold War, the Federal Republic of Germany, a divided nation on the front-line of the East-West confrontation, was buffeted by the actions and decisions of the superpowers, forced to redefine itself anew with each development in global relations.

Recent television news coverage of Vukovar, the town in eastern Croatia almost completely destroyed during a three-month Serbian siege, offered an idea of what Germany, and most of continental Europe, looked like in Six years of intensifying aerial bombardment-culminating in such atrocities as the destruction of Dresden in February and six months of a bitterly contested Allied invasion-culminating in the Battle of Berlin in April and May had turned the most industrialized and populous parts of Germany into an immense Vukovar. Theodore White , , the famous U. For miles around, the ground had been churned by Allied bombings and even now Until the economic effects of unification became apparent in and , Germany had an enviable record of generally sustained growth, high employment, and low inflation. The Marshall Plan In the immediate aftermath of World War II, the most important question for the victorious Allies was not whether such a heavily damaged region could ever recover, but whether it should ever recover. Twice in as many generations, the Allies thought, Germany had instigated European wars that had become global conflicts. To prevent the recurrence of further conflict, U. A number of developments shortly after the war made nonsense of the Morgenthau Plan and caused a radical revision of U. It would have been foolish for the Allies to risk fueling future German resentment by pursuing an equally harsh arrangement after Third, a revival of German industry and commerce would help offset the cost of occupation. The onset of the cold war in Europe was a fourth reason why the United States abandoned its punitive policy toward Germany. As the war came to an end, barely concealed animosity between the United States and the Soviet Union rapidly came to the fore. Fueled by economic, political, and military rivalry in the guise of an ideological crusade, the cold war divided the continent into a U. Probably the best-known international initiative ever undertaken by the United States, the Marshall Plan was the antithesis of the Morgenthau Plan. Named after then U. Secretary of State George Marshall, the plan sought to rebuild Western Europe economically, without distinction between former friend or foe. The plan, however, ran into the major obstacle of French intransigence. This put France in a double dilemma: Jean Monnet, a brilliant French official with a lifelong commitment to Franco-German reconciliation and European integration, had devised the plan to pool production of coal and steel under a single supranational authority. At that time, coal and steel were the essential ingredients of economic reconstruction and future prosperity. Today, these three communities are known collectively as the European Community. Weakened by hunger and shocked by the trauma of defeat and occupation, Germans toiled tirelessly to clear rubble, remove wreckage, reopen roads and railways, and rebuild houses, schools, and hospitals. Despite the terrible extent of wartime destruction, a surprising amount of industrial capacity remained relatively intact, ready to be restored. Having gradually regained their strength and self-esteem, by the early s Germans were ready to launch their country on the road to full economic recovery. The European Coal and Steel Community gave them the ability to do so; prevailing cheap labor and the economic effects of the Korean War also helped to fuel the boom. With an initial membership of France, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Italy, the European Coal and Steel Community included a supranational High Authority, the institutional depository of shared national sovereignty over the coal and steel sectors. The High Authority was responsible for formulating a common market in coal and steel, and for such related issues as pricing, wages, investment, and competition. It was an unglamorous organization that inadequately symbolized the high hopes of supranationalism in Europe. Yet the ECSC performed a vital purpose in the postwar world, in terms of German economic development, Franco-German reconciliation, and European integration. According to John Gillingham , , a noted scholar of European reconstruction, the ECSC served in lieu of a peace treaty concluding hostilities between Germany and Western Europe. This was no grand settlement in the manner of Westphalia or Versailles. The agreement to create a heavy industry pool changed no borders, created no new alliances, and reduced only a few commercial and financial barriers. It did not even

end the occupation of the Federal Republic By resolving the coal and steel conflicts that had stood between France and Germany since World War II, it did, however, remove the main obstacle to an economic partnership between the two nations. These were by no means inconsiderable achievements. Toward a More Comprehensive Economic Community In a effort to relaunch the movement for European integration in the mid s, the six ECSC countries considered forming a more comprehensive economic community. They proposed abolishing quotas and tariffs on intracommunity trade, establishing a joint external tariff, unifying trade policy toward the rest of the world, devising common policies for a range of socioeconomic sectors, and organizing a single internal market. The advantage of a common market in industrial goods was obvious to Germany, although Economics Minister Ludwig Erhard feared that it would be protectionist and, therefore, would distort world trade. An extremely buoyant European economy saw the EEC off to a strong start when it began operating in January The treaty included a specific timetable for establishing a customs union by lowering and ultimately abandoning industrial tariffs between the six member countries. The first intra-EEC tariff reductions took place, on schedule, on 1 January As other rounds of tariff and quota cuts followed, the EEC simultaneously started to erect a common external tariff. So successful were these first steps toward a customs union that the Community soon decided to accelerate its planned implementation. Eventually the customs union came into being on 1 July eighteen months earlier than stipulated in the Treaty of Rome. From Boom to Bust: Germany in the s and s As an emerging industrial giant, Germany benefited enormously from the explosion of intracommunity trade that followed the gradual implementation of the customs union. Between and alone, trade between the six member countries grew by 50 percent. The s was a decade of extraordinarily high and sustained rates of economic growth in Germany and throughout Western Europe. As soon as managers were convinced that the common market was going to be established, they started to behave in many ways as if it was already in existence" Pinder , The number of German farmers continued to decline, but the CAP offered a reasonable living to those who stayed on the land. In the s, Germany, more than any other Community country, enjoyed rapid economic development, a healthy balance of payments, and stable prices. A strong work ethic, harmonious labor relations, good management, sound investment, growing domestic and international demand, and a reputation for product reliability and durability characterized the manufacturing sector. Machine tools, cars, household appliances, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals were the leading industries. It was a decade of soaring growth rates, ample employment, and relatively low inflation. The German economy became the driving force within the Community. In the early s, however, the global economic bubble burst. Fiscal and monetary strains in the United States and Europe caused the postwar system of fixed exchange rates to collapse. The war in the Middle East and subsequent oil embargo produced sluggish growth and spiraling inflation and sent Western Europe into a recession. At a summit meeting in , Community leaders committed themselves to the goal of Economic and Monetary Union by the end of Throughout , soaring inflation, rising unemployment, yawning trade deficits, and a worsening oil crisis started to undermine Community solidarity. Economic and Monetary Union was an early and inevitable victim of the ensuing disarray. It was not until the end of the decade that the Community established a zone of relative monetary stability, thereby helping member states to fight inflation and recover economic growth. The consequent fall in inflation and stabilization of prices among the participating states brought the Community back to where it had been in the s, before the collapse of the Bretton Woods system a fixed system of currency parities pegged to the dollar whose value was linked to the price of gold. That, in turn, allowed the Community to direct its attention to the unfinished business of establishing a barrier-free, integrated market. With a quasifixed exchange rate regime operating in the community, member states were able to devise a program in the mids to bring about the free movement of goods, services, capital, and people. Had the EMS not been created and functioned so well, the [single market program] could not have been contemplated, let alone implemented. German manufacturers had already established a strategic alliance with the EC executive commission, and were at the forefront of efforts to promote intra-European collaboration in the high-technology sector. In , the commission produced the so-called White Paper, a list of approximately three hundred legislative measures that the Community would have to enact in order to complete the single market. These directives covered the remaining physical barriers that prevented free movement of people and goods in

the EC, the differences in national technical standards that hindered the free movement of goods, and the discrepancies in indirect tax rates between the member states that continued to inhibit trade. The Cost of Non-Europe to the European Community To quantify the cost to the European Community of maintaining a fragmented market, the Commission initiated a research program on the cost of non-Europe. Based on data from Germany and three other Community countries, independent consultants assessed the costs and benefits of maintaining the status quo by analyzing the effects of market barriers and by comparing the Community with North America. Despite protestations to the contrary, German business was not unanimous in its support of the single market program. Some manufacturers feared the consequences of market liberalization, preferring the protection of nontariff barriers and strict public procurement regulations. The alcoholic beverage industry, for instance, had hidden behind a German law of prohibiting the sale of imported drinks that did not meet minimum alcoholic content and purity requirements *Reinheitsgebot*. In , however, the European Court of Justice ruled that Germany could not discriminate against Community products that met standards set in member states where they were manufactured. Free movement of goods throughout the Community, which the principle of mutual recognition makes possible and the single-market program attempts to implement, clearly benefits Germany. Enterprises already manufacturing and marketing in a large market Germany is the most populous Community country will have a manifest advantage in a larger, integrated European market. In anticipation of such advantages, German enterprises of all sizes threw themselves wholeheartedly into the single market program, preparing for the eventual removal of remaining trade restrictions. Perhaps the only major problem was the cost and scarcity of labor. At the same time, high wages for skilled workers, generous conditions, and a liberal welfare system drove up the cost of German labor and, by definition, German products. By the end of the s, especially because of a drastically declining dollar, it seemed that German products might price themselves out of the international market. Structural unemployment, by German standards, had also reached a considerable volume and proved to be tenacious. By that time, the success of the single-market program convinced the Community to revive the quest for Economic and Monetary Union. In , Jacques Delors, President of the European Commission, presented a plan for economic and monetary union to Community leaders. The plan outlined three stages, culminating in irrevocably fixed exchange rate parities, with full responsibility for economic and monetary policy passing to EC institutions. As a staunch supporter of European integration, Chancellor Helmut Kohl endorsed the Delors Plan and supported calls for an intergovernmental conference to determine the treaty revisions necessary to achieve Economic and Monetary Union. The intergovernmental conference on Economic and Monetary Union, therefore, opened in December in tandem with an intergovernmental conference on European political union. Both conferences ended a year later at the Maastricht Summit. Stage one then in progress involved the establishment of free capital movement in the Community and closer monetary and macroeconomic cooperation between the member states and their central banks. Stage two, a transitional stage of intensified economic and monetary coordination, will begin in January Stage three will begin on 1 January at the latest. If a majority of member states possibly excluding Britain and Denmark, if they exercise the option they won at Maastricht to opt out of economic and monetary union meet the convergence criteria earlier, it could begin on 1 January The intergovernmental conferences leading to the Maastricht Treaty took place in the warm afterglow of German unification. At the April Dublin summit, Community leaders welcomed imminent unification as a positive factor in the development of Europe as a whole and the European Community in particular, adding that it would contribute to faster economic growth in the EC. Indeed, unification caused a massive increase in public spending and initially buoyed the German economy with growth rates of 4. The negative economic consequences of unification, however, became fully apparent after the Maastricht Summit. Chancellor Kohl had rushed headlong into unification for understandable political reasons, but either ignored or failed to grasp the enormous economic cost. At the same time, economic divergence in Western Europe made Economic and Monetary Union seem more remote than ever and caused severe strains in the European Monetary System.

2: Post-war Germany

In The Politics of Foreign Policy in Post-War Germany, David Patton develops the links between Cold War international pressures, and German domestic coalitions. The book examines a politics in uncertain times, with three major shifts in Cold War relations disrupting politics-as-usual in the Federal Republic.

The symbolic first meeting of American and Soviet soldiers occurred at Torgau, Ger. Their handshakes and toasts in beer and vodka celebrated their common victory over Nazi Germany and marked the collapse of old Europe altogether; but their

Origins of the Cold War

Following the surrender of Nazi Germany in May near the close of World War II, the uneasy wartime alliance between the United States and Great Britain on the one hand and the Soviet Union on the other began to unravel. By the Soviets had installed left-wing governments in the countries of eastern Europe that had been liberated by the Red Army. The Americans and the British feared the permanent Soviet domination of eastern Europe and the threat of Soviet-influenced communist parties coming to power in the democracies of western Europe. The Soviets, on the other hand, were determined to maintain control of eastern Europe in order to safeguard against any possible renewed threat from Germany, and they were intent on spreading communism worldwide, largely for ideological reasons. The Cold War had solidified by 1948, when U. The struggle between superpowers The Cold War reached its peak in 1962. In this period the Soviets unsuccessfully blockaded the Western-held sectors of West Berlin 1949; the United States and its European allies formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization NATO, a unified military command to resist the Soviet presence in Europe; the Soviets exploded their first atomic warhead, thus ending the American monopoly on the atomic bomb; the Chinese communists came to power in mainland China; and the Soviet-supported communist government of North Korea invaded U. From to Cold War tensions relaxed somewhat, largely owing to the death of the longtime Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin in 1953; nevertheless, the standoff remained. Another intense stage of the Cold War was in 1962. The United States and the Soviet Union began developing intercontinental ballistic missiles, and in the Soviets began secretly installing missiles in Cuba that could be used to launch nuclear attacks on U. This sparked the Cuban missile crisis, a confrontation that brought the two superpowers to the brink of war before an agreement was reached to withdraw the missiles. The two superpowers soon signed the Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty of 1963, which banned aboveground nuclear weapons testing. National Archives and Records Administration Throughout the Cold War the United States and the Soviet Union avoided direct military confrontation in Europe and engaged in actual combat operations only to keep allies from defecting to the other side or to overthrow them after they had done so. Thus, the Soviet Union sent troops to preserve communist rule in East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Afghanistan. For its part, the United States helped overthrow a left-wing government in Guatemala, supported an unsuccessful invasion of Cuba, invaded the Dominican Republic and Grenada, and undertook a long 1965 and unsuccessful effort to prevent communist North Vietnam from bringing South Vietnam under its rule see Vietnam War. Soviet invasionCzechs confronting Soviet troops in Prague, August 21, Soviet forces had invaded Czechoslovakia to crush the reform movement known as the Prague Spring. A major split had occurred between the Soviet Union and China in 1960 and widened over the years, shattering the unity of the communist bloc. Less-powerful countries had more room to assert their independence and often showed themselves resistant to superpower coercion or cajoling. The 1970s saw an easing of Cold War tensions as evinced in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks SALT that led to the SALT I and II agreements of 1972 and 1979, respectively, in which the two superpowers set limits on their antiballistic missiles and on their strategic missiles capable of carrying nuclear weapons. That was followed by a period of renewed Cold War tensions in the early 1980s as the two superpowers continued their massive arms buildup and competed for influence in the Third World. But the Cold War began to break down in the late 1980s during the administration of Soviet leader Mikhail S. He dismantled the totalitarian aspects of the Soviet system and began efforts to democratize the Soviet political system. When communist regimes in the Soviet-bloc countries of eastern Europe collapsed in 1989, Gorbachev acquiesced in their fall. In late 1991 the Soviet Union collapsed and 15 newly independent nations were born from its corpse, including a Russia with a democratically elected, anticommunist leader.

The Cold War had come to an end. Reagan, Ronald; Gorbachev, MikhailU.

3: Cold War Politics in Postwar Germany - David F. Patton, NA NA - Google Books

During the Cold War, the Federal Republic of Germany was buffeted by the actions and decisions of the superpowers, forced to redefine itself anew with each development in global relations. David F. Patton develops the links between Cold War international pressures and German domestic coalitions.

The territories east of the Oder-Neisse line, ceded to Poland and the Soviet Union, are shown as white as is the likewise detached Saar Protectorate. Berlin is the multinational area within the Soviet zone. Four occupation zones[edit] Further information: All Nazi land expansion from to was hence treated as automatically invalid. Expulsion and denazification[edit] The neutrality of this section is disputed. Relevant discussion may be found on the talk page. Please do not remove this message until conditions to do so are met.

April Further information: It was also agreed at Potsdam that Poland would receive all former German lands east of the Oder-Neisse line, although the exact delimitation of the boundary was left to be resolved at an eventual Peace Conference. Under the wartime alliances of the United Kingdom with the Czechoslovak and Polish governments-in-exile, the British had agreed in July to support ". In roughly Approximately 6 million fled or were evacuated before the Red Army occupied the area. Of the remainder, around 2 million died during the war or in its aftermath 1. The Sudetenland territories, surrendered to Germany by the Munich Agreement, were returned to Czechoslovakia; these territories containing a further 3 million ethnic Germans. August, German children deported from the eastern areas of Germany taken over by Poland arrive in West Germany. The Potsdam Conference subsequently sanctioned the "orderly and humane" transfer to Germany of individuals regarded as "ethnic Germans" by authorities in Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Hungary. The Potsdam Agreement recognized that these expulsions were already underway and were putting a burden on authorities in the German Occupation Zones, including the re-defined Soviet Occupation Zone. Most of the Germans who were being expelled were from Czechoslovakia and Poland, which included most of the territory to the east of the Oder-Neisse Line. The Potsdam Declaration stated: Since the influx of a large number of Germans into Germany would increase the burden already resting on the occupying authorities, they consider that the Allied Control Council in Germany should in the first instance examine the problem with special regard to the question of the equitable distribution of these Germans among the several zones of occupation. They are accordingly instructing their respective representatives on the control council to report to their Governments as soon as possible the extent to which such persons have already entered Germany from Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary, and to submit an estimate of the time and rate at which further transfers could be carried out, having regard to the present situation in Germany. The Czechoslovak Government, the Polish Provisional Government and the control council in Hungary are at the same time being informed of the above and are being requested meanwhile to suspend further expulsions pending the examination by the Governments concerned of the report from their representatives on the control council. Many of the ethnic Germans, who were primarily women and children, and especially those under the control of Polish and Czechoslovakian authorities, were severely mistreated before they were ultimately deported to Germany. Altogether, around 8 million ethnic German refugees and expellees from across Europe eventually settled in West Germany, with a further 3 million in East Germany. In West Germany these represented a major voting block; maintaining a strong culture of grievance and victimhood against Soviet Power, pressing for a continued commitment to full German reunification, claiming compensation, pursuing the right of return to lost property in the East, and opposing any recognition of the postwar extension of Poland and the Soviet Union into former German lands. But for Adenauer, fostering and encouraging unrealistic demands and uncompromising expectations amongst the expellees would serve his "Policy of Strength" by which West Germany contrived to inhibit consideration of unification or a final Peace Treaty until the West was strong enough to face the Soviets on equal terms. Consequently, the Federal Republic in the s adopted much of the symbolism of expellee groups; especially in appropriating and subverting the terminology and imagery of the Holocaust; applying this to post-war German experience instead. The intended governing body of Germany was called the Allied Control Council, consisting of the commanders-in-chief in Germany of the United

States, the United Kingdom, France and the Soviet Union; who exercised supreme authority in their respective zones, while supposedly acting in concert on questions affecting the whole country. In actuality however, the French consistently blocked any progress towards re-establishing all-German governing institutions; substantially in pursuit of French aspirations for a dismembered Germany, but also as a response to the exclusion of France from the Yalta and Potsdam conferences. Berlin, which lay in the Soviet eastern sector, was also divided into four sectors with the Western sectors later becoming West Berlin and the Soviet sector becoming East Berlin, capital of East Germany. The swastika and other outward symbols of the Nazi regime were banned, and a Provisional Civil Ensign was established as a temporary German flag. It remained the official flag of the country necessary for reasons of international law until East Germany and West Germany see below were independently established in The United States, the United Kingdom, and the Soviet Union had agreed at Potsdam to a broad program of decentralization, treating Germany as a single economic unit with some central administrative departments. These plans never materialised, initially because France blocked any establishment of central administrative or political structures for Germany; and also as both the Soviet Union and France were intent on extracting as much material benefit as possible from their occupation zones in order to make good in part the enormous destruction caused by the German Wehrmacht; and the policy broke down completely in when the Russians blockaded West Berlin and the period known as the Cold War began. It was agreed at Potsdam that the leading members of the Nazi regime who had been captured should be put on trial accused of crimes against humanity, and this was one of the few points on which the four powers were able to agree. In order to secure the presence of the western allies in Berlin, the United States agreed to withdraw from Thuringia and Saxony in exchange for the division of Berlin into four sectors. The State Department and individual U. In June the prohibition against speaking with German children was loosened. In July troops were permitted to speak to German adults in certain circumstances. In September the entire policy was dropped. Only the ban on marriage between Americans and German or Austrian civilians remained in place. At the Potsdam conference, with the U. This included the destruction of all ship and aircraft manufacturing capability. Further, it was decided that civilian industries which might have a military potential, which in the modern era of "total war" included virtually all, were to be severely restricted. In order to achieve this, each type of industry was subsequently reviewed to see how many factories Germany required under these minimum level of industry requirements. Germany was to be reduced to the standard of life it had known at the height of the Great Depression Sources in the U. Byrnes made the famous speech Restatement of Policy on Germany, also known as the Stuttgart speech, where he amongst other things repudiated the Morgenthau plan-influenced policies and gave the West Germans hope for the future. The next improvement came in July, when after lobbying by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Generals Clay and Marshall, the Truman administration decided that economic recovery in Europe could not go forward without the reconstruction of the German industrial base on which it had previously been dependent. Truman rescinded on "national security grounds" [22] the punitive occupation directive JCS, which had directed the U. The final limitations on German industrial levels were lifted after the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community in, though arms manufacture remained prohibited. French attempts to gain political control of or permanently internationalize the Ruhr were abandoned in with the West German agreement to pool its coal and steel resources in return for full political control over the Ruhr see European Coal and Steel Community. With French economic security guaranteed through access to Ruhr coal now permanently ensured France was satisfied. The French attempt to gain economic control over the Saar was temporarily even more successful. Byrnes stated the U. The Saar came under French administration in as the Saar Protectorate, but did return to Germany in January following a referendum, with economic reintegration with Germany occurring a few years later. Although not a party to the Potsdam conference where the policy of industrial disarmament had been set, as a member of the Allied Control Council France came to champion this policy since it ensured a weak Germany. In August the French parliament voted down the treaty that would have established the European Defense Community, a treaty they themselves had proposed in as a means to contain German revival. France instead focused on another treaty also under development. In May France had proposed the European Coal and Steel Community with the purpose of ensuring French economic security by perpetuating

access to German Ruhr coal, but also to show to the U. Dismantling in East Germany[edit] The Soviet Union engaged in a massive industrial dismantling campaign in its occupation zone, much more intensive than that carried out by the Western powers. While the Soviet powers soon realized that their actions alienated the German workforce from the Communist cause, they decided that the desperate economic situation within the Soviet Union took priority over alliance building. The allied leaders had agreed on paper to economic and political cooperation but the issue of reparations dealt an early blow to the prospect of a united Germany in This was the beginning of the formal split of Germany. Though the Marshall Plan is regarded as playing a key psychological role in the West German recovery, other factors were also significant. The Western Allies replied with a continuous airlift of supplies to the western half of the city. The Soviets ended the blockade after 11 months. Reparations to the U. German reparations for World War II The Allies confiscated intellectual property of great value, all German patents, both in Germany and abroad, and used them to strengthen their own industrial competitiveness by licensing them to Allied companies. John Gimbel comes to the conclusion, in his book "Science Technology and Reparations: Exploitation and Plunder in Postwar Germany", that the "intellectual reparations" taken by the U. Meanwhile, thousands of the best German scientists were being put to work in the U. During the war, Germans seized food supplies from occupied countries and forced millions of foreigners to work on German farms, in addition to food shipped from farms in eastern Germany. When this ended in , the German rationing system which stayed in place had much lower supplies of food. Army sent in large shipments of food to feed some 7. The Germans were not high on the priority list for international aid, which went to the victims of the Nazis. When the Vatican attempted to transmit food supplies from Chile to German infants, the U. State Department forbade it. Forced labor of Germans after World War II As agreed by the Allies at the Yalta conference Germans were used as forced labor as part of the reparations to be extracted. By it is estimated that ,[dubious â€” discuss] Germans both civilians and POWs were being used as forced labor by the U. German prisoners were for example forced to clear minefields in France and the Low Countries. By December it was estimated by French authorities that 2, German prisoners were being killed or injured each month in accidents.

4: Cold War politics in postwar Germany - Brigham Young University

David F. Patton, Cold War Politics in Postwar Germany. New York: St. Martin's Press, pp. The dominant role of the Cold War in shaping West German society has long been understood. Wolfram Hanrieder described the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) as a "penetrated system," the politics of which were determined by international contingencies.

Their opinions on this differed, as they had differed with regard to the future of Poland. At the Yalta Conference of 1945, United States president Franklin Roosevelt suggested that Germany be hacked into small pieces, a strategy for limiting its future capacity for war. The Roosevelt plan would abolish the German nation and create several smaller self-governing nations: Hanover, Prussia, Hesse, Saxony and Bavaria. Soviet leader Joseph Stalin, who had more to fear from a resurgent Germany than Roosevelt, enthusiastically agreed. Of course, they would want to unite, no matter how much they were split up. They would always want to reunite. In this [reunification] he saw great danger, which would have to be neutralised by various economic measures and, in the long run, by force if necessary. That was the only way to keep the peace. But if we were to make a large combination with Germans in it, trouble was bound to come. We had to see to it that they were kept separate. Churchill believed a partitioning of Germany was necessary "but not to the extent proposed by Roosevelt. This, Churchill believed, would fill western Europe with small, economically fragile nation-states. Churchill preferred the creation of three German-speaking states in the north, south and west. These states would be resourced enough to be prosperous but small enough to be supervised and managed, particularly if they attempted rearmament or reunification. Another proposal, the Morgenthau Plan, also appeared in 1945. Named for its inventor, US Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, this proposal called for the dismemberment of the German state and the almost complete deindustrialisation of the German economy. The remainder of Germany would be divided into two separate nations. Roosevelt gave his approval to the Morgenthau Plan. As per the London Protocol, signed in September 1945, the Allied armies moved to occupy discrete sectors. The Soviets north-east, British north-west and Americans south each occupied approximately one-third of German territory, while the French controlled smaller zones along their border. The German government was replaced by the Allied Control Council, a four-nation body formed in August 1945. The Allied Control Council was plagued with differences of opinion and internal tensions, however, and within a year the Council had broken down. By late 1945, the four Allied powers were administering their occupied zones fairly autonomously. In the first year of occupation, many American politicians and strategists became opposed to the partition of Germany. One of these politicians was James F. Byrnes was a pragmatist who identified several political and economic advantages in allowing Germany to remain a unified state. American economic strategists recognised how important German economic prosperity was to western Europe. Replacing the productive and prosperous German economy with a number of smaller nations, each stripped of industrial capacity and reliant on foreign aid, had the potential to decimate Europe. Maintaining a unified Germany would provide a buffer between the Soviets and the West, whereas a cluster of weak, German-speaking states could be picked off by the Soviets, one at a time. Byrnes also understood that most Germans opposed partitioning and wanted their nation to remain unified. It merely provided that for the time being there should be no central German government. Certainly, this only meant that no central government should be established until some sort of democracy was rooted in the soul of Germany and some sense of local responsibility developed. It is the view of the American Government that the German people throughout Germany, under proper safeguards, should now be given the primary responsibility for the running of their own affairs. The American people want to return the government of Germany to the German people. The American people want to help the German people to win their way back to an honourable place among the free and peace-loving nations of the world. In mid-1945, US and British representatives began planning a merger of their occupation zones into a single economic unit. They invited the French and Soviet zones to join this merger but both resisted. He lobbied the British to permit increases in steel production in Bizonia, from 7. The Americans allowed Germans to take the first steps towards a return to self-government, establishing a number of local boards to manage food and agriculture, transport, communications, finance and trade. German communists and social democrats formed a coalition

under pressure from Moscow. This left-wing coalition dominated local and regional elections in By it was effectively in control of the zone, albeit as a puppet of the Kremlin. A visual display of the divided post-war Germany In April Bizonia became Trizonia when the French agreed to a merger with their occupied zone. Weeks later, Trizonia became an independent state: Over the next four decades, the two Germanys were a focal point of world attention. The divisions and tensions between communist East Germany and the US-sponsored West Germany became both the epicentre and a microcosm of the broader Cold War. Some leaders favoured breaking Germany up into many smaller nation-states, while others preferred a two- or three-part division. The Morgenthau Plan, formed in , suggested that the four Allied powers occupy Germany in separate zones. They would work to demilitarise and deindustrialise Germany to prevent any chance of another war. Germany was indeed occupied by the Americans, Soviets, British and French in four discrete zones. By , however, the Americans preferred that Germany remain a single, independent nation. Consequently, the Americans allowed a degree of economic and industrial recovery in their sector. In the American, British and French zones merged to form a unified nation: The Soviet zone became a socialist nation:

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Cold War Politics in Post War Germany by Patton, David F. and Patton, D. available in Trade Paperback on www.enganchecubano.com, also read synopsis and reviews. During the Cold War, the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), a divided nation on the front-line of.

After the war, Germany was left defeated, and Britain and France were left drained and exhausted. The United States and the Soviet Union, though also drained, held considerable power, and both soon rose to superpower status. The two became rivals through "conflicting ideologies and mutual distrust"¹, and constantly competed for power. The Soviet Union wanted to spread Communism in Eastern Europe and create a "buffer zone" of friendly governments as defense against Germany. An "iron curtain" separated Europe. The post-war state of Germany was grim: After its unconditional surrender, Germany was divided into four zones of Allied military occupation: American, French, British, and Soviet. The old capital of Berlin was also divided into four zones, but Berlin itself remained inside of the Soviet zone. West Germany became a surprisingly stable western democracy. This was what brought the downfall of the Weimar Republic and the rise of the Nazi Party, after all. East Germany was established as a Stalin-style Socialist state. The East German government was formed into a centralized and dictatorial regime. Free speech and opinions against the regime were not tolerated, and artistic and intellectual programs were strongly controlled. The Allies were at the same time trying to be forgiving to the Germans for World War Two while also insuring that the Germans could never again begin the expansionism that had led to the two previous wars. The location of Germany as the gateway between East and West Europe made it the ideal place for these political struggles to occur. When Russia had tried to expand in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, they were checked by the rising power of the German state. This new annexation caused the powers in Europe to become unbalanced and Russia replaced Germany as the country that was getting too big. Contrary to their actions against rising powers in the past, England did not try to stop the Russian expansion. They did this because they thought it preferable to give Russia parts of Germany over giving them other territories that would allow Russia access to the Mediterranean. The Allies had many reasons for partitioning Germany. Overall, the purpose of dividing land up was to control Germany until a new government could be instated. France, America, England and Russia all had parts of Germany that were put temporarily under their control. While the Allies were still in occupation of the country, decisions were made by a council of the four powers. The representatives were then responsible for carrying out the decisions of the council in their allotted territory. There was a catch that the Russians exploited to thwart the other powers. According to the treaty, proposals to the council were only put into effect if there was a unanimous vote. The Russians could use this just like they used the U. The Russians had annoyed the other powers by using their veto power in the Security Council to veto every proposition that came before them. By exercising their right to arbitrarily veto any decision made regarding Germany, they could prevent any actions that were against their best interest. The Soviets then would be able to run Eastern Germany as they wished, because no proposition stopping them from doing so could be passed. The Marshall Plan and the Truman Doctrine In June , the Marshall Plan was put into effect in order to stop the Russians from influencing any of the weakened western powers. During the time the United States sent massive economic aid to Europe democracies to help rebuild. Billions of dollars were spent to help countries recover quickly and to reduce the influence of Communism. Russia refused the aid of the Marshall Plan and, as a result, East Germany was not completely rebuilt. This lack of reconstruction showed through even after the reunification. The German economy after reunification took a big hit, because it had to pay for all the reconstruction that the Communists never did. The Truman Doctrine, a plan to help states going through a struggle for freedom against their oppressors, was instituted in President Truman said, "I believe it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures. Germany was both under subjugation by an outside force and also under the power of the armed minority that the Russians would soon put into power in the form of the DDR Deutsches Demokratische Republik. At the same time the Russians instituted the DDR, which turned out to be

more of a regime than a government. The Berlin Crisis and the Berlin Airlift Due to horrible conditions in East Germany, its citizens had begun to cross over to West Germany and were allowed to proclaim themselves refugees. This caused labor shortages in East Germany and also the further degradation of an already failing East German economy. As East Germany got worse and worse, Russia became willing to take offensive measures to reclaim West Berlin. In December of 1948, Russia and the United States finally parted ways and the Western Powers began to meet about German business without the Russian ambassador present. On March 20, 1949, Russia declared that the Allied Control Council of Berlin no longer existed and voluntarily withdrew from all of their meetings. As a result, there were no government relations existing between Russia and the other Allies. The problems worsened when the Russians decided that they wanted all of Berlin under their control. There had been no previous treaties giving the Allies free access to West Berlin through Russian territory, so Russia exploited this situation and isolated Berlin from American soldiers and supplies. The Berlin Blockade began in mid 1948 as Russian forces surrounded West Berlin in an effort to make Allied soldiers there surrender from starvation. The Soviets sealed off railroads and highways to the Western sector of Berlin, effectively cutting it off from the Western Allied sector of Germany. In response to this, the Allies instituted the Berlin Airlift on June 21, 1948, in order to provide West Berlin with food and fuel. Cargo planes dropped food, fuel, and other supplies into West Germany 24 hours a day. Russia then went on to claim that Berlin was rightfully theirs and that the Western powers had control only of West Berlin because they had more votes when the partition was being made. Marshall answered this by declaring to the Russian government that all Allies had a right to be in Berlin and that the United States intended to stay. He then went on to cut off all passage of trains between East and West Germany. The conflict intensified when America secretly moved 60 long-range bombers into the British Isles. Russia saw that the Allies did not intend to surrender so they offered the citizens of West Berlin food on the condition that they came over to the Russian side. The West Berliners decided that they would rather starve than be under Russian authority. In May, 1949, Russia called off the failed blockade. They lost this confrontation for two reasons. First, the Russians had not yet acquired nuclear capabilities and therefore could not stage a larger offensive. Second, the Russians were in an extremely bad position in regard to foreign relations; " While the Berlin Airlift continuing month after month provided a tangible demonstration of western determination and competence. Reconciliation West Germany began their first big step toward making amends with France in March of 1950. They made a peace treaty with the French that ended the conflict that had been going on since the early 1940s. The peace treaty was a step toward assuring the Allies that there was no possibility of German expansion and the outbreak of another war, the only things the Allies required to guarantee Germany its autonomy. On May 9, 1950, France and Germany made a treaty that gave joint control of the steel and coal industry in Germany and France making it "not merely unthinkable, but materially impossible"3 to have a war between the two countries. As a result of these actions, West Germany became accepted again in European affairs. At about the same time as the treaty May 1950, the Korean War broke out, and Europe tensed for a Russian invasion into the West. This showed that some of the Allies were beginning to trust the Germans again. They thought if German got an army of any kind, they would immediately make an alliance with Russia and attack the French. On May 26, 1950, the occupation of West German was officially over according to the treaty, and West Germany was supposed to have its own government. The Allies would not let go of the country until they were absolutely sure that Germany would not return as a threat. This was to create an army that was composed of all these countries under the command of NATO. The French Assembly rejected this treaty for fear of the German army, and as a result, attempts to unify West Germany under its own authority were very temporarily dropped. The English, on October 3, 1950, made the last step that France needed to be assured that Germany was not a threat by declaring that they would maintain a military presence on mainland Europe. This gave France the security they wanted against a German invasion. France then consisted to end the occupation of West Germany and to admit it into the Brussels Treaty. West Germany was now a wholly independent state except for West Berlin. Tension Between the Superpowers Rises During the time elapsed between the first blockade and 1950, Russia had developed nuclear capabilities and they were ready to go after West Berlin again. In 1950, East Germany began to again block immigration to West Germany by establishing barbed wire fences and patrols along the whole border between

East and West Germany. Berlin was the only spot open to immigration between the two countries. The Russians restricted access to West Berlin, except through two routes. The first route consisted of heavily guarded roads where Russian soldiers harassed travelers. The second consisted of three airlines; Russian fighter planes "buzzed" flights. Basically, these tactics were adopted to demonstrate to the Allies that they were helpless to stop any Russian movement. Russia at that time had the technology to prevent another airlift, so the Allies had no option of peacefully supplying West Berlin with food. What good would it do to send a few more thousand or indeed a few divisions into Europe with something like Soviet divisions in the area? The Allies had no alliances with the DDR in terms of established passages into Berlin, and so the Allies had no way to hold Berlin, but still refused to let it go. Russia and the Allies entered a stalemate. But, as May 27 got closer, Russia began to look for a way to back down and get out of the situation. Russia launched a flurry of new deadlines. On March 5, they declared that they were willing to delay the transition of power to the DDR. On March 9, they declared that they wanted to have all countries involved in the conflict withdraw their troops. They finally backed down completely on March 11, when they declared that they would allow free access to West Berlin for all travelers. And so, again, the Communists lost the cosmic game of chicken. The Berlin Wall In , Berlin, the last place through which immigrants could leave East Germany, was blocked off by the "infamous" Berlin Wall, at which more than 80 persons were shot while trying to escape East Germany on non-consecutive occasions. By November 9, , the people had begun to openly destroy the Wall and so Russia decided to take it down, allowing free immigration between the countries and also instigating the first of the movements to unify Germany.

6: The Nazi Perpetrator – University of Minnesota Press

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Allied troops in Vladivostok , August , during the Allied intervention in the Russian Civil War While most historians trace the origins of the Cold War to the period immediately following World War II, others argue that it began with the October Revolution in Russia in when the Bolsheviks took power. Since the time of the formation of the soviet republics, the states of the world have divided into two camps: There – in the camp of capitalism – national enmity and inequality, colonial slavery, and chauvinism, national oppression and pogroms, imperialist brutalities and wars. Here – in the camp of socialism – mutual confidence and peace, national freedom and equality, a dwelling together in peace and the brotherly collaboration of peoples. This conflict after took on new battlefields, new weapons, new players, and a greater intensity, but it was still fundamentally a conflict against Soviet imperialism real and imagined. As for the two cold wars thesis, the chief problem is that the two periods are incommensurable. To be sure, they were joined together by enduring ideological hostility, but in the post-World War I years Bolshevism was not a geopolitical menace. Even with more amicable relations in the s, it is conceivable that post relations would have turned out much the same. Britain signed a formal alliance and the United States made an informal agreement. According to this view, the Western Allies had deliberately delayed opening a second anti-German front in order to step in at the last minute and shape the peace settlement. Thus, Soviet perceptions of the West left a strong undercurrent of tension and hostility between the Allied powers. Tehran Conference and Yalta Conference The Allies disagreed about how the European map should look, and how borders would be drawn, following the war. Winston Churchill , Franklin D. Roosevelt and Joseph Stalin , The Soviet Union sought to dominate the internal affairs of countries in its border regions. Soviet agents took control of the media, especially radio; they quickly harassed and then banned all independent civic institutions, from youth groups to schools, churches and rival political parties. With the Soviets already occupying most of Central and Eastern Europe, Stalin was at an advantage, and the two western leaders vied for his favors. The differences between Roosevelt and Churchill led to several separate deals with the Soviets. In October , Churchill traveled to Moscow and proposed the " percentages agreement " to divide the Balkans into respective spheres of influence , including giving Stalin predominance over Romania and Bulgaria and Churchill carte blanche over Greece. At the Yalta Conference of February , Roosevelt signed a separate deal with Stalin in regard of Asia and refused to support Churchill on the issues of Poland and the Reparations. The memorandum drafted by Churchill provided for "eliminating the warmaking industries in the Ruhr and the Saar It directed the U. The Soviet Union was not allowed to participate and the dispute led to heated correspondence between Franklin Roosevelt and Stalin. Wolff and his forces were being considered to help implement Operation Unthinkable , a secret plan to invade the Soviet Union which Winston Churchill advocated during this period. Truman , who distrusted Stalin and turned for advice to an elite group of foreign policy intellectuals. In Germany and Austria , France, Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States established zones of occupation and a loose framework for parceled four-power control. The Soviet leader said he was pleased by the news and expressed the hope that the weapon would be used against Japan. Shortly after the attacks, Stalin protested to US officials when Truman offered the Soviets little real influence in occupied Japan.

7: The Economic Development of Postwar Germany

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8: Cold War - Wikipedia

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2 Cold War Politics in Postwar Germany Each policy was extremely controversial. In the early s, Chancellor Adenauer developed a Western policyâ€”that is, a Westpolitikâ€”that would.

9: History of Germany (â€”90) - Wikipedia

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