

Name: _____
Period: _____

Mr. Saccullo & Ms. Rosenthal

THE COLD WAR Homework #1

The Yalta Conference, 1945

The Yalta Conference took place in a Russian resort town in the Crimea from February 4-11, 1945, during World War II. At Yalta, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin made important decisions regarding the future progress of the war and the postwar world.

The Allied leaders discussed the future of Germany, Eastern Europe and the United Nations. Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin agreed not only to include France in the postwar governing of Germany, but also that Germany should assume some, but not all, responsibility for reparations following the war. The Americans and the British generally agreed that future governments of the Eastern European nations bordering the Soviet Union should be "friendly" to the Soviet regime while **the Soviets pledged to allow free elections in all territories liberated from Nazi Germany.**

Initial reaction to the Yalta agreements was celebratory. Roosevelt and many other Americans viewed it as proof that the spirit of U.S.-Soviet wartime cooperation would carry over into the postwar period. This sentiment, however, was short lived. With the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt on April 12, 1945, Harry S. Truman became the thirty-third president of the United States. By the end of April, the new administration clashed with the Soviets over their influence in Eastern Europe, and over the United Nations. Alarmed at the perceived lack of cooperation on the part of the Soviets, many Americans began to criticize Roosevelt's handling of the Yalta negotiations. To this day, many of Roosevelt's critics accuse him of "handing over" Eastern Europe and Northeast Asia to the Soviet Union at Yalta despite the fact that the Soviets did make many significant compromises.

1.) Explain the central idea of the Yalta Conference according to the passage above.

2.) The Beginning of the Cold War (pgs. 810-811)

Why the U.S. distrusted the Soviet Union	Why the Soviet Union distrusted the U.S.

3.) Broken Promises: Page 811:

Why did Stalin break his postwar promise of allowing free elections in Eastern Europe?

What is a **satellite nation**? How did the Soviets govern their satellite nations?

4.) Explain what Winston Churchill meant when he said: “an **iron curtain** has descended over the continent (of Europe)” Pg. 811

5.) Explain President Truman’s policy of **containment**. (Page 811)

6.) The **Truman Doctrine** (Page 811)

What was the Truman Doctrine?	Why was it created?	What countries were affected by this policy?

7.) What was the **Marshall Plan**? Why was it significant? (Page 812)
