



## Soviet Bloc/Eastern Bloc

- Communist nations closely allied with the Soviet Union: Examples:
- Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Romania
- Their foreign policies depended on those of the former Soviet Union.
- Did not include communist nations with independent foreign policies, such as China, Yugoslavia, and Albania.





Churchill and Truman on stage at Westminster College, Fulton MO, during Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech 1946.

## “The Iron Curtain”

- *“From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an **iron curtain** has descended across the continent.”*
- Speech is considered one of the opening statements beginning the “Cold War.”
- United States stood *“at the pinnacle of world power.”*
- Primary purpose of his talk was to argue for an even closer “special relationship” between the United States and Great Britain
- In organizing and policing the postwar world. In particular, he warned against the expansionist policies of the Soviet Union.







George F. Kennan

## CONTAINMENT POLICY

- Kennan was a junior Foreign Service officer at the American Embassy in Moscow (*text p.29*)
- Stalin was expanding Soviet influence in the world
  - He delayed withdrawal of troops from northern Iran (since 1942 with American troops to keep oil away from Hitler)
  - He demanded territory in Turkey for bases that would have given him control over Turkish Straits
  - He requested role in the administration of former Italian colonies in North Africa:
    - Hoping to set up naval bases in the eastern Mediterranean
- Kennan responded to Stalin's demands with an 8000-word cable to Washington, "long telegram"
- Became the basis for US strategy toward the Soviet Union for the whole of the Cold War.



It is clear that the main element of any United States policy toward the Soviet Union must be that of long-term, patient but firm and vigilant containment of Russian expansive tendencies.

— *George F. Kennan* —

AZ QUOTES