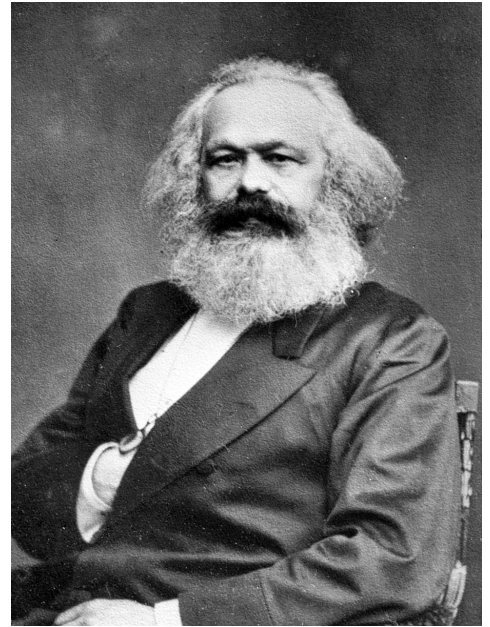


1

Karl Marx

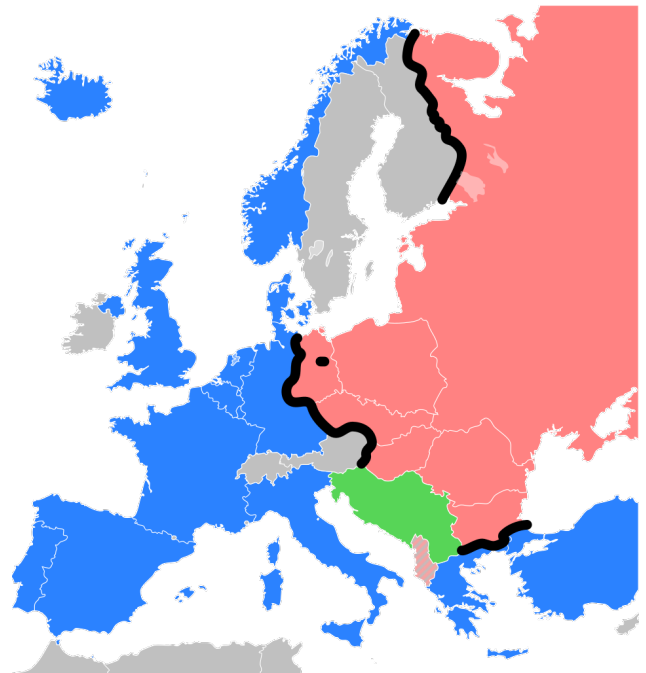
- Marx published the pamphlet *The Communist Manifesto* in 1848, which would become his most widely known and remembered work.
- Marx's theories that human societies develop through class struggle and the differing interests of people became known as Marxism.
- He actively pushed the working class to organize revolts against the ruling class in order to combat the growing capitalistic society.
- Marx married Jenny von Westphalen in 1843 and they had seven children together.
- Due to his political writings, Marx became stateless and forced to live in exile with his family in London for decades.



2

The Iron Curtain

1. Poland
2. Eastern Germany (Now Germany)
3. Czechoslovakia (Now the Czech Republic and Slovakia)
4. Hungary
5. Yugoslavia
6. Romania
7. Bulgaria
8. Albania
9. The Soviet Union – Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (Now Russia, Belarus, Latvia, Ukraine, Estonia, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Lithuania, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan)



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3

Cuba

- Cuba's capital is Havana. Almost 2.1 million of the country's 11 million population resides there.
- Cuba was a Spanish Colony until the Spanish American War in 1898. Cuba became a protectorate of the United States of America. In 1902, the country claimed their independence and became their own republic.
- Cuba is the largest country in the Caribbean. It has more than 3,500 islands.
- Many people living in Cuba do not own cars. Many of the cars that are present on the islands are older cars from the 1950s.
- Since 1965, Cuba has been under communist rule, being first led by Fidel Castro until 2006. His brother Raul took over after his rule, staying in power until 2018.



4

The Berlin Wall

- In 1945, after Germany's defeat during World War II, the country was split into four zones of occupation.
- Out of fear of the Soviet Union's communist rule, more than 2.7 million East Germans fled to the West from 1949-1961.
- In 1961, overnight, a barbed wire fenced was put in place along the border while troops began construction of a more permanent concrete barricade that would stretch over a hundred miles, cutting off all of West Berlin from East Germany completely.
- The wall was heavily guarded, though many people still attempted to make their way through. Around 200 people were killed in their attempts to flee while 5,000 were caught and jailed.

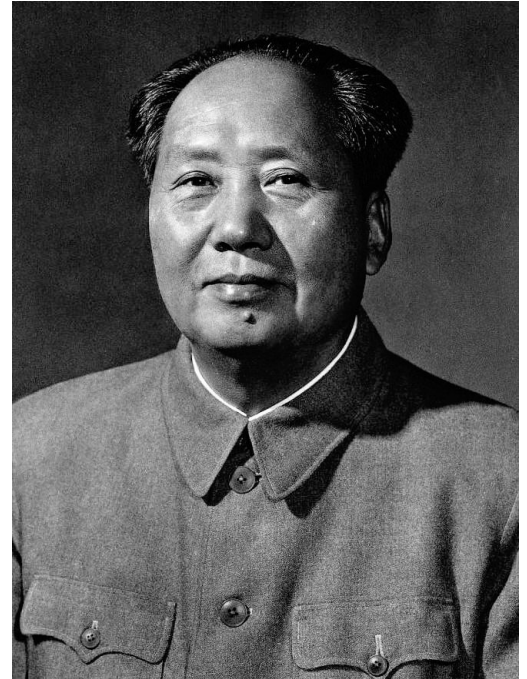


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5

Mao and the Communist Revolution

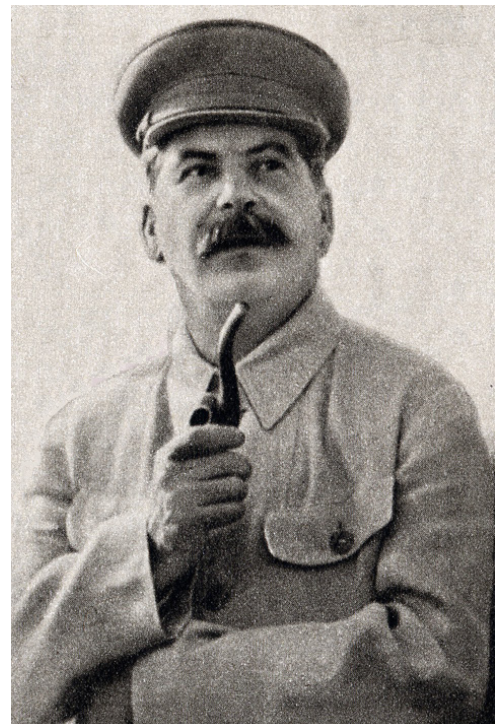
- Mao Zedong was the leader of the Communist Party of China from 1933-1976.
- In the 1960s, Mao became obsessed with changing China and the way its people were thinking. He wanted to alter the way people remembered history, forcing the country into what became known as the “Cultural Revolution.”
- Mao urged young people to attack the headquarters, to revolt against the government and the norms of their present society.
- The worst of Mao’s ideas was the Great Leap Forward campaign he led from 1958 to 1962. He pushed China’s people to leave their jobs and go into farming. This hurt the agricultural sector economically, further disturbing the lives of many.



6

Joseph Stalin

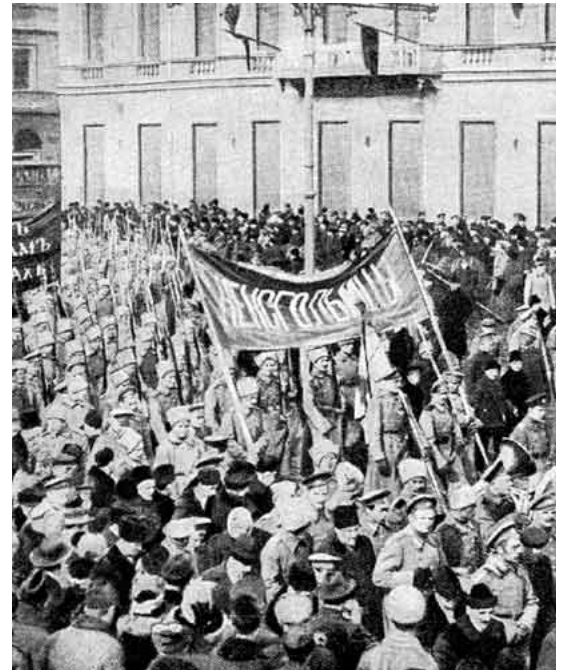
- Joseph Stalin was the leader of the Soviet Union from 1922 until his death in 1953. He controlled the union through totalitarian rule.
- Stalin’s birth name was Ioseb Besarionis dze Jugashvili. Some say he chose the name Stalin in an attempt to intimidate, since it means “Man of Steel.”
- In 1932, Stalin pushed his people to change the way they farmed, attempting to change the structure of agriculture and the economics behind it. Many people disapproved of his ideas, resisting his orders.
- Stalin cooperated with Hitler throughout WWII, participating in some of his horrific acts. In 1941, after the war, Hitler turned against Stalin trying to take over the USSR.



7

Bolshevik Revolution

- The Bolshevik Revolution began in 1917 when the working class revolted against the Russian government. Vladimir Lenin led a group of revolutionaries known as the Bolsheviks.
- During this revolution, Lenin ended up in full control of the government making Russia the first communist country in the world.
- The Tsar that Lenin defeated was Tsar Nicholas II. He and his family were eventually executed by the Bolsheviks.
- His family, the Romanovs, were the last imperial dynasty to rule in Russia. They had first come to power in 1613 with 17 Romanovs taking the throne before Nicholas.



8

Vladimir Lenin & the Gulags

- Vladimir Lenin was the leader of the Bolshevik Revolutions and eventual head of the Soviet government.
- From the 1930s to 50s, he helped found and control a network of slave labor camps known as the Gulag.
- Those who spoke out against the Soviet Union were placed in these camps, where they lived under harsh conditions and were often worked to death.
- This network of prison camps in Siberia and throughout Soviet territory became one of the largest prison systems in existence.
- After Stalin's death in 1953, many people were released from the Gulag system. The program was officially put to an end in 1960. Around 10 million people were sent to the gulags with almost 15,000,000 deaths attributed to this system.

