



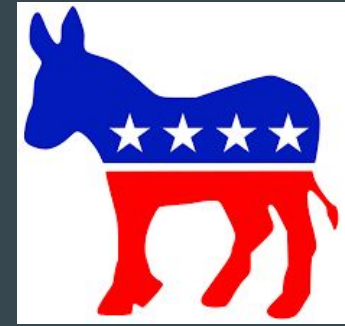
Jimmy Carter

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Background

- Democrat
- Elected in 1977
- 1 term governor from Georgia
- Won Nobel Prize for being a model Ex-President
- Foreign policy focused on human rights because of his religious background
- Believed in the rule of law in international affairs and the principle of self determination for all people



United States in the 1970s

- Americans faced malaise towards the Government in the late 1970s due to a stagflation at the time of Carter's inauguration
 - Malaise: long-term negative feelings
 - Stagflation: persistent high inflation combined with high unemployment
- Americans held a pessimistic view of the Cold War and how the Government was handling foreign affairs

Human rights

- Believed in “protecting the individual from the arbitrary power of the state”
- Risked straining relationships with allies because he stopped negotiating with Dictators
- Criticized the Soviet Union and its East European allies for their human rights violations
- Carter stopped denouncing the Soviet Union because they threatened to end arm control talks
 - Could possibly lead to another war

Camp David

- Camp David: a Presidential retreat outside Washington
- Yom Kippur War of 1973 between Israel and Egypt/Syria
- Israeli Prime Minister: Menachem Begin
- Egypt's President: Anwar Sadat
- Agreement: Israel will withdraw from from the Sinai Peninsula, the US would monitor posts to prevent attacks, and Israel and Egypt would recognize each other's governments and sign a peace treaty
 - Showcases diplomacy: the power of the President to enact change



The Panama Canal

- Gave Panama operation of the canal by 1999
 - The United States would vacate the zone
 - The US can intervene
- Americans and Soviets saw him as weak for giving away control of the canal



China

- 1979: The US formally recognized Communist China
 - To do so, the US had to sever diplomatic ties with the Republic of China
- Allowed for trading between the US and China
- Reduced tensions in Asia
- Carter revoked the “Mutual Defense Treaty with the Republic of China”
 - Angered Conservative Republicans and the Federal Courts
 - An appeal court ruled that it was Carter’s right as President to revoke the treaty without Senate approval
 - Supreme Court threw out case
 - Carter won by default

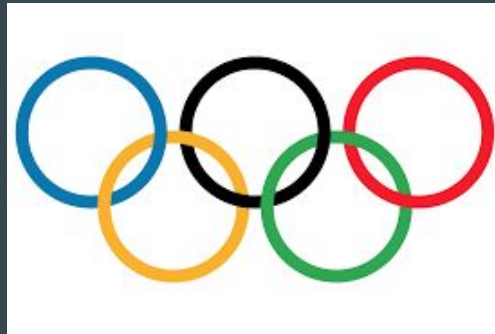


Relations with the Soviets

- Suspicions of the Soviet Union by the National Security Council made it hard for Carter's policy of détente to continue
 - Détente: easing of tensions between the Soviets and the US
- Carter created a 5 year plan to increase the United State's defense system
 - Soviets found this provocative
- 1979: The Soviets invaded Afghanistan with 50,000 armed troops to squash a Muslim rebellion
 - Claimed to be saving Afghanistan from an "unidentified outside threat"
- Soviets gained control of Kabul and assassinated the Afghan President
 - Led to Guerrilla warfare
- Soviet control of Afghanistan and possible expansion into surrounding countries threatened oil supply

US Reactions

- Prior to the invasion: the US and the Soviet Union signed the SALT II treaty
 - limited the deployment of nuclear missiles
- After the invasion: Carter withdrew the treaty
 - However, both sides agreed to abide by the treaty even though it was never ratified
- Carter stopped selling grain to the Soviet Union
- The US boycotted the 1980 Summer Olympic Games in Moscow
 - Reinforced Carter's weak image
 - US athletes felt as though they were being punished as much as the Soviets



Iran

- 1951: The US appointed the tyrannical leader Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi in order to reduce the threat of a Soviet invasion in Iran and gain access to oil
 - Iranians saw the Shah as a “Western Puppet” to the US and England
- The Shah became a tyrant due to his support from America
 - Resulted in human rights violations
- The Iranians revolted, causing the Shah to flee to Mexico
 - He developed cancer and President Carter allowed him to stay in the US for medical treatment



Iran Hostage Crisis

- 1979: Iranians overran American Embassy and captured 66 Americans
- Carter's attempts to free the hostages failed
 - Froze Iranian assets
 - Made secret negotiations
 - Launched a military mission
 - Americans saw Carter as weak for being unable to free the hostages
- Hostages were released during Reagan's inauguration when the US promised not to interfere with Iran's internal affairs and unfreeze their funds
- After the crisis: Growing threat of the spread of Islamism in the Middle East
- The US had a false sense of security after the Cold War
 - US thought their biggest enemy was destroyed- The Soviets
 - War on Terrorism