

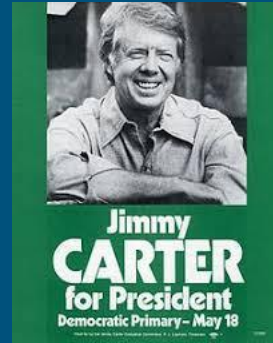
President Carter

Mark Dunn, Matt Hennessey, Ali Golden



Carter's Background

- Democrat
- One term governor of Georgia
- Wanted US to lead in promoting international human rights
- Wanted to relax Cold War tensions and improve relations with Soviet Union
- Elected President in 1977



Human Rights Initiatives



- Foreign policy centered around the spread of human rights
- Consistent with own beliefs and was popular with public
- Used “Universal Declaration of Human Rights” for foundation
 - Promote “human freedom”
 - Protect “the individual from the arbitrary power of the state”
- Denounced human rights violations by Soviets and their allies
 - Eventually repealed because Soviets threatened to end arms control talks

Panama Canal

- One of first challenges for Carter
- Gave control of Panama Canal back to Panama
 - Full control given up by 1999
 - US would have to vacate the canal zone
- Carter seen as weak for giving up control of the canal



Camp David Accords



- Yom Kippur War of 1973 (Israel vs. Egypt and Syria)
 - No peace, Israel still occupied Egyptian territory
- Carter sat down with Egyptian President (Anwar Sadat) and Israeli Prime Minister (Menachem Begin) at Camp David
- Agreement reached
 - Israel would withdraw from Egypt's Sinai Peninsula
 - US would monitor to ensure peace
 - Israel and Egypt recognized each others governments and sign a peace treaty
- Success for Carter in ending the dispute

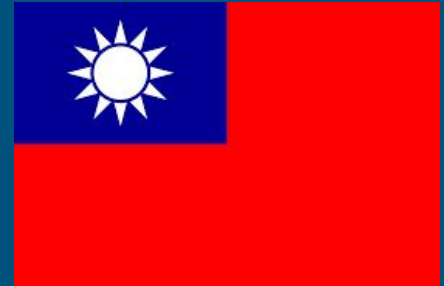
Relations with USSR

- Carter ordered 5 year plan to increase defense
 - Soviets disapproved of it
- Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan
 - Invasion made by Soviets to stop a Muslim rebellion
 - Soviets gained control of Kabul (capital) and assassinated Afghan President
 - US was outraged by invasion, stopped trade with Soviets (especially stopped trade of grain)
 - SALT II Treaty limited deployment of nuclear missiles in area, was withdrawn after invasion
- Boycott of 1980 Moscow Olympics
 - Response to the invasion
 - Seen as more of punishment
 - More of a punishment to the US athletes than to the Soviets
 - Reinforced weak image of Carter
 - Low morale in country caused because of non-involvement in the games



China and Taiwan

- Formally recognized Communist China in 1979
 - Reduced tensions in East Asia
 - Trade set up with China
- Revoked Mutual Defense Treaty with non-communist Taiwan
 - Conservative Republicans challenged Carter's ability to do this without senate consent
 - Supreme Court threw out case, Carter wins by default
- Congress passed Taiwan Relations Act
 - Creates a relationship with Taiwan once again
 - US supplied arms to Taiwan, kept friction in relations with China



Iran Hostage Crisis



- 1951: US appoints new leader in Iran, Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi
 - Known as “The Shah”
 - Became a tyrant, Iranians overthrew government and he fled to Mexico
 - Develops cancer in Mexico, Carter allows him to stay in US for medical treatment
- 1979: Iranian militants overrun American Embassy, capture 66 Americans
 - Demanded Shah’s return, money, and an apology from the US
- Carter failed to free hostages
 - Secret negotiations lasted for a long time with no success
 - Military mission failed and caused hostages to be spread out through country
 - Carter loses popularity due to inability to free hostages and chance of reelection
- Hostages eventually returned during Reagan’s inauguration
- US fear of terrorism and war on terrorism starts after crisis