



Ronald Reagan

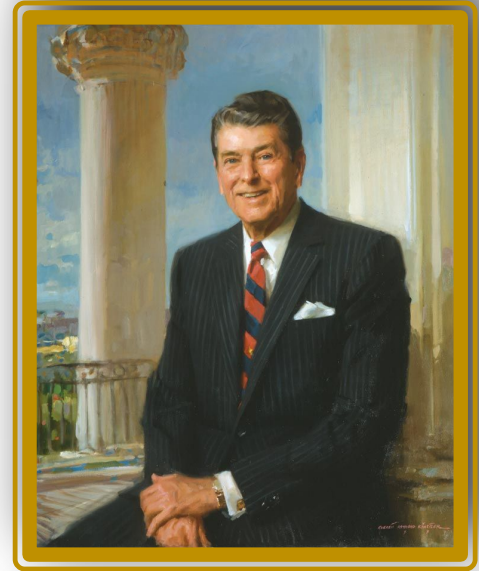
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The Vision



Reagan's Goals

- Believes that the United States' international credibility had declined
 - Wants to build up the military in competition with the soviets» would make it more likely that the Soviets bargain with the USA
- Wanted to restructure policies towards the Soviets
 - Supported containment
 - Believed that the Soviets had taken advantage of certain parts of foreign policies such as SALT II which benefited the USSR more than the USA
- Feared nuclear war and believed it inhumane to use nuclear weapons to destroy the population of another country



Reagan's Foreign Policy Team

- Started by assigning a higher role to the Secretary of State than the National Security Advisor
- Valued Secretary of State who followed his agenda and wanted to collaborate
 - Wanted a Sec. of State who had bureaucratic skills and diplomatic vision
 - The chosen Secretary of State (George Shultz) gave great priority to USA and Soviet relations
- Secretary of Defense: Casper Weinberger; helped orchestrate a massive increase in the Pentagon budget, aided US-Soviet relations





Successes

Reagan Military Buildup

- Reagan was worried the size of the Red Army would scare Western European countries into disarming
- Buildup would show U.S. meant business
- He wanted a strong military in case of war
- Hope that a stronger military would encourage the soviets to bargain
- Increase in defense spending
 - Lead to a more unbalanced national economy

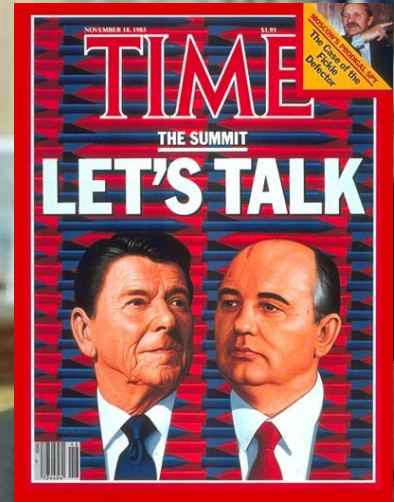
Reagan Doctrine

- Policies of Democratic Militance; support international freedom fighters to help push out communism, essentially support foreign battles against communism
 - Reagan tries to roll back Communist rule in Nicaragua and Angola



Reagan and Gorbachev

- Reagan was hopeful the military buildup would lead to negotiations with the soviets
- Gorbachev was hopeful for better superpower relations
 - Take money away from the soviet army and put it towards Russia's suffering economy
- Nov. 1984: meeting at Geneva
 - Lead to 3 other summits during the Reagan administration
 - The two of them were able to develop a symbiotic relationship between the two countries
- Started to create a treaty, which Gorbachev and George Bush signed
- Capstone: Reagan visited the Soviet Union



Address from the Brandenburg Gate (Berlin Wall)

- June 12, 1987

- Economy

- West Germany/Berlin was flourishing
- West Berlin had the greatest industrial output in Germany
 - In despite of the soviets

- Soviets are changing

- Moscow: new policy of reform and openness
- Reagan calls for Gorbachev to make one final change
 - Tear down the Berlin wall

- Nuclear weapons

- 1982: Soviets “refused to bargain”
- 1987(speech): NATO meeting to eliminate all nuclear weapons

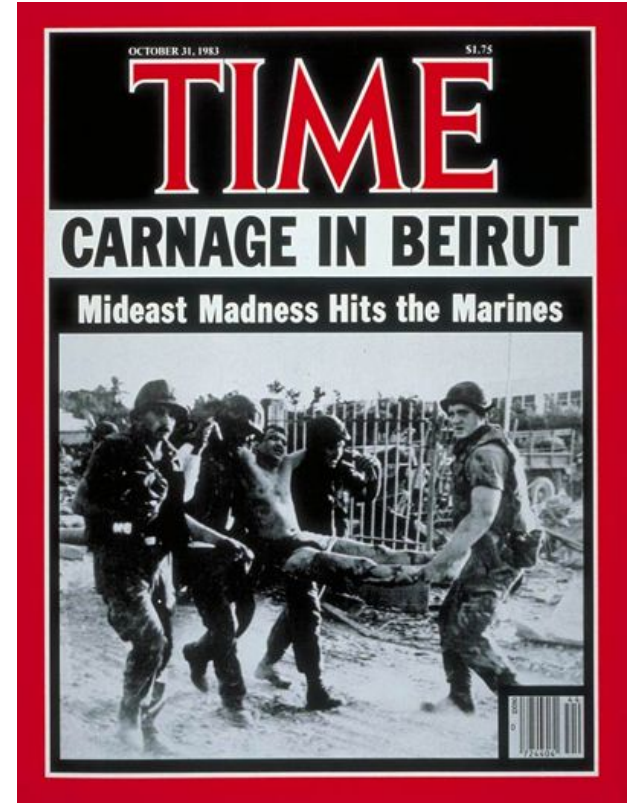


A black and white graphic of the American flag. The top left corner features a field of stars, while the rest of the image is composed of horizontal stripes. The word "Failures" is written in a white, serif font, positioned over the star field and extending slightly into the stripes.

Failures

Involvement in Lebanon

- The Reagan administration believed that there were national security interests in the area of Lebanon to combat Soviet Influence
- Reagan deploys 800 marines to keep the peace in Lebanon
 - Fighting continues after they leave
- American involvement only creates more turmoil and violence
 - Involvement only creates disdain towards America in Middle East



Middle Eastern Terrorism

- Reagan withdrew U.S. troops, but it didn't end America's problems in the Middle East
- Late 1983: Anti-American terrorist groups stepped up on U.S attacks
 - Bombed the U.S. embassy
 - Killed Americans on a plane
- 1984: 7 American hostages were taken in Lebanon
 - Reagan wanted to free them, but it is U.S. policy not to negotiate with terrorists
- Operation El Dorado Canyon: bomb Libya
 - Restrained Libya, but did not end terrorism
- 1988: terrorists blew up a plane over Scotland, killing 270 people



Iran-Contra or “Iran-Gate”

- Reagan wants to support the “Contras” or anti-communist group in Nicaragua
 - Contras » typically criminals and human rights abusers
 - Reagan sees them as a force to be used for good
- Boland Amendment: made to prevent US support of Contras and other rebel powers» Gov doesn’t want to instigate war
- Iran» Terror group captures 7 americans
 - Anti-American ruler in power for Iran
- Reagan wants to free hostages but also fund Contras
 - Uses third party sources to send weapons to Iran
 - Weapons advance through the market»Money is funneled to the Contras
- All went against the Boland Amendment

