



Politics and Major Events: 1980-2016



Reagan/Bush/Clinton/Bush/Obama

Ronald Reagan and the Rise of Conservatism

1980-1988

Conservative ideology

- ▶ Ignored global changes in economy that led to the decline of American manufacturing and industrial base
- ▶ “Tax and spend” Great Society & War on Poverty
- ▶ Creationism, “family values,” cut government, stop communists, end abortion, no immigration
- ▶ Strong military / national defense
- ▶ American global power
- ▶ Individualism
- ▶ Lead to “Culture Wars” & Reagan “Revolution...”
- ▶ Religious Fundamentalism and Extremism



Conservative Concerns

- ▶ “Moral Majority”
- ▶ Conservative reactions to the “excesses” of the 1960s and 1970s
 - ▶ The loss of control of America
 - ▶ Divorce, gay rights, abortion, day care, big government, & decline of the family

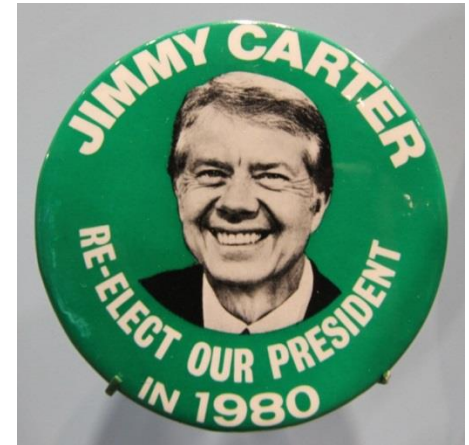
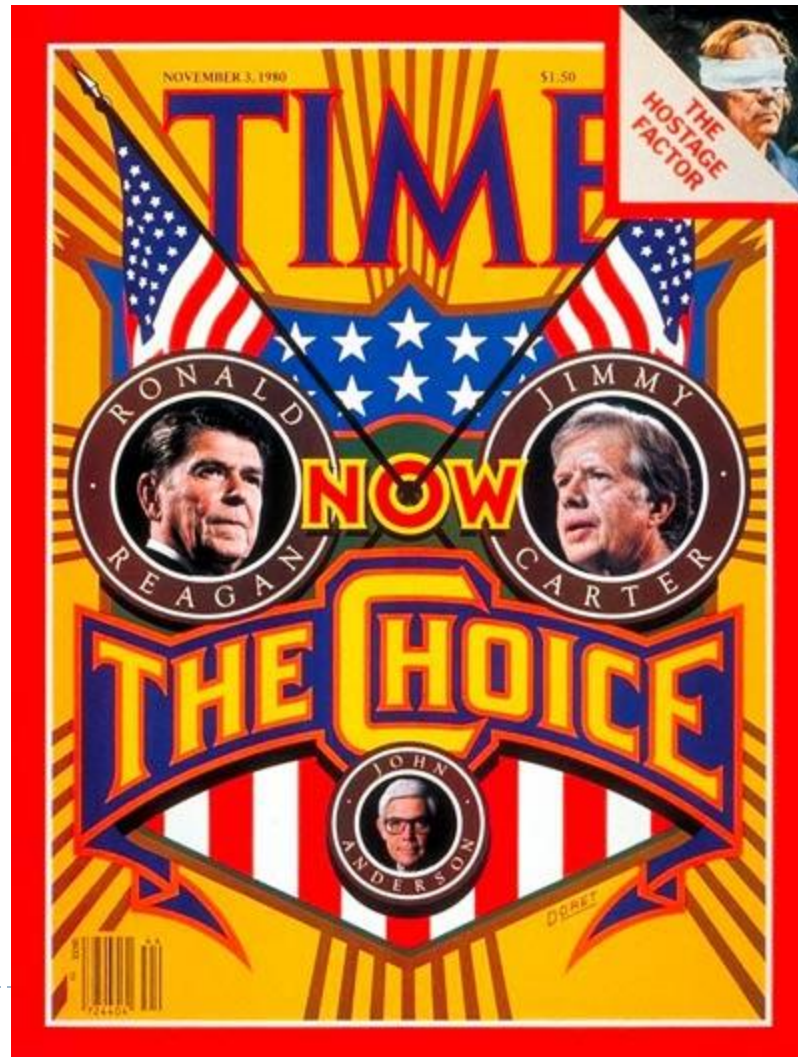


American Malaise Under Carter

- ▶ Soft America and “decline” of American power
- ▶ OPEC and Oil Embargo
- ▶ Stagflation
- ▶ De-Industrialization
- ▶ Iranian Hostage Crisis (Nov. 1979)
 - ▶ Ayatollah Khomeini overthrew Shah of Iran
 - ▶ 50 Hostages for over a year
 - ▶ Failed rescue effort
- ▶ USSR invaded Afghanistan (Dec. 1979)

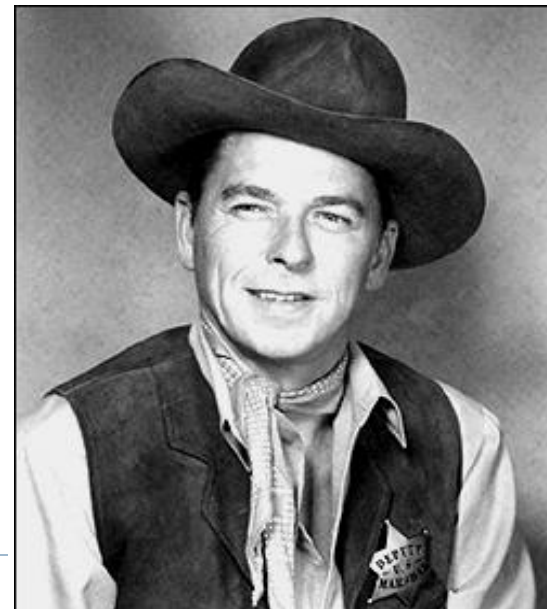
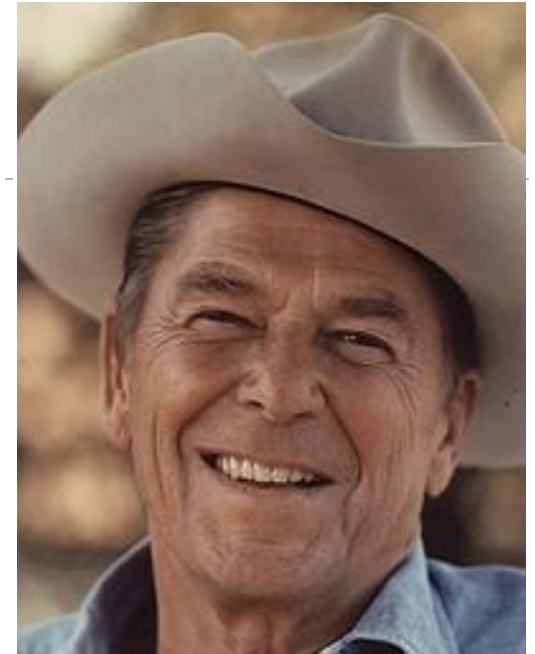


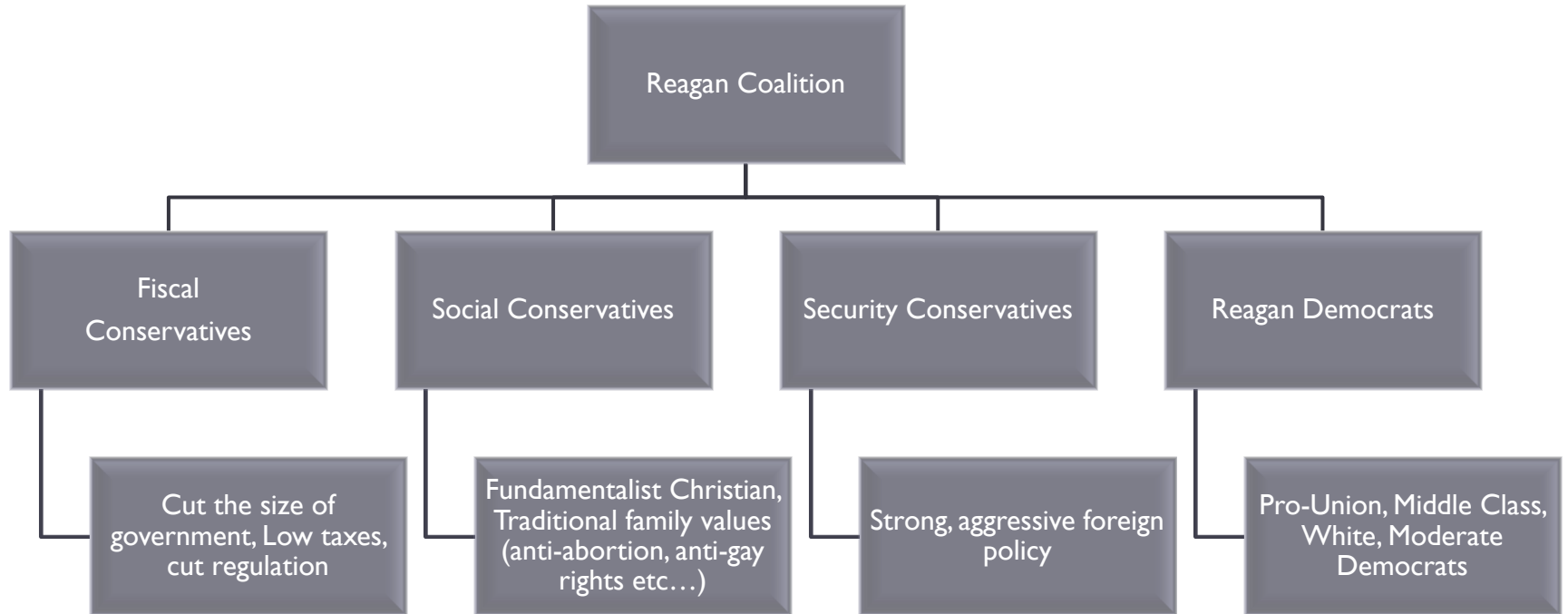
Ronald Reagan v. Jimmy Carter



Ronald Reagan

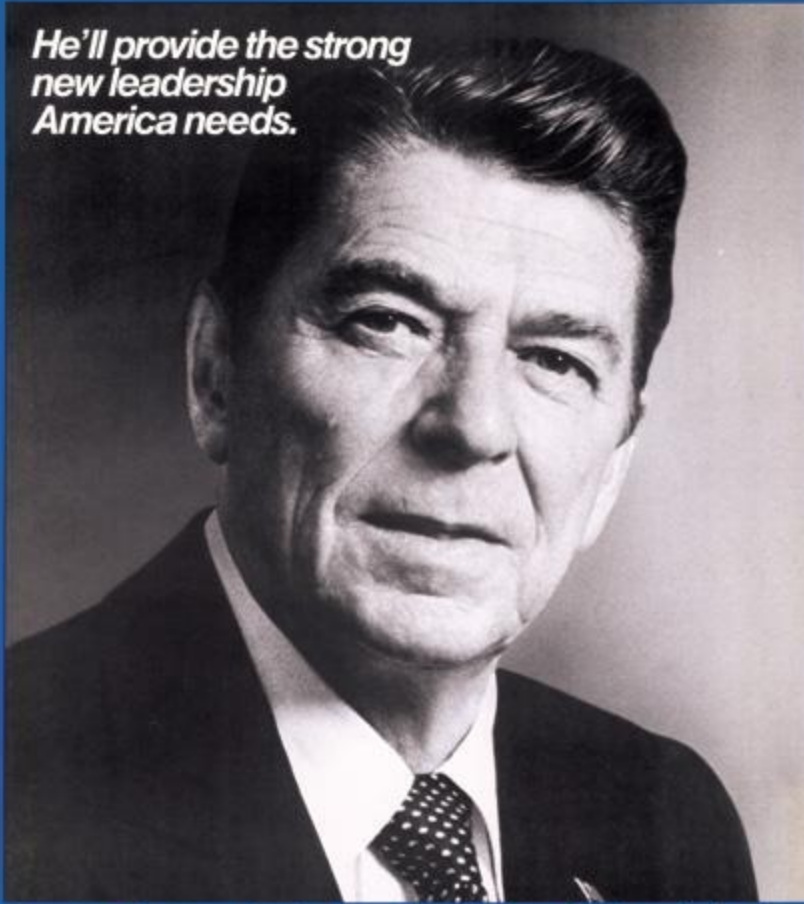
- ▶ CA. Governor
- ▶ Former Actor/Spokesman for GE
- ▶ Anti-communist
- ▶ Charismatic
- ▶ Channeled anger of mainstream white America at minorities, immigrants, feminists, taxes, affirmative action, big government







*He'll provide the strong
new leadership
America needs.*

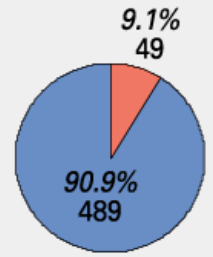
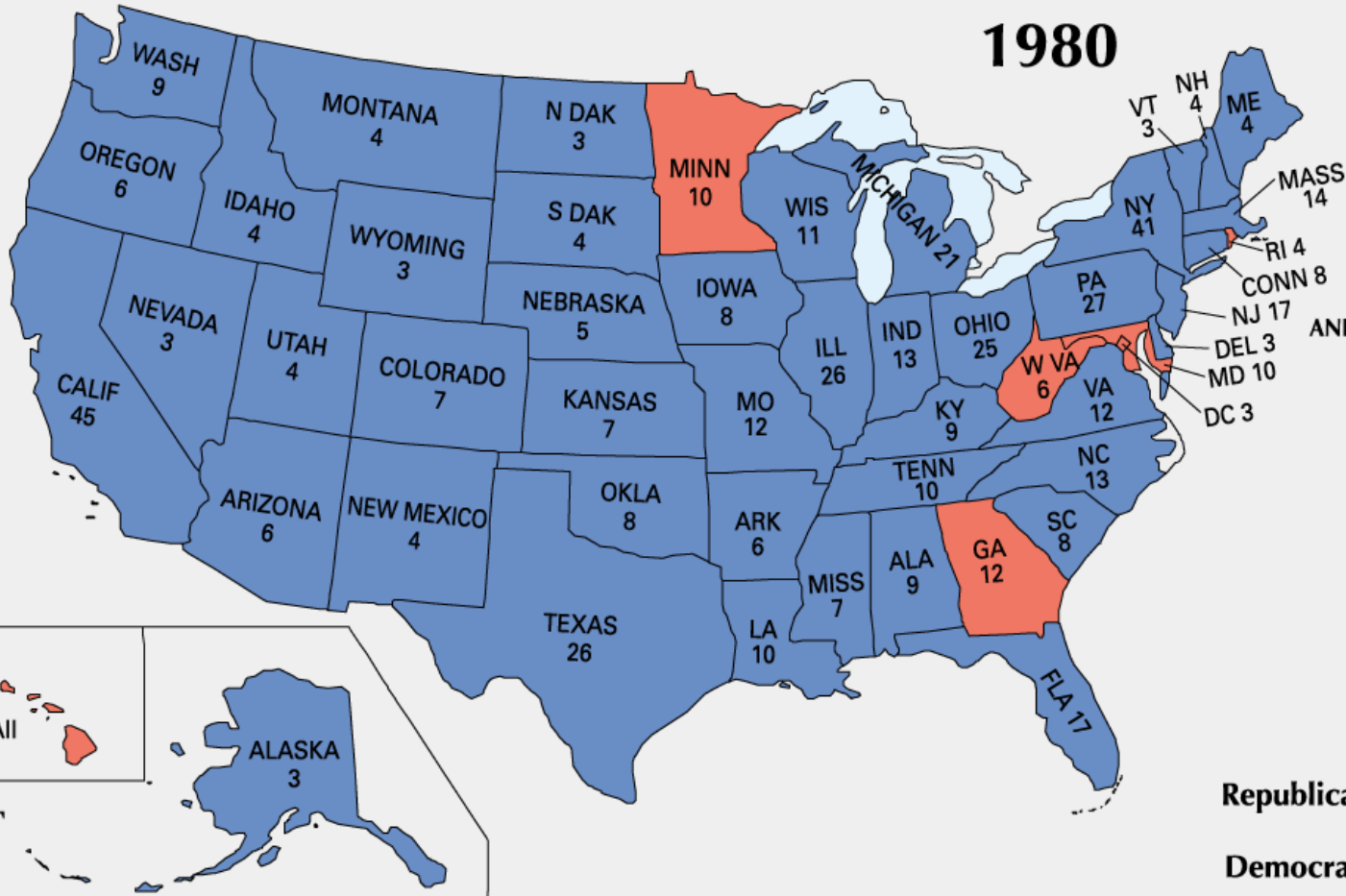


REAGAN

© 1980 by Ronald W. Reagan. Printed in the U.S.A. 1000000000

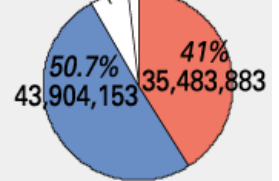


1980


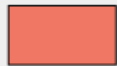


ELECTORAL VOTE TOTAL: 538

ANDERSON 6.7% 5,720,060
MINOR 1.6% 1,407,125



POPULAR VOTE TOTAL: 86,515,221

Republican (Reagan) 
Democratic (Carter) 



HORSEY © 1980
SEATTLE
POST-INTELLIGENCER



Reagan First Inaugural Quotes

- ▶ *“Above all, we must realize that no arsenal or no weapon in the arsenals of the world is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women...”*
 - ▶ *“Government is not the solution to our problem. Government is the problem...”*
 - ▶ *“Those who say that we're in a time when there are no heroes, they just don't know where to look...”*
 - ▶ *“I do not believe in a fate that will fall on us no matter what we do. I do believe in a fate that will fall on us if we do nothing...”*
-



Reagan Assassination Attempt





“Reaganomics”



IF YOU CUT TAXES
ON THE RICH, THEY'LL
INVEST THAT MONEY
AND CREATE JOBS
FOR EVERYONE!



APOLOGIES + APPRECIATION TO SCHULZ

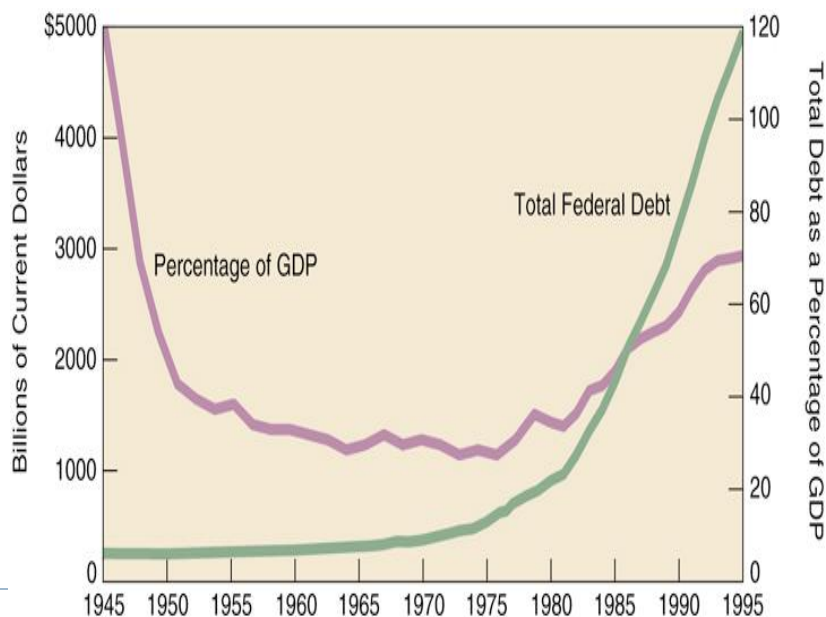
T. R. L.

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CHRONICLÉ FEATURES

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Reaganomics: “Trickle-Down Economics”

- ▶ Economic Recovery Act (1981)
 - ▶ Cut personal income taxes by 25%
 - ▶ Lowered max from 70% to 50%
- ▶ Reagan tax cuts, however, were accompanied by massive increases in defense spending.





Morning in America



**It's Morning
Again In America.**

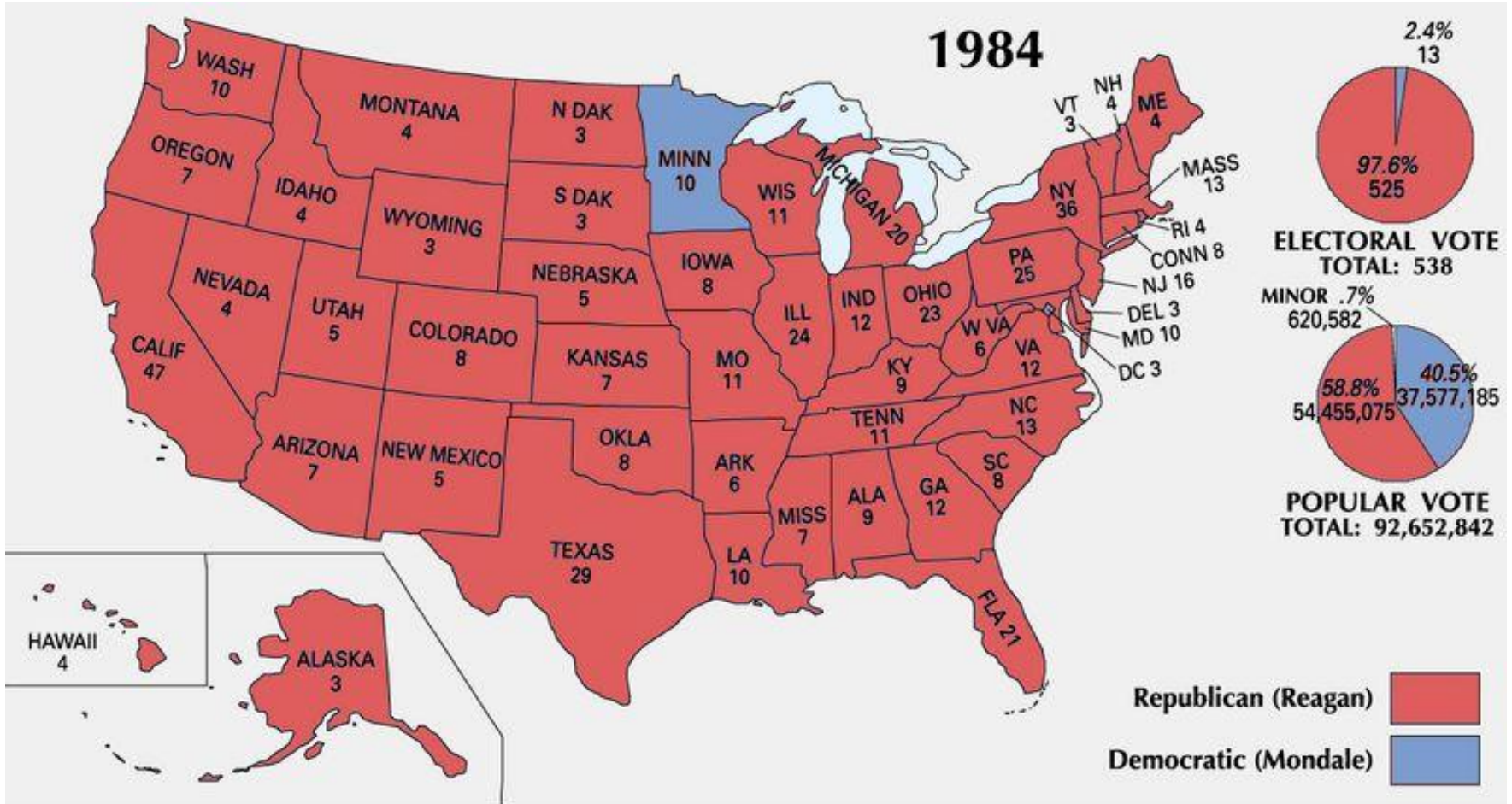
- Ronald Reagan, 1984

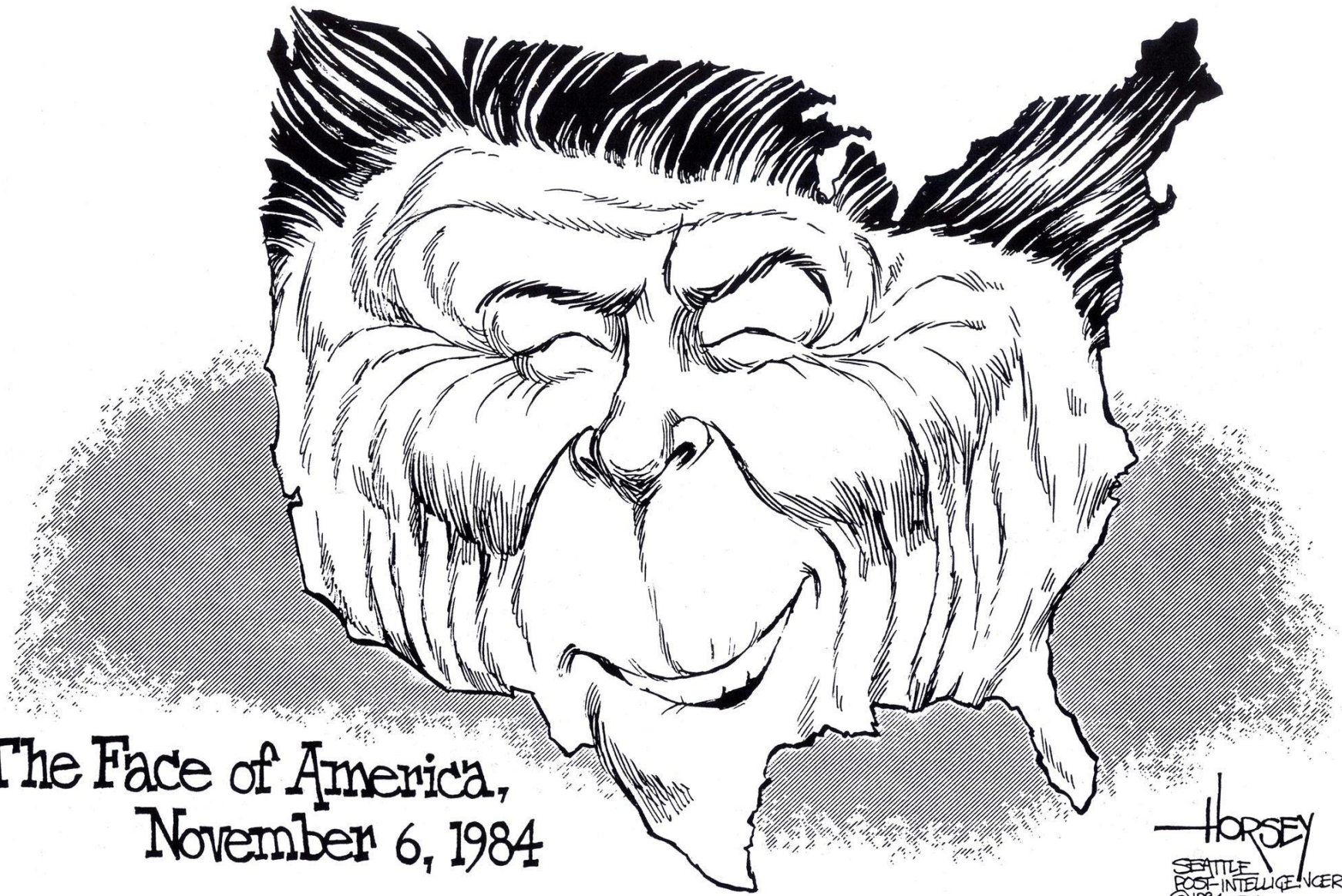


**CONSERVATIVE
OUTFITTERS**



1984





The Face of America,
November 6, 1984

HORSEY
SEATTLE
ROOF INTELLIGENCE
©1984



JANUARY 28, 1985

\$1.95

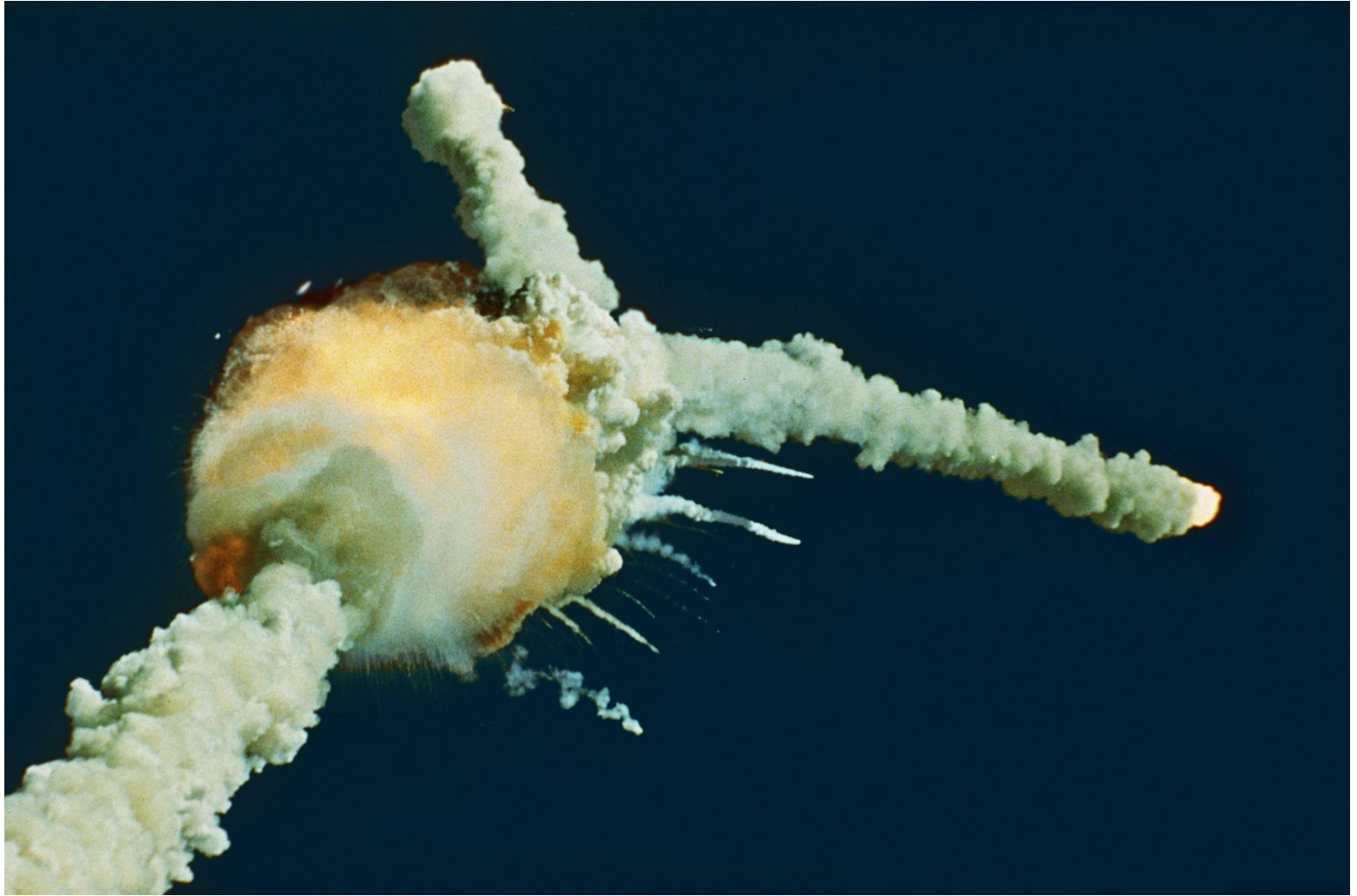
TIME

THE SECOND TERM
A Fresh Agenda ★ A New Lineup



The President Being Sworn In on Sunday

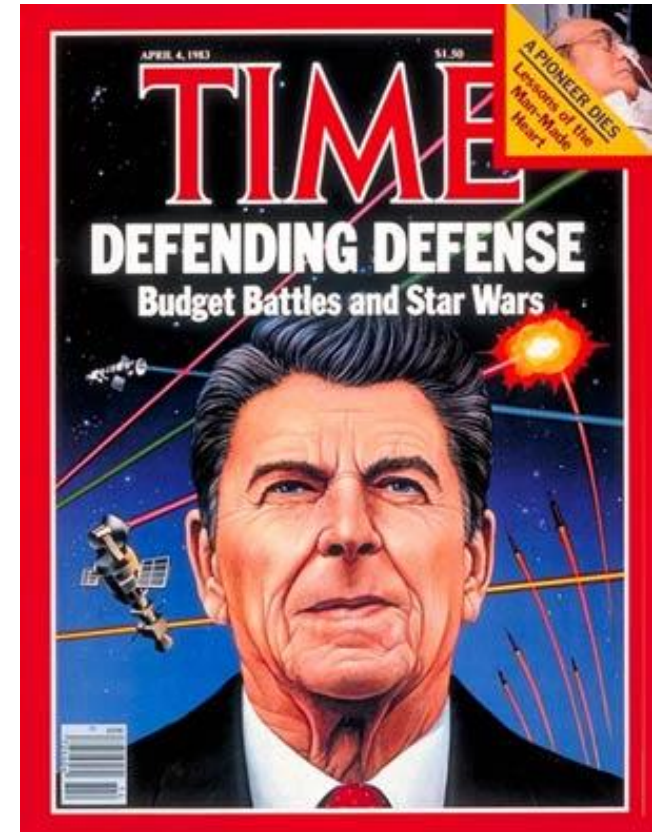






Defense Buildup

- ▶ Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)
 - ▶ A space based anti-missile defense shield.
 - ▶ “Star Wars”
 - ▶ Forced the Soviets to launch an expensive research and development program of their own to keep pace.

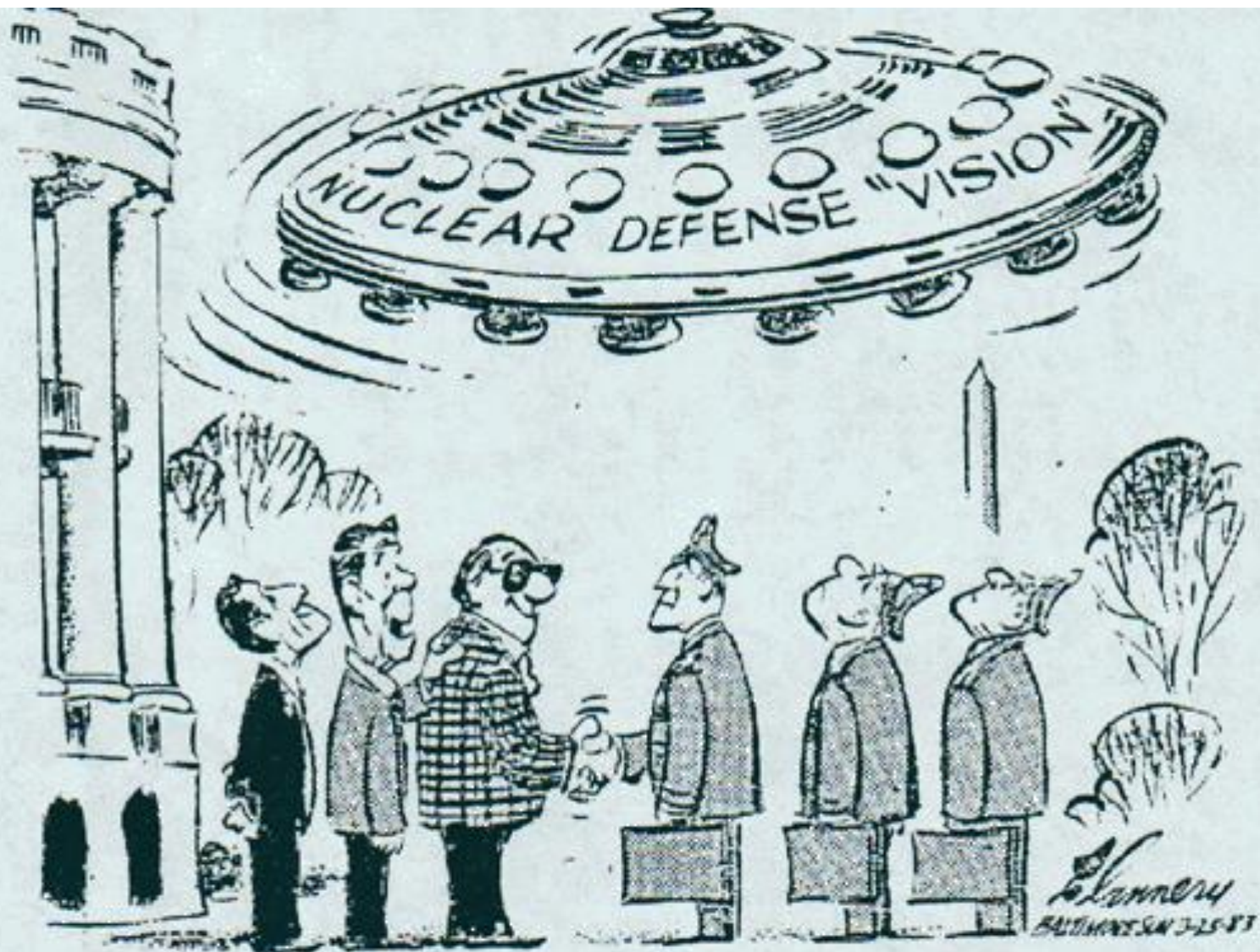






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S. ALLEN

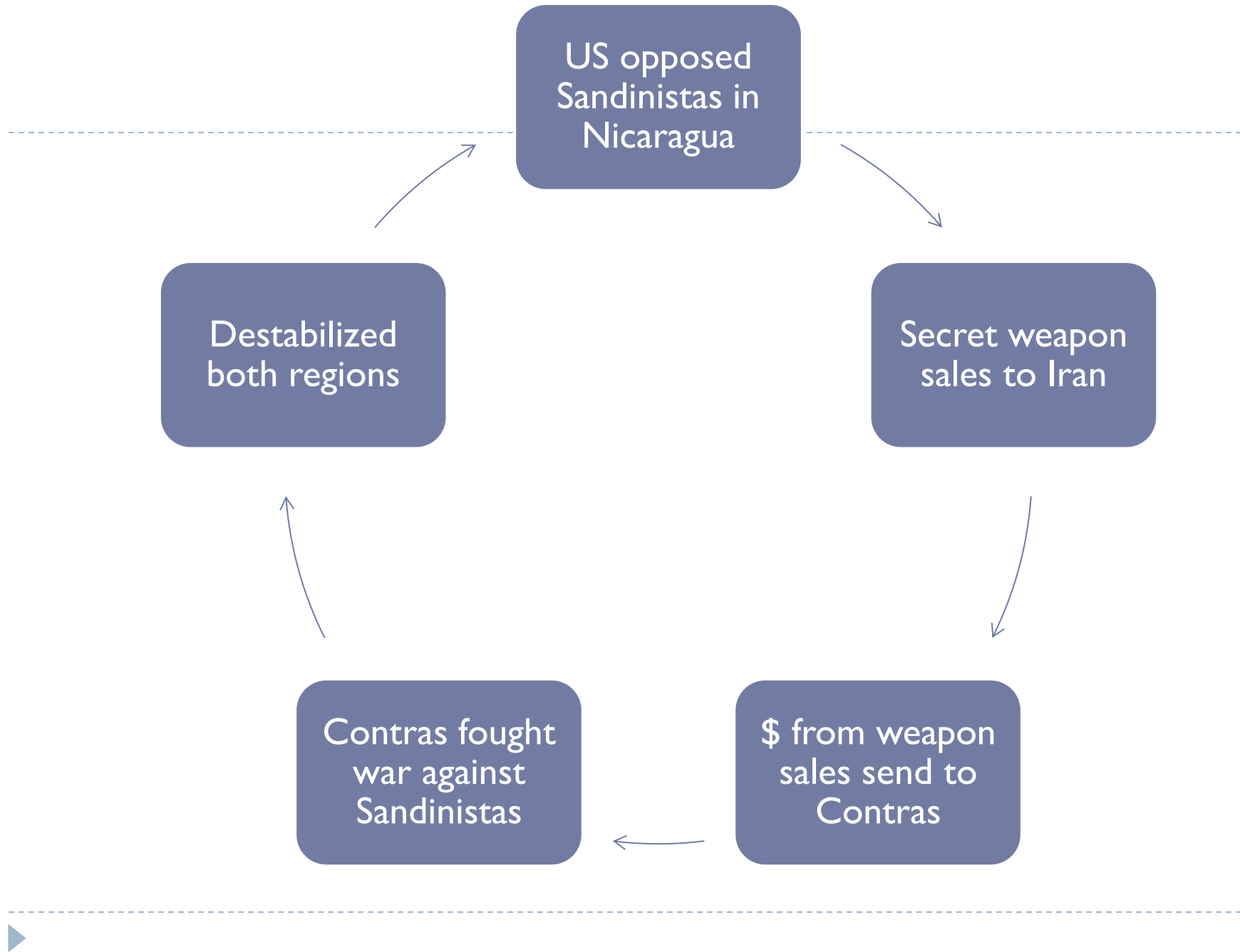


"Moe's an Old Friend From Hollywood — He's In Special Effects"

Iran Contra

- ▶ Scandal surfaced in his second term (1986)
- ▶ The Reagan administration had secretly and against the expressed orders of Congress sold weapons to Iran in an attempt to free U.S. hostages held in Lebanon by terrorists.







THIS SAYS YOU KNEW
AND I KNEW...



...AND WE BOTH KNEW
THE OTHER KNEW...



...AND WE BOTH LIED WHEN WE
SAID WE NEVER KNEW



SO, WHAT'S NEW?





INF Treaty 1987



International Events

- ▶ Reagan vs. USSR
- ▶ Mikhail Gorbachev
 - ▶ Reagan: “Evil Empire”
 - ▶ Fall of the Berlin Wall
 - ▶ Collapse of USSR
 - ▶ Started with liberalized reforms
 - ▶ End of the Cold War
 - ▶ Reagan took credit for the end of the Cold War
- ▶ Granada & Nicaragua
- ▶ Terrorism in the Middle East
 - ▶ Beirut, Lebanon
 - ▶ French, Italian, and U.S. sent in as “peacekeepers”
 - ▶ U.S. troops pull out in 1984.
 - ▶ Iran-Iraq war had erupted in 1980
 - ▶ U.S. funneled aid to Iraq.







US in the 1980s

- ▶ Sandra Day O'Connor - first woman justice of the Supreme Court. (1981)
- ▶ The rise of cable television and home computers
 - ▶ CNN, CSPAN, MTV, Apple, Microsoft etc
- ▶ AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
 - ▶ Homosexual males and intravenous drug users were especially at risk.
 - ▶ No prospect of cure.
- ▶ “Yuppies” (Young, upwardly mobile professionals)
 - ▶ Caught up in the age of consumerism and materialism.
- ▶ “Black Monday” (October 1987)
 - ▶ Stock market plummeted 22.6 percent
 - ▶ 1929 – 12.8 percent

