

**Communiqué of the Communist Information Bureau #6**  
**The Aftermath of WWII (thru the 1950s or so)**

**Colossal Chronology of Communism (and more)**

1943	Nov	Teheran Conference: Western allies agree to open 2nd front on 1 May 1944
1944	July	Opening of Bretton Woods conference (leads to IMF & World Bank)
1945	Feb	Yalta conference, starring Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin
	May	Soviet forces enter Berlin, ending WWII in Europe
		US abruptly cuts off lend-lease aid to USSR
	July	Potsdam conference, starring Truman, Attlee, & Stalin
1946	Feb	Stalin's "Pre-election" speech
	Feb	George Kennan's "Long Telegram" from Moscow
	Mar	Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech in Fulton, Missouri
1947	Jan	US and Britain fuse their German occupation zones into one "Bizonia"
	Mar	Declaration of "Truman Doctrine" in context of Greek civil war
	June	Introduction of Marshall Plan for Europe
	Sept	Creation of Cominform to replace disbanded Comintern <sup>1</sup>
1948	Feb	Communists under Klement Gottwald take power in Czechoslovakia
		Western allies agree to create separate constitution for western Germany
	Mar	Rupture between Stalin & Tito (Tito expelled from Cominform)
	June	New currency circulated in western German zones, leading to blockade
1949	March	Happy Birthday to Joe! (Stalin's 50 <sup>th</sup> birthday)
	April	Creation of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
	May	Soviets abandon blockade of Berlin after successful airlift
	June	London Accords lead to creation of West Germany (FRG) in September
	Oct	Creation of the German Democratic Republic (GDR)
	Oct	Founding of People's Republic of China
	Month?	Creation of COMECON (organization for economic co-operation in East)
1950	June	North Korea invades South to begin Korean War
	Sept	US pushes for rearmament of West Germany
1952	Nov	Slansky trial in Czechoslovakia
	month?	Greece and Turkey join NATO
1953	Mar	Death of Stalin
	June	Workers' revolt in East Berlin
1955	May	West Germany admitted to NATO
	May	Creation of Warsaw Pact
	summer	Treaty with Austria: removal of all foreign troops and neutrality
1956		Khrushchev dissolves Cominform
		Khrushchev gives secret speech to 20th Party Congress
		Polish uprising in Poznan leads to some moderate reform
		Hungarian Revolution, subsequently crushed by Soviets

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<sup>1</sup> Stalin had disbanded the Comintern in 1943 as a gesture of good will towards his wartime allies (i.e., to make clear that he wasn't actively trying to subvert them).

## **Terms, People, and, Concepts:**

Grand Alliance	Winston Churchill
Truman Doctrine	Marshall Plan
NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)	Warsaw Pact
FRG (Federal Republic of Germany)	GDR (German Democratic Republic)
Communist Information Bureau (Cominform)	

## **Major figures in Post-War Eastern European Communism:**

<i>USSR:</i>	Joseph Stalin (1945-53) Nikita Khrushchev (1956-64) Leonid Brezhnev (1964-1982) Yuri Andropov (1982-84) Konstantin Chernenko (1984-85) Mikhail Gorbachev (1985-1991)
<i>East Germany:</i>	Walter Ulbricht (1949-71) Erich Honecker (1971-1989), Egon Krenz (1989)
<i>Poland:</i>	Boleslaw Bierut (1947-1956) Wladyslaw Gomulka (1956-70) Edward Gierek (1970-80) Wojtech Jaruzelski (1981-89)
<i>Czechoslovakia:</i>	Klement Gottwald (1948-1953) Antonin Novotny (1953-68) Alexander Dubcek (1968-69) Gustav Husak (1969-89)
<i>Hungary:</i>	Matyas Rakosi (1947-1956) Imre Nagy (1956) Janos Kadar (1956-89)
<i>Romania:</i>	Gheorghe Gheorghu-Dej (1947-1965) Nicolae Ceausescu (1965-1989)
<i>Yugoslavia:</i>	Tito (1944-1980) Slobodan Milosevic (1986-2001)
<i>Bulgaria:</i>	Vulko Chervenkov (1950-54) Todor Zhivkov (1954-88) Petar Mladenov (1988-90)
<i>Albania:</i>	Enver Hoxha (1944-1985) Ramiz Alia (1985-1990)