

A Cold War Map and Image Gallery

Visualizing Global Geopolitics

Presented by

The California Geographic Alliance

and

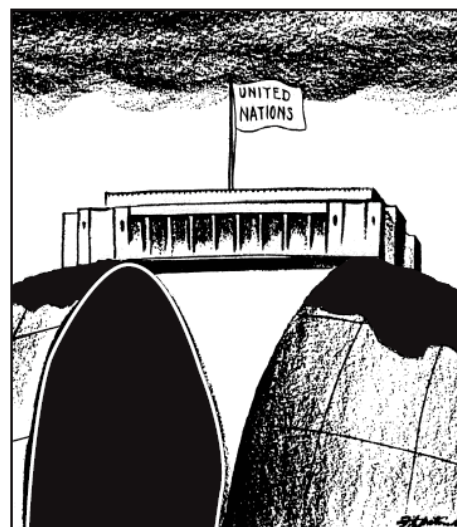
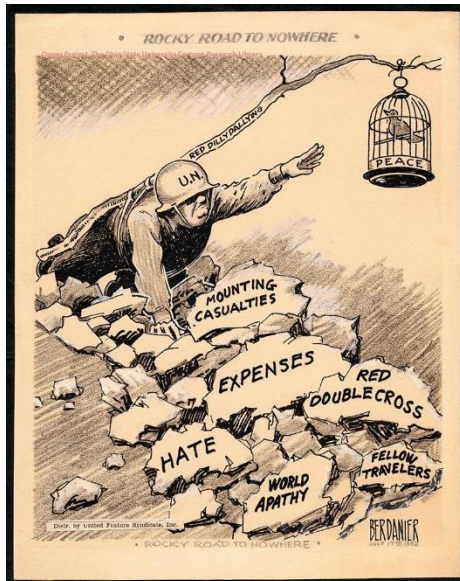
The San Diego State University Geography Department

This handout provides information on 9 large maps displayed during the Midway Summer Teacher Institute (accessible now at www.calgeography.org) and also presents a collection of small images reflecting the politically and tactically informed perspectives on, and representations of, the world prevalent during the Cold War. All images were obtained online, and source information is provided.



<https://historychurchill.files.wordpress.com/2014/12/719585db2d42.jpg>

<https://historychurchill.files.wordpress.com/2014/10/image003.jpg>



The Meeting Will Now Come To Order

Source: D. R. Fitzpatrick, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (adapted)

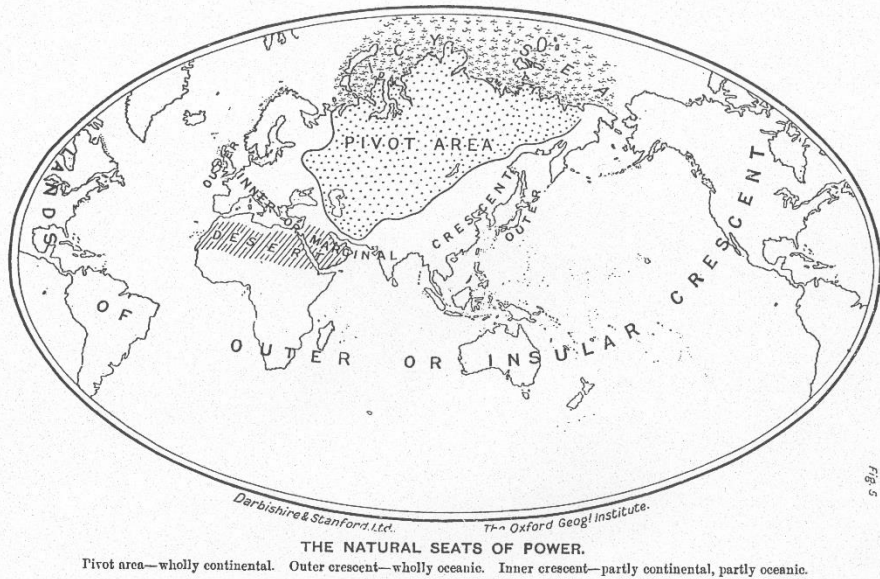
<https://cartoonimages.osu.edu/JW9iILnd>

<http://apus-b.wikispaces.com/post%20war%20foreign-political%20cartoons>

The Geography of Power

Sir Halford Mackinder, *The Natural Seats of Power*, 1904

In 1904 Mackinder gave a talk at the Royal Geographical Society entitled 'The Geographical Pivot of History', (read) which was illustrated with this world map. Mackinder believed that central Asia, or what he called 'Eurasia', represented the pivotal area of the world's politics, and that whoever controlled this vast, landlocked region and its resources would effectively rule the globe. The map influenced generations of thinkers and politicians, from George Orwell's dystopian world of *1984* to the US foreign policy promoted by Henry Kissinger and Zbigniew Brzezinski.



<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/1954-04-01/pivot-history>

Greenland-Iceland-United Kingdom (GIUK) Gap



Note: Names and international boundaries are shown as they appeared in 1963.

Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative.
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Previously viewed as a chokepoint in naval warfare, the narrow gap between Greenland, Iceland and the UK became the main "highway" used by Soviet bombers and maritime reconnaissance aircraft flying to Cuba, monitoring NATO maritime activities or simply probing local air defenses.

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f7/GIUK_gap.png

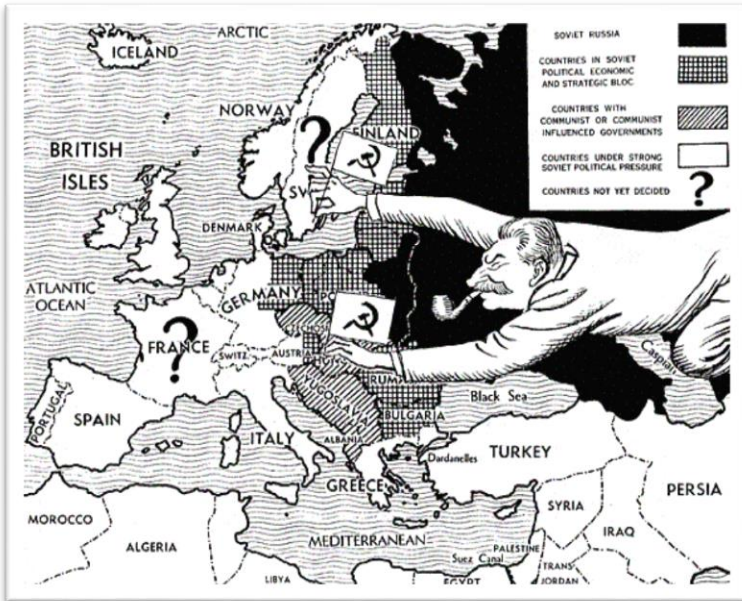
THE COLD WAR



Azimuthal projections became popular because their conservation of true distance was usefulness in showing the range of aircraft and missiles. The polar azimuthal projection seen here also emphasizes the proximity between the US and USSR.

http://www.markfranklinarts.co.uk/index.php?page=13&display=64&parent=2&sub_menu=9

The Iron Curtain in Eastern Europe



This cartoon by the British cartoonist Ilingworth was published in June 1947

Accessed at: http://www.johndclare.net/cold_war6.htm



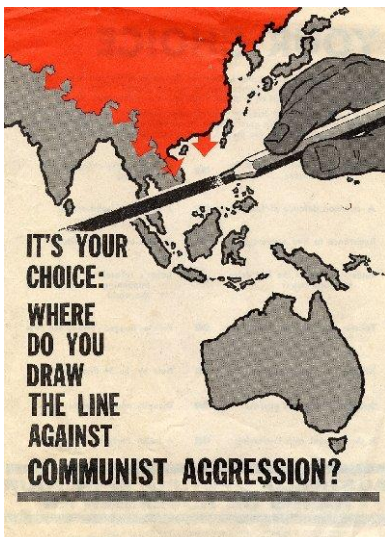
1946 map of the "Iron Curtain" reflecting the assertions made in a Winston Churchill speech.

"From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the [European] Continent."

On March 5, 1946, a train with two World War II statesmen left Washington D.C. and steamed across the United States to the gateway to the west, Missouri. In the town of Fulton, population 7,000, at Westminster University, former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, with President Harry Truman by his side, delivered a prophetic speech to an audience of 40,000 students. Titled "The Sinews of Peace" the oratory soon became known as "The Iron Curtain Speech" (read/listen), referring to the figurative curtain that had fallen, separating democratic western Europe and Communist Eastern Europe.

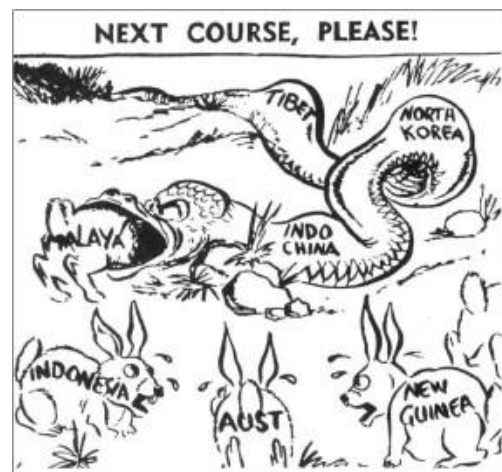
Image and text from <http://alinefromlinda.blogspot.com/2012/03/iron-curtain-speech.html>

Containment of the Communist Threat in Asia and Latin America



This was a piece of election propoganda distributed by the Liberal Party during the Federal election on 26 November 1966. The graphic shows the encroaching "red menace" coming southwards from China through South-east Asia towards Australia.

<https://studyingthehumanities.files.wordpress.com/2013/07/containment.jpg>



Catholic News Weekly, July 21 1954

<https://studyingthehumanities.files.wordpress.com/2013/07/containment.jpg>

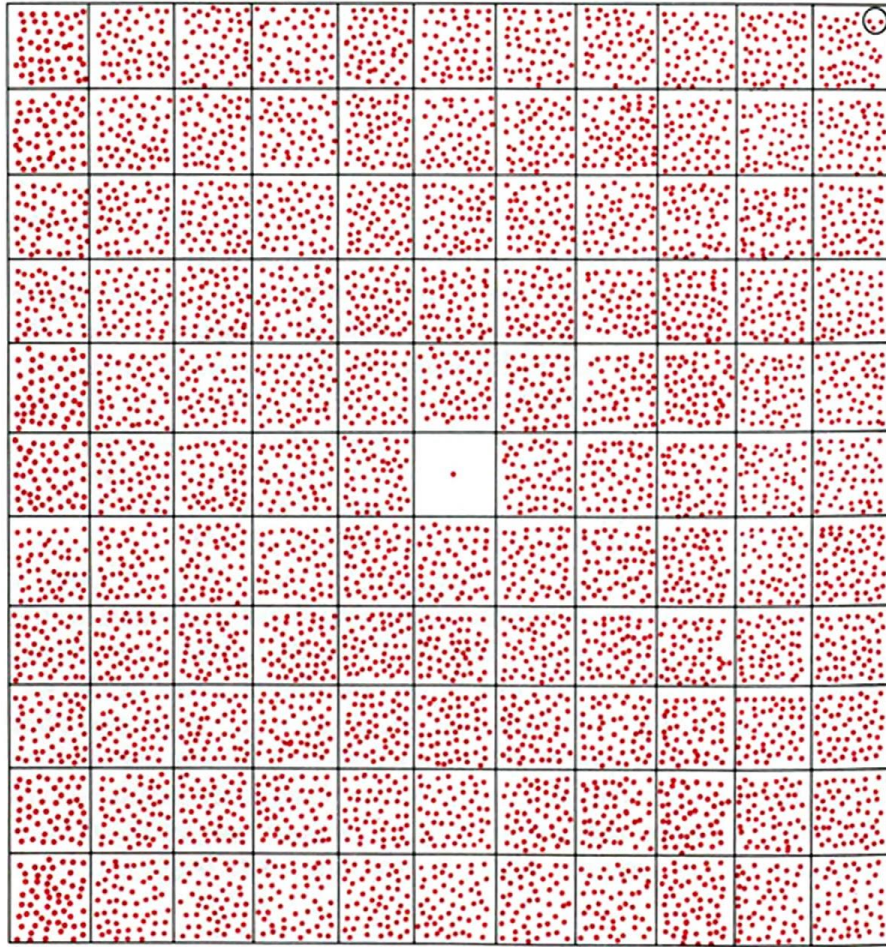
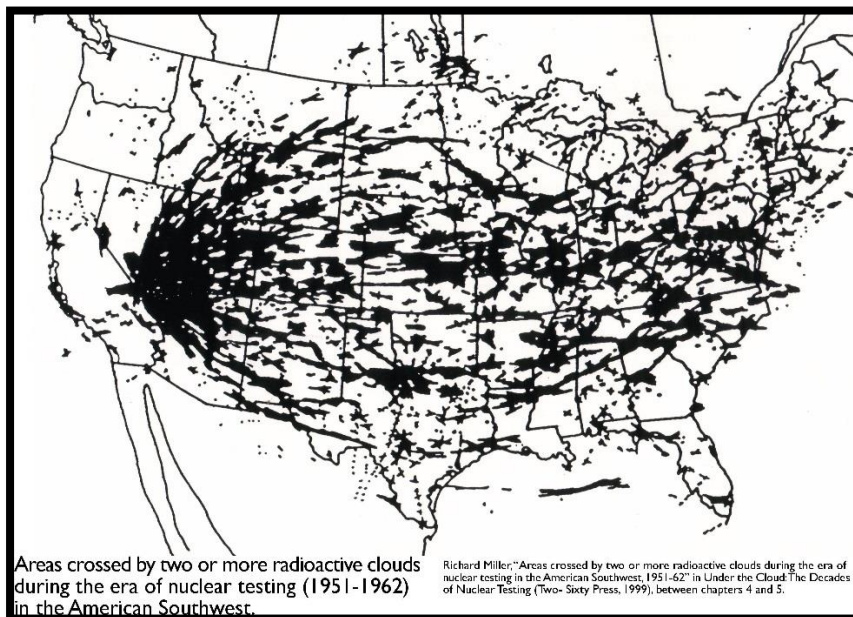


Fig.1.1 Nuclear firepower

The dot in the centre represents all the firepower of World War II. The other dots represent the firepower of existing nuclear weapons. The top right circle represents the weapons on one Poseidon submarine. It is equal to the firepower of three world wars.

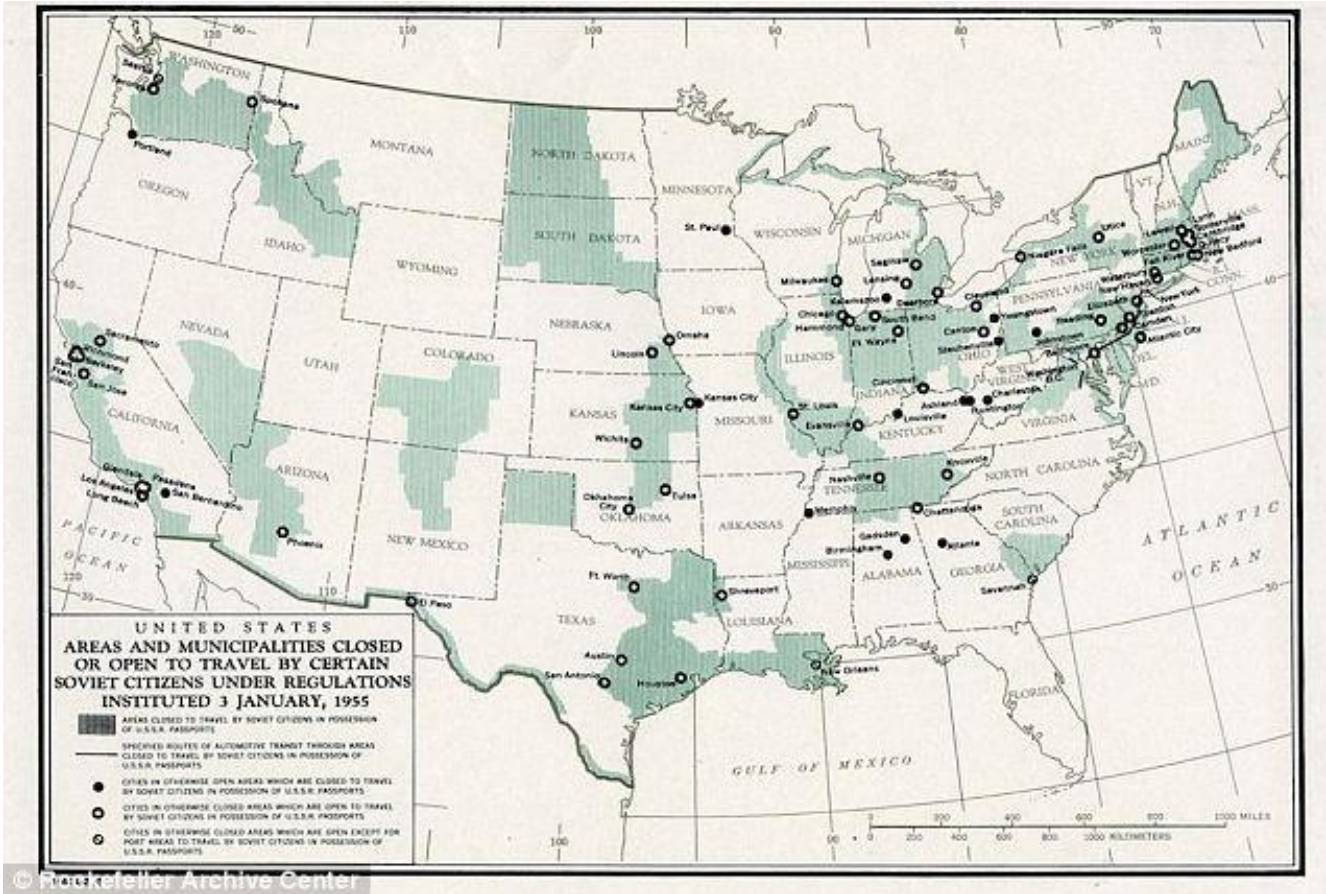
Source: *Toronto Star*, 24 January 1982.

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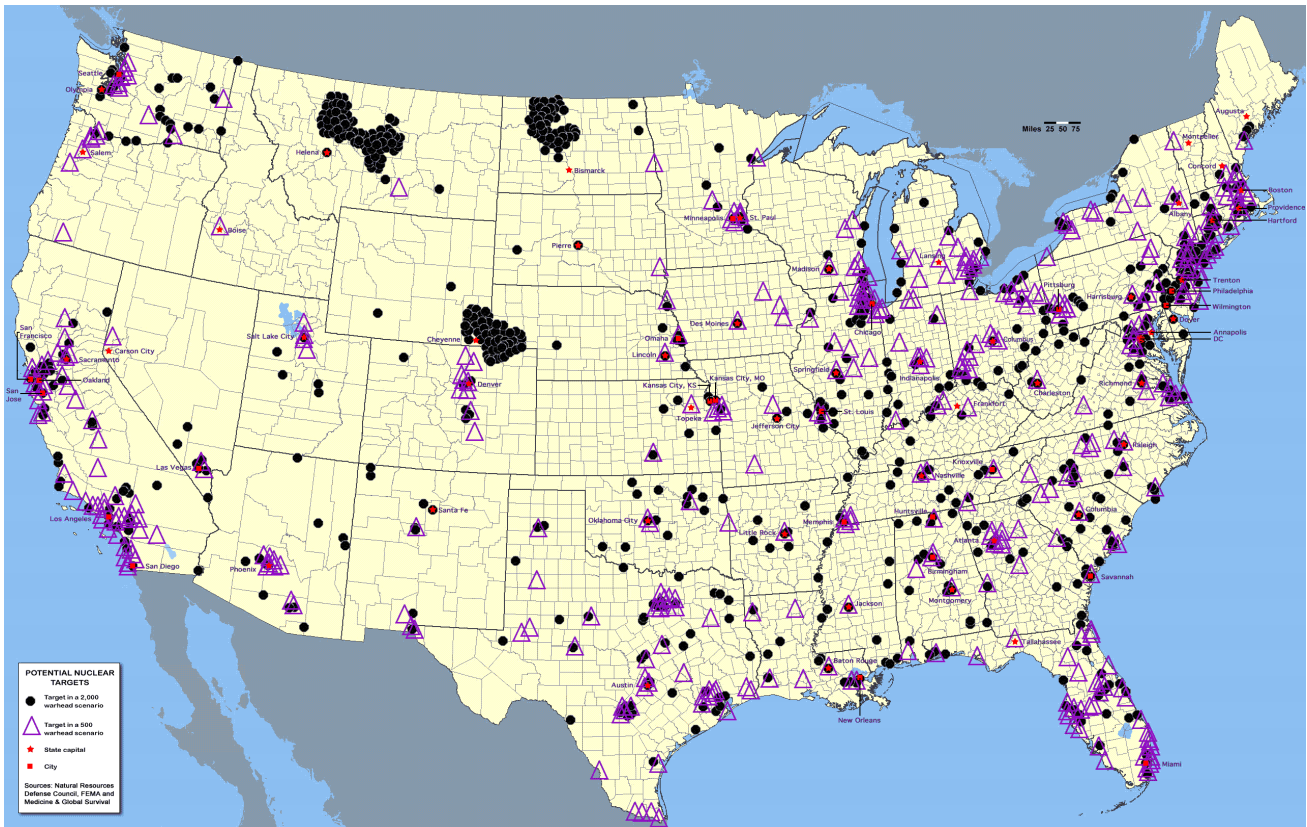
Areas crossed by two or more radioactive clouds during the era of nuclear testing (1951-1962) in the American Southwest.

Richard Miller, "Areas crossed by two or more radioactive clouds during the era of nuclear testing in the American Southwest, 1951-62" in *Under the Cloud: The Decades of Nuclear Testing* (Two-Sixty Press, 1999), between chapters 4 and 5.



http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_vault/2013/05/15/cold_war_map_shows_areas_prohibited_to_soviet_travelers_in_the_united_states.html

The map below was created in 1990 using data from FEMA and the National Resources Defense Council. The 2,000-warhead attack assumes a first strike by the Russians. The 500-warhead attack would be a retaliatory strike in the event the United States launched first, thus limiting the Russian arsenal.



<http://img.4plebs.org/boards/tg/image/1376/37/1376372253480.gif>