

The Truman Doctrine

*Compromises and Conflicts that Gave Birth
to the Cold War*

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"Peace is precious to us. It is the way of life we strive for with all the strength and wisdom we possess. But more precious than peace are freedom and justice. We will fight, if fight we must, to keep our freedom and to prevent justice from being destroyed." - President Harry S. Truman, 1884-1972¹

Thesis

In 1945, the compromise of peace conceived at Potsdam, a conference deciding the outcomes of World War II, temporarily held back the desirous advances of the USSR upon smaller countries. When the meeting lost its effect, President Harry S. Truman compromised on isolationism, and defended the defenseless nations from the Soviet Union's hungry eyes with the creation of the Truman Doctrine. Conflict over the doctrine birthed the start of the Cold War and left a lasting impression on American foreign policy.

Introduction

The year is 1945 and the Nazis have finally been defeated. America, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union have met at a conference in Potsdam, Germany, to discuss the end of WWII². Only six days after this conference, two atomic bombs hit the Japanese cities of Nagasaki and Hiroshima, ending WWII. The peace that was

¹ United States. President (1945-1953 : Truman), Harry S. Truman (1965). "Harry S. Truman: Containing the Public Messages, Speeches, and Statements of the President, 1945-53

² "GCSE Bitesize: Yalta and Potsdam - the Basics." *BBC*, BBC

discussed so heavily in Potsdam didn't last. Long before the Cold War, tensions between the USSR and the US had been mounting. Russia had long ridiculed and fundamentally disagreed with the United States' democratic government, and only became allies due to Nazi Germany's invasion of Russia³. Stalin even wrote that he saw the US's role in helping a war-torn Europe as oppressive, writing "Germany (Western), Britain, France, Italy and Japan, having fallen into the clutches of the USA, are obediently carrying out the US commands... It would be wrong to think that things can go on well forever and ever, that these countries will tolerate without end the domination and oppression of the USA"⁴. Truman, on the other hand, appeared to be relatively docile on the issue of Russia, saying in his diary, "I can deal with Stalin... He is honest, but smart as hell"⁵. The President also maintained a relatively friendly view in public saying that he "liked him a lot"⁶. At the same time, however, Truman was watching Russia closely, identifying the country as a potential threat to the United States and other countries in Europe⁷. Truman was right to observe the Soviets with an eagle eye, because soon after WWII, Russia started pushing for communist supremacy in smaller, impoverished and impotent European countries⁸.

³ Stalin, Joseph. "Stalin on the Inevitability of War with Capitalism." *Seventeen Moments in Soviet History*, 28 Sept. 2015

⁴ Stalin, Joseph. "Stalin on the Inevitability of War with Capitalism." *Seventeen Moments in Soviet History*, 28 Sept. 2015

⁵ "Truman Records Impressions of Stalin." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks,

⁶ *The New York Times*, The New York Times, www.nytimes.com/learning/general/onthisday/bday/0508.html.

⁷ "The Truman Doctrine." *The Cold War*, 20 Mar. 2014, alphahistory.com/coldwar/truman-doctrine/.

⁸ Offner, Arnold A. "History - World Wars: President Truman and the Origins of the Cold War." *BBC*, BBC, 17 Feb. 2011, www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwtwo/truman_01.shtml.

The Potsdam Conference

Potsdam, Germany, forty minutes east of Berlin, was the meeting point for the conference. British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin and US President Harry Truman met at the German conference to discuss the needs of a post-WWII world. Some of the most discussed topics during the Potsdam conference were Poland's government and new borders for Germany⁹. Poland's future government had originally been intended as a check and balance between the USSR's idea for a communist government, and the western leaders' want of a democratic system¹⁰. Despite what was meant to be a compromise on Poland, the Allies reluctantly agreed to give Poland a socialist government in spite of their wishes¹¹. This was the first red flag that hinted at a later conflict between the US and Russia. Even with the subtle butting of heads within the Cecilienhof Palace, where the conference was hosted, the public saw the meeting as a symbolic fresh start for the world after the horrors of WWII¹². "The governments of the United Kingdom, the United States and the USSR consider it necessary to begin without delay the essential preparatory work upon the peace settlements in Europe," stated the official Potsdam documents¹³. Most of the public's eyes were on the meeting's ideas for Germany. The main talking point surrounding

⁹ Jtalarico. "How The Potsdam Conference Shaped The Future Of Post-War Europe." *Imperial War Museums*, 3 July 2015

¹⁰ The Historical Setting: The Polish People's Republic

¹¹ *The Historical Setting: The Polish People's Republic*,
info-poland.icm.edu.pl/classroom/longhist6.html.

¹² The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. "Potsdam Conference." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 22 June 2017

¹³ "FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES: DIPLOMATIC PAPERS, THE CONFERENCE OF BERLIN (THE POTSDAM CONFERENCE), 1945, VOLUME II." *U.S. Department of State*, U.S. Department of State

Germany's future was the reparations that would be set for the country¹⁴. "We are going to do what we can to make Germany over into a decent nation," said Truman on a radio broadcast. It was decided at Potsdam that each of the attending countries (the UK, US, and Russia) plus France would have a say over the specifics of a portion of Germany they received¹⁵. After everything was said and done, the three countries signed off on the Potsdam documents, and had made peace for Europe¹⁶. By the end of the conference, the three leaders shook hands, and it seemed that the fate of the future world was sealed (see Appendix A). Although no official peace treaties were signed or agreed upon, an overall agreement was made between Britain, America, and Russia to keep peace between themselves and other countries after the second World War¹⁷. This consensus attempted to structure a social policy to make sure no major conflicts would start in the future¹⁸. This attempt would soon fail, as Russia loomed over disadvantaged countries. "We're here today to raise the flag of victory over the capital of our greatest adversary... We are raising it in the name of the people of the United States who are looking forward to a better world, a peaceful world," said President Truman during a

¹⁴ (www.dw.com), Deutsche Welle. "Potsdam Conference Reshaped Germany | World| Breakings News and Perspectives from around the Globe | DW | 17.07.2015." *DW.COM*,

¹⁵ "FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES: DIPLOMATIC PAPERS, THE CONFERENCE OF BERLIN (THE POTSDAM CONFERENCE), 1945, VOLUME II." *U.S. Department of State*, U.S. Department of State

¹⁶ "FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES: DIPLOMATIC PAPERS, THE CONFERENCE OF BERLIN (THE POTSDAM CONFERENCE), 1945, VOLUME II." *U.S. Department of State*, U.S. Department of State

¹⁷ Jtalarico. "How The Potsdam Conference Shaped The Future Of Post-War Europe." *Imperial War Museums*, 3 July 2015, www.iwm.org.uk/history/how-the-potsdam-conference-shaped-the-future-of-post-war-europe.

¹⁸ Jtalarico. "How The Potsdam Conference Shaped The Future Of Post-War Europe." *Imperial War Museums*, 3 July 2015

press session after the end of the conference¹⁹. The future looked bright for the postbellum world. However, that calm period was to result in a storm at one point or another.

The Conflict Begins

The main conflict was waged in Greece and Turkey. Both extremely poor countries at the time, Greece and Turkey both had their gripes with the Soviets²⁰. Greece had been ravaged by the Nazis during WWII, which crippled their government and country in multiple ways. Inflation killed their economy, their railways and transportation methods were sparse, citizens had been killed, and children were deathly sick²¹. The Russian communists decided to take advantage of Greece at this time, giving birth to the Greek Crisis, also known as the Greek Civil War²². The USSR had been fueling the fire of communists in Greece, pushing for complete imperialist control in the country, eventually causing a civil war, which led to even more casualties²³ (see Appendix B). This was another one of the many disregarded compromises made at Potsdam, which had free European governments in mind²⁴. Since 1945, Turkey was pressured to allow Russian ships to travel through the Turkish Strait, which leads into the Mediterranean Sea²⁵. The Soviets, puffing up their chests, sent an entire naval fleet

¹⁹ "Interview Truman, Stalin, Churchill in Potsdam Conference." *YouTube*, YouTube, 26 Dec. 2013, www.youtube.com/watch?v=fYCr930RkZw.

²⁰ "The Truman Doctrine." *The Cold War*, 20 Mar. 2014

²¹ Thule000. "Truman Doctrine - President Truman Speech on March 12, 1947: Giving Aid to Greece and Turkey." *YouTube*, YouTube, 23 Oct. 2012

²² "Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum." *Truman Library - Constantine Tsaldaris*

²³ "History of Greece The Greek Civil War." *Civil War in Greece*

²⁴ "GCSE Bitesize: Yalta and Potsdam - the Basics." *BBC*, BBC

²⁵ *Turkish Straits Crisis*, teachingamericanhistory.org/static/neh/interactives/coldwareuropemap/data/info_10.html

to try and intimidate the Turkish government into submission. Turkey, not wanting to budge and not having the resources to do so, asked the US for help. Truman originally sent a naval ship to the Black Sea, where the Soviet fleet waited, to show that the Turks were not alone, but the President knew this wasn't going to be enough²⁶. Truman realized that if Greece and Turkey were to fall to communism, it would set off a chain reaction through the Middle East and Europe²⁷. The Turkish Strait Crisis and Greek Civil War were both disgusting shows of Soviet expansionism, and one of America's worst fears came true: the Russians disregarding the compromises made at the Potsdam Conference²⁸. Truman would have to face his old 'ally', Stalin, once again. However, Truman, wanting to help in the Turkish Strait and Greek crises, couldn't dispatch aid without approval from Congress²⁹.

The Emergence

Truman addressed Congress on March 12, 1947. He spoke of the desperate situations in Greece and Turkey, and attempted to coax much-needed support out of Congress. The millions of dollars the President asked for was not met with unanimous support. Truman gave a passionate and powerful speech, calling the Soviet Communists "terrorists", and telling Congress that the "peace loving nation" of Greece was in dire need of help. "I believe we must assist free peoples to work out their own destinies in their own way," the President said to Congress in his heartfelt speech (see

²⁶ "Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum." *Truman Library: "The Truman Doctrine", Ca. 1952. Truman Papers, President's Secretary's Files. Foreign Policy: Greek-Turkish Aid Program (Truman Doctrine)*

²⁷ Nichols, Christopher McKnight. "Consequences of the Truman Doctrine." OUPblog, 21 May 2014

²⁸ CAUCASUS, CENTRAL ASIA and THE. CA&CC Press AB

²⁹ "The Truman Doctrine." *The Cold War*, 20 Mar. 2014

Appendix C)³⁰. Many congressmen were willing to give financial aid to Greece and Turkey, but a majority were wary about supplying military support, due to the widespread fear of the Soviets³¹. Despite the apprehension that was felt throughout Congress, Truman's speech was enough to fuel the necessary amount of support for the aid being dispatched to Turkey and Greece³².

Compromising on Isolationism

Thus, the Truman Doctrine was born. Over 400 million dollars (4 and one half billion in today's money) worth of financial and military aid was used to support Greece and Turkey in their fight against communist supremacy³³. The massive sum of money handed over to the two poor and defenseless countries would allow them to stand steadfastly against the greedy approach of Stalin and his Soviet supporters³⁴. Soon after the Truman Doctrine was put into effect, the Russian-influenced communists were flushed out of Greece, and the USSR's ships retreated from the Turkish Strait. Not only was the Truman Doctrine an order for aid, but it was an ideology. Before the Truman Doctrine, America had adopted the philosophy of "isolationism", or the practice of not interfering or getting involved with another country's affairs³⁵. Truman deviated from the path of isolationism, so he could respond to the cry for help from Greece and Turkey. He thought freedom was worth fighting for, even if it didn't necessarily directly benefit

³⁰ Thule000. "Truman Doctrine - President Truman Speech on March 12, 1947: Giving Aid to Greece and Turkey." *YouTube*, YouTube, 23 Oct. 2012

³¹ United States. President (1945-1953 : Truman), Harry S. Truman (1965). "Harry S. Truman: Containing the Public Messages, Speeches, and Statements of the President, 1945-53

³² "Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum." *Truman Library, Truman Doctrine Activity*

³³ *The Truman Doctrine - The Cold War (1945-1989) - CVCE Website*

³⁴ "Experts Support Truman Doctrine Of Aid to Greece | News." *The Harvard Crimson*

³⁵ "Start of the Cold War - The Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan." *Khan Academy*, Khan Academy

the United States³⁶. It was Truman's risky and brave decision of abandoning the routine policy of isolationism that helped save free people's rights, dreams, and values³⁷. This compromise on isolationism would later dictate Truman's actions during the Korean War, when he supported the South Koreans with military aid. The Truman Doctrine would become one of the most important foreign policies in US history³⁸, influencing America's now commonplace policies of helping other countries when they request aid³⁹. The conversion from isolationism was a turning point in American foreign policy and is yet another compromise with a lasting effect that stems from the Truman Doctrine.

Soviet Response

Naturally, the Truman Doctrine angered Stalin and the communist regime in Greece and Turkey. Truman was expecting Stalin to be furious, noting that the "pig-headed communists" would condemn the federal aid being provided to eastern European countries⁴⁰ (see Appendix D). Eventually, the Russians did respond, and their words were not kind. Andrei Vyshinsky, the United Nations spokesman for the USSR, heavily criticized the Truman Doctrine, claiming it to be a "political weapon"⁴¹. Vyshinsky also stated that the Russian government saw the Truman Doctrine as a prerequisite of capitalistic control and influence throughout Europe and the world⁴². The Soviet

³⁶ Shmoop Editorial Team. "Truman Doctrine Introduction." *Shmoop*, Shmoop University, 11 Nov. 2008

³⁷ "Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum." *Truman Library - Constantine Tsaldaris Oral History Interview*

³⁸ O'Connor, Charles, and Randy Sowell. "The Truman Doctrine, and the Soviet Response." 27 Mar. 2018.

³⁹ "Start of the Cold War - The Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan." *Khan Academy*, Khan Academy

⁴⁰ "The Truman Doctrine." *The Cold War*, 20 Mar. 2014

⁴¹ Vyshinsky, Andrei. "Andrei Vyshinsky, Soviet Spokesman, at the United Nations September 18, 1947." *Andrei Vyshinsky Soviet Response to Truman Doctrine: HistoryWiz Primary Source*

⁴² Vyshinsky, Andrei. "Andrei Vyshinsky, Soviet Spokesman, at the United Nations September 18, 1947." *Andrei Vyshinsky Soviet Response to Truman Doctrine: HistoryWiz Primary Source*

government also fired back with a political creation of its own. The Warsaw Pact, which most believe was in direct response to the Truman Doctrine and the events that followed, similar to the creation of NATO, was an official alliance between the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries⁴³. This direct rival to a US alliance with Western European nations not only was a way for Russia to stand against the United States, but to also keep their incredibly tight grip around Eastern Europe⁴⁴. This control was incredibly dangerous in the hands of Stalin, and couldn't go unchecked. The Warsaw Pact participants shared borders with members of the western alliance, the two staring each other down, foreshadowing more conflicts on the horizon.

The Creation of NATO

Two years after the Truman Doctrine was administered, the friction between the USSR and the US had reached an all-time high. Truman was wary of Russia, especially after their two-faced move of acting like allies, then forcing America to be their enemy⁴⁵. The strain had escalated beyond the standoff in Greece and Turkey, and Truman knew that if he wanted to fend off the communist's rising power, he couldn't stand alone⁴⁶. On April 4th, Truman announced the creation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, otherwise known as NATO. This popular organization has its roots in the Truman Doctrine⁴⁷. The organization is still a staunch advocate for democracy and peace today,

⁴³ "The Warsaw Treaty Organization, 1955." *U.S. Department of State*, U.S. Department of State

⁴⁴ O'Connor, Charles, and Randy Sowell. "The Truman Doctrine, and the Soviet Response." 27 Mar. 2018.

⁴⁵ United States. President (1945-1953 : Truman), Harry S. Truman (1965). "Harry S. Truman: Containing the Public Messages, Speeches, and Statements of the President, 1945-53

⁴⁶ "Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum." *The Development of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)*

⁴⁷ Nato. "Homepage." *NATO*

just as it was in 1949⁴⁸. NATO entered as a peace organization with members like Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, Great Britain and the United States. "By this treaty, we are not only seeking to establish freedom from aggression and from the use of force in the North Atlantic community, but we are also actively striving to promote and preserve peace throughout the world," said Truman as he announced his plan for NATO⁴⁹ (see Appendix E). Stalin saw the creation as "aggressive" and criticized the move. However, Congress ratified the proposition⁵⁰.

The Conception of the Cold War

Stalin had been feeling threatened by capitalism and democracy since before the second World War and through Potsdam. His fear came to a new high with the introduction of the Truman Doctrine and NATO. Although Harry Truman was simply trying to protect a country's right to freedom, Stalin saw it as a move to antagonize Russia⁵¹. This angered him and migrated the tension into a conflict over values. Stalin sought to ensure the future of Russia. He saw America as unpredictable, and war seemed likely in the Soviet's eyes⁵². This gave the Russian government the strike-them-before-they-strike-us mentality⁵³. After everything was said and done, from the dwindling embers of the Truman Doctrine came the start of the Cold War.

⁴⁸ Nato. "Homepage." NATO

⁴⁹ "Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum." *Truman Library - North Atlantic Treaty*, www.trumanlibrary.org/nato/nato.htm.

⁵⁰ "Revelations from the Russian Archives The Soviet Union and the United States." *The Soviet Union and the United States - Revelations from the Russian Archives | Exhibitions - Library of Congress*, 15 June 1992

⁵¹ "Revelations from the Russian Archives The Soviet Union and the United States." *The Soviet Union and the United States - Revelations from the Russian Archives | Exhibitions - Library of Congress*, 15 June 1992

⁵² "The Truman Doctrine." *The Cold War*, 20 Mar. 2014

⁵³ "Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum." *Truman Library - Constantine Tsaldaris Oral History Interview*

Everything, from Potsdam, the Greek and Turkish crises, The Truman Doctrine, NATO, to the Warsaw Pact, had lead up to this moment. The start of one of the most infamous conflicts in modern history, sprang from a war of political ideologies between Stalin and Truman⁵⁴. Although the President was only shielding countries' freedoms, the melodramatic Stalin sought to escalate the conflicts to war status. The task of handling Stalin and Russia's government would become the task of many administrations after Truman's. The Cold War caused years worth of damage, from its birth in the Truman administration, to Kennedy and the horrific Cuban Missile Crisis, the escalation of the nuclear arms race, and finally to the end in 1991 with George H. W. Bush⁵⁵. The Cold War affects the United States' relationship with Russia to this day, as evident in recent revelations of the Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election. The icy beginning of the infamous conflict between the US and Russia has its roots in the Truman Doctrine and continues to impact the United State's handling of foreign affairs today⁵⁶.

Conclusion

Potsdam, a conference establishing peace after WWII, temporarily hindered the spread of the Soviet's detestable communism. When the compromises no longer had an impact, President Harry S. Truman, taking a risk and compromising on foreign policy, defended the countries the Soviet Union sought to exploit. Conflict over the Truman doctrine left a monumental legacy of creating one of the largest peace associations in the world, revolutionizing American foreign policy, and creating the tensest non-violent

⁵⁴ O'Connor, Charles, and Randy Sowell. "The Truman Doctrine, and the Soviet Response." 27 Mar. 2018.

⁵⁵ "Start of the Cold War - The Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan (Article)." *Khan Academy*

⁵⁶ usnationalarchives. "The Truman Doctrine and the Origins of the Cold War (2017 April 19)." *YouTube*, YouTube, 19 Apr. 2017

conflict in American History. The Truman Doctrine still affects America, Russia, Britain, Greece, Turkey and many more countries to this day. The Truman Doctrine not only paved the way for future peace, democracy, foreign policy, and freedom, but also preserved the sovereignty of many nations.

Appendix A



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Churchill, Truman and Stalin shaking hands at the Potsdam Conference.

⁵⁷ *The Truman Doctrine - The Cold War (1945–1989) - CVCE Website*

Appendix B



58

Protesters of the Greek Communist Party lying dead in the streets after being killed by Soviet-influenced supporters, horrified citizens surrounding them.

⁵⁸ "History of Greece The Greek Civil War." *Civil War in Greece*

Appendix C



59

President Harry S. Truman addressing Congress in support of the Truman
Doctrine.

⁵⁹ "President Truman Delivers Truman Doctrine Speech before Congress." *Truman Library Photograph: President Truman Delivers Truman Doctrine Speech before Congress*

Appendix D



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61

Caricatures depicting the Truman Doctrine and its effects. The first drawing is a play on the fact that Stalin was always smoking, but in this photo he is “choking” on the “smoke” of the Truman Doctrine. The second illustration depicts Truman and Stalin weighing bombs, as if they are trying to size each other up.

⁶⁰ “The Cold War Era Timeline.” *Timetoast*, www.timetoast.com/timelines/the-cold-war-era-7faeb639-59de-48a0-898e-0fdd47b4540c.

⁶¹ Nye, Joseph S. “Has Economic Power Replaced Military Might?” *US & Canada | Al Jazeera*, Al Jazeera, 7 June 2011, www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2011/06/20116713353508287.html.

Appendix E



62

Truman signing the NATO document, with the leaders of the member countries surrounding him.

⁶² "Primary Source Documents." *We the Teachers Blog*

Bibliography

Primary Sources

Vyshinsky, Andrei. "Andrei Vyshinsky, Soviet Spokesman, at the United Nations September 18, 1947." *Andrei Vyshinsky Soviet Response to Truman Doctrine: HistoryWiz Primary Source*, www.historywiz.com/primarysources/vyshinsky.html.

This primary source, which is Andrei Vyshinsky's address to the UN, was crucial in helping me from my thought and ideas surrounding the soviet's response to the Truman Doctrine.

"FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES: DIPLOMATIC PAPERS, THE CONFERENCE OF BERLIN (THE POTSDAM CONFERENCE), 1945, VOLUME II." *U.S. Department of State*, U.S. Department of State, history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1945Berlinv02/d1383.

I was able to gain a lot more information about the Potsdam conference from this source. It also gave me more of an idea about the agenda, setting, and goals of the Potsdam conference.

National Archives and Records Administration, National Archives and Records Administration, search.archives.gov/search?query=truman+doctrine&submit=&utf8=&affiliate=national-archives.

This was an amazing primary source, providing me with a foundation for a lot of my learning about my topic to branch off of. It gave me a plethora of sources surrounding the Truman Doctrine.

United States. President (1945-1953 : Truman), Harry S. Truman (1965). "Harry S. Truman: Containing the Public Messages, Speeches, and Statements of the President, 1945-53

These personal writings from Truman helped me get an idea of Truman's motives behind the Truman Doctrine, and why he felt the need to aid Greece and Turkey.

Avalon Project - Truman Doctrine, avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/trudoc.asp.

Nye, Joseph S. "Has Economic Power Replaced Military Might?" *US & Canada | Al Jazeera*, Al Jazeera, 7 June 2011, www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2011/06/20116713353508287.html.

This source provided me with my second caricature in Appendix D, and helped me get a grasp on what the Truman Doctrine aimed to do, and the motives behind it. This source also provided historical context for the caricature it possessed.

“Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum.” *Truman Library - John S. Pesmazoglu Oral History Interview*, www.trumanlibrary.org/oralhist/pesmazog.htm.

This oral history interview gave me an insight into what Greek citizens, and specifically the Greek government, thought about the Truman Doctrine and the aid it provided.

“Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum.” *The Truman Doctrine*, www.trumanlibrary.org/whistlestop/study_collections/doctrine/large/.

I was able to find many internal documents surrounding the Truman Doctrine from this source. The Harry S. Truman Presidential Library had many primary sources that helped me get more in depth knowledge directly from American documents.

“Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum.” *Truman Library - Constantine Tsaldaris Oral History Interview*, www.trumanlibrary.org/oralhist/tsaldari.htm.

This interview with Constantine Tsaldaris, the Prime Minister of Greece during the administration of the Truman Doctrine, gave me a great perspective on the fears and experiences of the crisis-era Greek government.

“Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum.” *Truman Library: "The Truman Doctrine", Ca. 1952. Truman Papers, President's Secretary's Files. Foreign Policy: Greek-Turkish Aid Program (Truman Doctrine)*., www.trumanlibrary.org/whistlestop/study_collections/doctrine/large/documents/index.php?documentdate=1952-00-00&documentid=5-3&pagenumber=1.

I encountered this script of Harry Truman’s speech to Congress. It was a great source that displayed and outlined Truman’s plans for dispatching aid.

“Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum.” *The Development of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)*, www.trumanlibrary.org/whistlestop/study_collections/nato/large/index.php?action=bg.

This primary source displayed the foundations of NATO and gave me a good idea of why the creation of the organization was created. The words directly from NATO itself helped me solidify my ideas on why NATO was created and what it stood for.

“Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum.” *Truman Library - North Atlantic Treaty*, www.trumanlibrary.org/nato/nato.htm.

This source gave me a good introduction to the creation of NATO and helped tie it into the Truman Doctrine and. It also gave me some information on the reaction and

response to the creation of NATO.

"History of Greece The Greek Civil War." *Civil War in Greece*,
www.ahistoryofgreece.com/civilwar.htm.

This source gave me a pictures of the Greek Civil War to use in my essay. I thought that the pictures this source provided helped legitimize the repercussions of Soviet expansionism.

"Interview Truman, Stalin, Churchill in Potsdam Conference." *YouTube*, YouTube, 26 Dec. 2013, www.youtube.com/watch?v=fYCr930RkZw.

This source gave me an amazing quote which I thought really encapsulated the themes and goals of the Potsdam conference. This video also displayed the almost camaraderous feeling that was present between Churchill, Stalin and Truman.

Nato. "Homepage." *NATO*, www.nato.int/.

The official NATO homepage was a good starting point for me to approach when researching the creation of NATO, as it had lots of information on its creation.

The New York Times, The New York Times,
www.nytimes.com/learning/general/onthisday/bday0508.html.

This article from the New York Times helped solidify my conclusions on the creation of the Truman Doctrine, and its resounding effects throughout American history, not just how it affected foreign policy, but also how it influenced future conflicts.

"President Truman Delivers Truman Doctrine Speech before Congress." *Truman Library Photograph: President Truman Delivers Truman Doctrine Speech before Congress.*,
www.trumanlibrary.org/photographs/view.php?id=14684.

This transcript of what Harry Truman said in his address to Congress allowed me to see what President Truman wanted to establish with his introduction of the Truman Doctrine.

"Primary Source Documents." *We the Teachers Blog*,
blog.teachingamericanhistory.org/2014/04/03/the-65th-anniversary-of-nato/.

This source gave me one of my caricatures from the Truman Doctrine era, and helped me interpret the meaning of it.

Stalin, Joseph. "Stalin on the Inevitability of War with Capitalism." *Seventeen Moments in Soviet History*, 28 Sept. 2015, soviethistory.msu.edu/1947-2/cold-war/cold-war-texts/stalin-on-the-inevitability-of-war-with-capitalism/.

This amazing source from Michigan State University provided me with Stalin's personal writings which detailed how he saw capitalism as oppressive. This source was crucial in helping my paper represent the Soviets view on America, and specifically Stalin's view of Truman.

Thule000. "Truman Doctrine - President Truman Speech on March 12, 1947: Giving Aid to Greece and Turkey." *YouTube*, YouTube, 23 Oct. 2012, www.youtube.com/watch?v=btCLnh5gCPU.

This recording of Truman's speech to Congress was much better than the transcript, as it allowed me to hear the emotion and weight of Truman's heartfelt words.

The Truman Doctrine - The Cold War (1945–1989) - CVCE Website, www.cvce.eu/en/education/unit-content/-/unit/55c09dcc-a9f2-45e9-b240-eaef64452cae/b2a7bc2f-f999-4d0f-8b20-22c9e3f46e15.

I was able to gather more information around the Truman Doctrine through this source. It laid out the basic intentions and repercussions of the Truman Doctrine

"The Truman Doctrine." *The Cold War*, 20 Mar. 2014, alphahistory.com/coldwar/truman-doctrine/.

This source gave me lots of personal writings from Harry Truman, specifically how he felt about Stalin and communism. I used a quote from this source in my document as it displayed Truman's extreme distaste for the communists after the situations in Greece and Turkey.

"Winston Churchill: Secret Conversations Reveal Views on Stalin and Gandhi." *The Telegraph*, Telegraph Media Group, 19 Sept. 2008, www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/2990111/Winston-Churchill-Secret-conversations-reveal-views-on-Stalin-and-Gandhi.html.

This source gave me a quote that represented Churchill's views on Stalin on the dawn of the Truman Doctrine and how he mistakenly held faith in Stalin's words.

Secondary Sources

Nichols, Christopher McKnight. "Consequences of the Truman Doctrine." *OUPblog*, 21 May 2014, blog.oup.com/2014/05/truman-doctrine-consequences/.

This source was one of the most extensive articles that detailed heaps of events and

consequences that stemmed from the Truman Doctrine and the pursuing rivalry between America and Russia.

U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of State,
history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952/nato.

U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of State,
history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952/truman-doctrine.

This secondary source gave me more facts about the beginning of NATO, the countries that joined them, and more.

The Historical Setting: The Polish People's Republic,
info-poland.icm.edu.pl/classroom/longhist6.html.

This source gave me more knowledge of Poland's reparations that were made at Potsdam. This article also showed the different leader's opinions on whether Poland's government should've been a democracy or communist dominated system.

Turkish Straits Crisis,
teachingamericanhistory.org/static/neh/interactives/coldwareuropemap/data/info_10.html.

I learned tons more about the Turkish Straits Crisis from this source. This article showed lots about Truman's initial response to Russia's naval response, which was then escalated to the Truman Doctrine.

Inflation Calculator. Value of \$1.00 in Today's Dollars, by Year,
www.saving.org/inflation/inflation.php.

This calculator helped me figure out how much the Truman Doctrine was worth in today's money.

(www.dw.com), Deutsche Welle. "Potsdam Conference Reshaped Germany | World| Breakings News and Perspectives from around the Globe | DW | 17.07.2015." *DW.COM*,
www.dw.com/en/potsdam-conference-reshaped-germany/a-18591622.

This source helped me understand the specifics of Germany's future set at Potsdam, which were confusing and hard to approach at first. This source helped break down the Potsdam documents to help me understand the effects they had on Germany.

"America, Britain & Russia : Their Cooperation and Conflict, 1941-1946." *Find in a Library with WorldCat*, 23 Oct. 2017,
www.worldcat.org/title/america-britain-russia-their-cooperation-and-conflict-1941-1946/oclc/494392282.

This source layed out the building tension between the US and Russia before and after Potsdam and the Truman Doctrine. This source also nicely laid out the information in two sections, a conflict portion and a cooperation portion, which fit with this

year's NHD theme very well.

CAUCASUS, CENTRAL ASIA and THE. *CA&CC Press AB*,
www.ca-c.org/c-g/2009/journal_eng/c-g-1/13.shtml.

This source gave me more information about the Turkish Straits Crisis, specifically the Soviet naval presence.

"The Cold War Era Timeline." *Timetoast*,
www.timetoast.com/timelines/the-cold-war-era-7faeb639-59de-48a0-898e-0fdd47b4540c.

This source chronologically ordered the events of the Truman Doctrine and what happened following it. I was able to get a sense of setting and spacing between all of the events that are connected to the Truman Doctrine.

"Consequences of the Truman Doctrine." *OUPblog*, 21 May 2014,
blog.oup.com/2014/05/truman-doctrine-consequences/.

I learned quite a bit about the effects and repercussions of the Truman Doctrine from this source.

"Experts Support Truman Doctrine Of Aid to Greece | News." *The Harvard Crimson*,
www.thecrimson.com/article/1947/3/28/experts-support-truman-doctrine-of-aid/.

This source elaborated on what happened during the Greece Crisis, and why it was necessary to dispatch aid to the country. I also learned in depth about the atrocities the communist regime in Greece committed.

"GCSE Bitesize: Yalta and Potsdam - the Basics." *BBC*, BBC,
www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/mwh/ir2/yaltaandpotsdamrev1.shtml

This source helped me understand the bridged themes and topics between the Yalta and Potsdam conferences. This source also outlined why Stalin, Churchill and Truman met at Potsdam and what they talked.

"George Kennan Sends 'Long Telegram' to State Department." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks,
www.history.com/this-day-in-history/george-kennan-sends-long-telegram-to-state-department.

I was able to figure out the importance of the Long Telegram with the help of this source, along with it's place in the creation of the Truman Doctrine, and how it was able to predict soviet expansionism and aggression.

"Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum." *Truman Library, Truman Doctrine*

Activity, www.trumanlibrary.org/teacher/doctrine.htm.

This source listed some of the causes and effects that stemmed from the Truman Doctrine, as well as providing Historical context..

"Harry S. Truman: Foreign Affairs." *Miller Center*, 28 July 2017, millercenter.org/president/truman/foreign-affairs.

This source helped me get a feel for Harry Truman's vision for foreign affairs, and how it related to the Truman Doctrine, specifically the compromise on isolationism.

History.com Staff. "Berlin Airlift." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 2011, www.history.com/topics/cold-war/berlin-airlift.

This article on the Berlin Airlift helped me analyze the rising tensions between Russia and the US This article explained one of the many conflicts that lead to the monumental amount of friction between the United States and Russia.

History.com Staff. "Yalta Conference." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 2009, www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/yalta-conference.

This source gave me a lot of good initial information on the Yalta Conference, a meeting between Russia, the U.K., and the US, which happened before Potsdam. The Yalta Conference mirrored lots of the themes and discussion that were present in Potsdam.

Jtalarico. "How The Potsdam Conference Shaped The Future Of Post-War Europe." *Imperial War Museums*, 3 July 2015, www.iwm.org.uk/history/how-the-potsdam-conference-shaped-the-future-of-post-war-europe.

This source gave me lots of information on the internal discussions of Potsdam, and internal dialogue between the three countries.

"NATO Pact Signed." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, www.history.com/this-day-in-history/nato-pact-signed.

I was able to learn about the first countries that joined NATO, and their motives for doing so, from this article. It also displayed Western Europe's intentions of stopping the cancerous spread of communism.

Pangouríá, Neni. "Dangerous Citizens." *Chapter 4. 1945–1946: White Terror*, dangerouscitizens.columbia.edu/1945-1946/i-want-to/all/index.html.

This amazing excerpt from a book entitled “Dangerous Citizens” gave me tons of information on the causes of the Greek Crisis, and how the Soviet-influenced supporters terrorized the streets of Greece.

“Poland Profile - Timeline.” *BBC News*, BBC, 12 Dec. 2017,
www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-17754512.

This source showed me how Potsdam affected the future of Poland, as in relation to their citizenry and government.

“Potsdam Conference.” *Encyclopedia of Russian History*, Encyclopedia.com,
www.encyclopedia.com/history/united-states-and-canada/us-history/potsdam-conference.

This article showed me lots about the Potsdam conference and how it shaped post-WWII Europe.

“Revelations from the Russian Archives The Soviet Union and the United States.” *The Soviet Union and the United States - Revelations from the Russian Archives | Exhibitions - Library of Congress*, 15 June 1992, www.loc.gov/exhibits/archives/sovi.html.

This source helped me plot out the rocky and unstable relationship between America and the Soviet Union before the Cold War.

Revolvy, LLC. ““White Terror (Greece)” on Revolv.com.” *Trivia Quizzes*,
[www.revolvy.com/main/index.php?s=White Terror \(Greece\)](http://www.revolvy.com/main/index.php?s=White Terror (Greece)).

This source gave me more information about the Greek Crisis. I also learned a lot about the horrid civil war that stemmed from the communist regime’s violent attempt at forcing their ideals through the country.

The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. “Greek Civil War.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 5 Jan. 2018, www.britannica.com/event/Greek-Civil-War.

I learned a lot of basic information about the Greek Crisis from this source. I also was given an insight into how the Nazi occupation in Greece had crippled their country.

The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. “Potsdam Conference.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 22 June 2017,
www.britannica.com/event/Potsdam-Conference.

This Britannica article solidified my ideas surrounding the Potsdam conference and its ties to the Truman Doctrine.

“Start of the Cold War - The Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan.” *Khan Academy*, Khan Academy,

www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-us-history/period-8/apush-postwar-era/a/start-of-the-cold-war-part-2.

This article helped connect the events of the Truman Doctrine and the start of the Cold War for me. It also was a great source for displaying the specifics of the biggest effect that the Truman Doctrine birthed.

Shmoop Editorial Team. "Truman Doctrine Introduction." *Shmoop*, Shmoop University, 11 Nov. 2008, www.shmoop.com/historical-texts/truman-doctrine/.

This source was a huge contribution to my thoughts and knowledge of isolationism and how it had affected American foreign policy both past, present and future.

"Truman Records Impressions of Stalin." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, www.history.com/this-day-in-history/truman-records-impressions-of-stalin.

I was able to draw connections between Truman's personal views on Stalin and how their relationship fluctuated with the help of this article.

usnationalarchives. "The Truman Doctrine and the Origins of the Cold War (2017 April 19)." *YouTube*, YouTube, 19 Apr. 2017, www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kDRFblQQ_4.

This video from the National Archives was probably my most valued source. It was the first source I had encountered while researching my topic. It was incredibly informative and helped me grasp the basics of a topic as complex and vast as the Truman Doctrine.

O'Connor, Charles, and Randy Sowell. "The Truman Doctrine, and the Soviet Response." 27 Mar. 2018.

This interview, which I conducted with Randy Sowell, an archivist at the Harry S. Truman Library, gave me a huge insight into the Truman Doctrine. Even more so, this interview led me to a realization of how the Truman Doctrine did more than just save Greece and Turkey, but it also revolutionized American foreign policy.

"The Warsaw Treaty Organization, 1955." *U.S. Department of State*, U.S. Department of State, history.state.gov/milestones/1953-1960/warsaw-treaty.

This source was an amazing help in my understanding of the Warsaw Pact and its relation to NATO. I also was able to draw parallels between the motives for the creation of the Warsaw pact and the motives for the creation of NATO from this source.

