

# The *Reagan* Revolution



Was the Reagan  
Revolution good for the nation?

Warm Up  
6-

## How well do you know Ronald Reagan?



Take this short, 5-question true or false quiz.

1. T or F: *Reagan had a very quiet, shy personality.*
2. T or F: *Reagan was nationally famous before he was President.*
3. T or F: *Reagan loved détente.*
4. T or F: *Reagan supported conservative, "hands off" policies.*
5. T or F: *Reagan was assassinated.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Presidential Timeline

Nixon	
Domestic Policy	Foreign Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- New Federalism</li><li>- Revenue Sharing</li><li>- Watergate Issues</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Detente</li><li>- Visits China (1st President to Visit since Communist Regime), Moscow</li><li>- Vietnamization</li></ul>



Ford	
Domestic Policy	Foreign Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Inflation</li><li>- Welfare</li><li>- Oil Prices</li><li>- High unemployment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- OPEC</li><li>- Lingering Vietnam Issues</li></ul>



Carter	
Domestic Policy	Foreign Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Newcomer: "not a crook"</li><li>- <b>National Energy Act</b> - tax credit for energy efficiency</li><li>- <b>Fuel Shortage</b>: oil raises from \$2/barrel to \$39</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Returned Panama Canal to the Panamanians</li><li>- Camp David Accords (Peace Between Israel and Egypt)</li><li>- <b>Olympic Boycott of 1980</b> (Russia invaded Afghanistan)</li><li>- Iran Hostage Crisis</li></ul>



Reagan	
Domestic Policy	Foreign Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Right-wing conservatism</li><li>- <b>New Federalism</b> - less federal control and more power to states</li><li>- <b>Cut taxes</b> → increased national debt, cut social welfare</li><li>- Deregulation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Increased military spending</li><li>- Cold War</li><li>- <b>Reagan Doctrine</b> → provide \$ to Asia and South America</li><li>- <b>Star Wars</b> (SDI - Strategic Defense Initiative)</li><li>- Nicaragua</li><li>- PLO; Israel v. Lebanon</li><li>- Berlin Wall - Gorbachev</li><li>- Iran-Contra Scandal</li></ul>



## Homework

- ▶ **Presearch** on a Domestic or Foreign Policy topic
- ▶ Choose three concepts and provide a typed or handwritten synopsis of each. Should be on separate paper.
- ▶ 5pts.
- ▶ Use online sources – NO Wikipedia.
- ▶ **Online text, government sites, History.com or Biography.com websites are good**

# About Ronald Reagan

- ▶ Took office at almost 70 years old
- ▶ Former Hollywood Actor
- ▶ Survived an assassination attempt



- ▶ Supply-side economics:  
Reaganomics
- ▶ Right wing Conservative
- ▶ 2 Terms in Office



Reagan in  
Hollywood

*The "Great  
Communicator"*



# Conservative Tide

A shift to the right (conservative movement) under President Reagan

# Reagan's Economic Policy

- Expanded **New Federalism** – by giving power to the states
  - Health, education, welfare \$\$\$ to the states
- Cut taxes and pro-business: **Reaganomics**
- **Deregulation**: removed the government's control on business to stimulate free enterprise



Government is not the solution to our problem.  
Government *is* our problem.



# *Reaganomics: Simplified*

Cut taxes

More money for  
individuals and  
businesses

Spend more and save  
more

Companies hire more;  
increase supply

New workers pay taxes

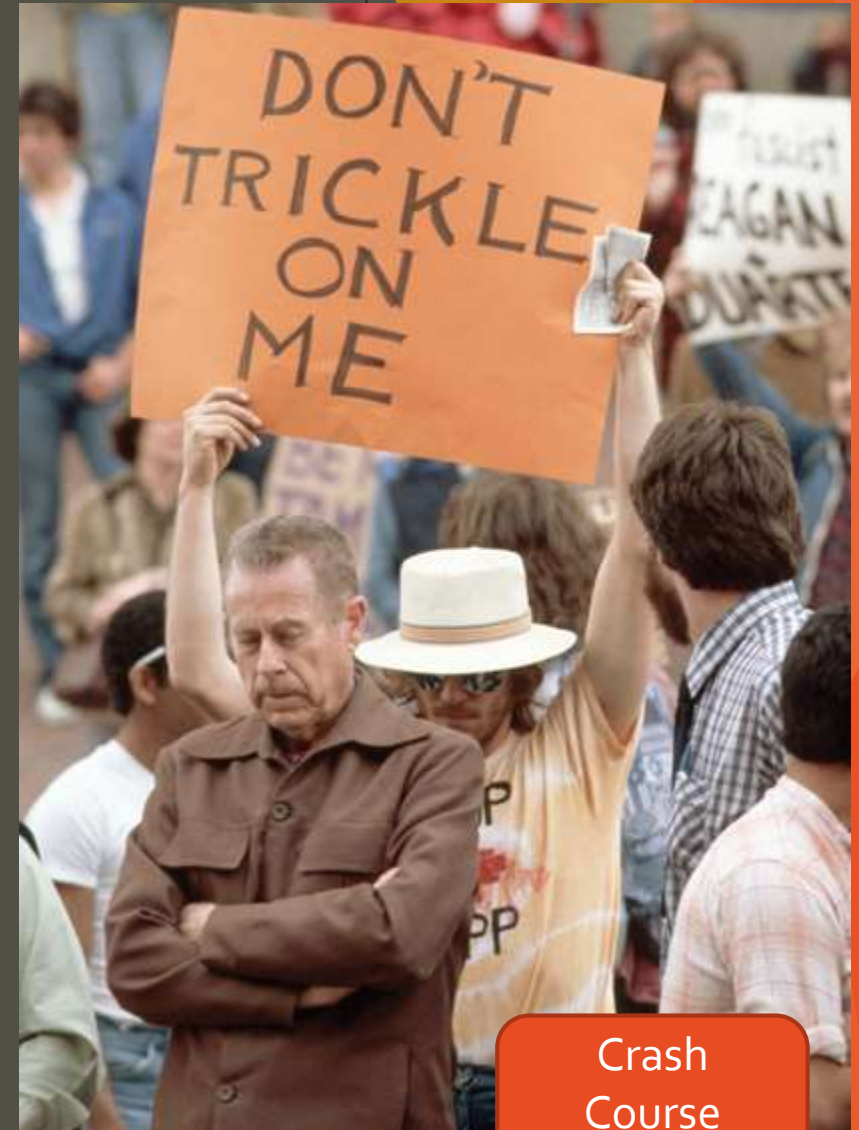
There you have it:  
Taxes cut, taxes earned

# *Reaganomics Impact*

- Widening gap between **rich and poor**
- “Trickle down” theory
- Widely criticized, but did help over time

- Government spending  increase
- Military and defense buildup

**These tax cuts are designed to “trickle down” from the upper classes and businesses down to the lower classes.**



Crash  
Course  
Video

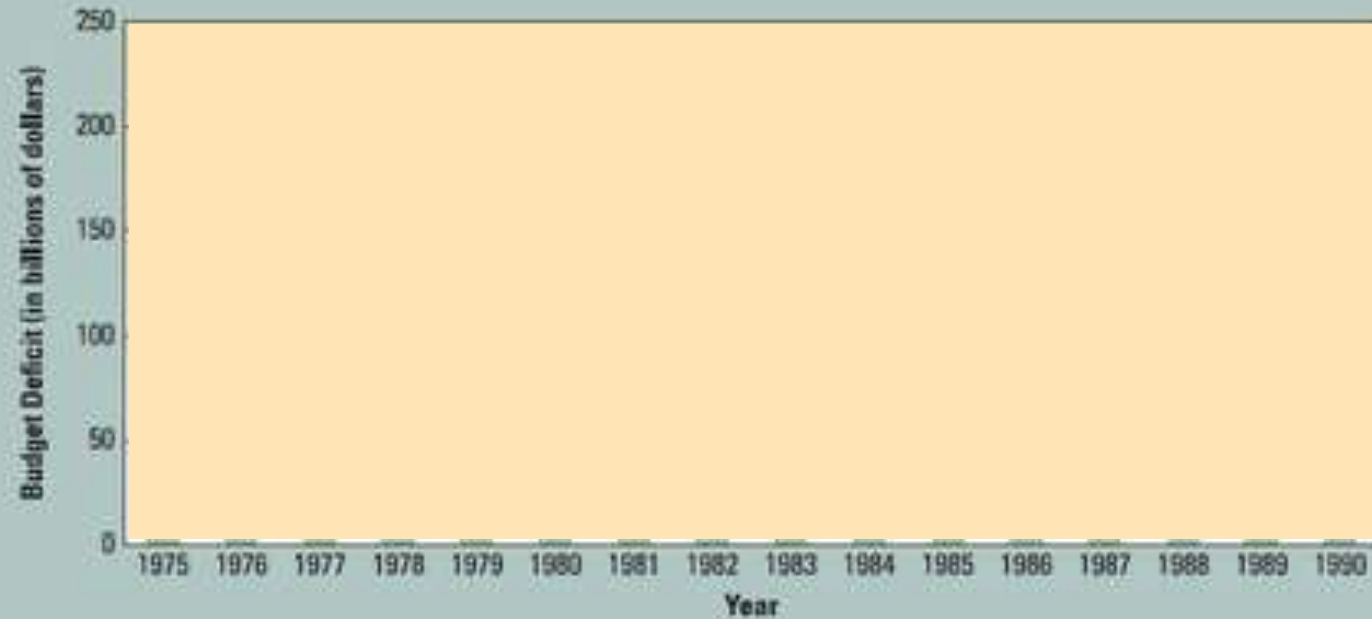
# Federal Deficits

- ▶ *What did Reaganomics do to the economy?*
- ▶ *What is money being spent on?*

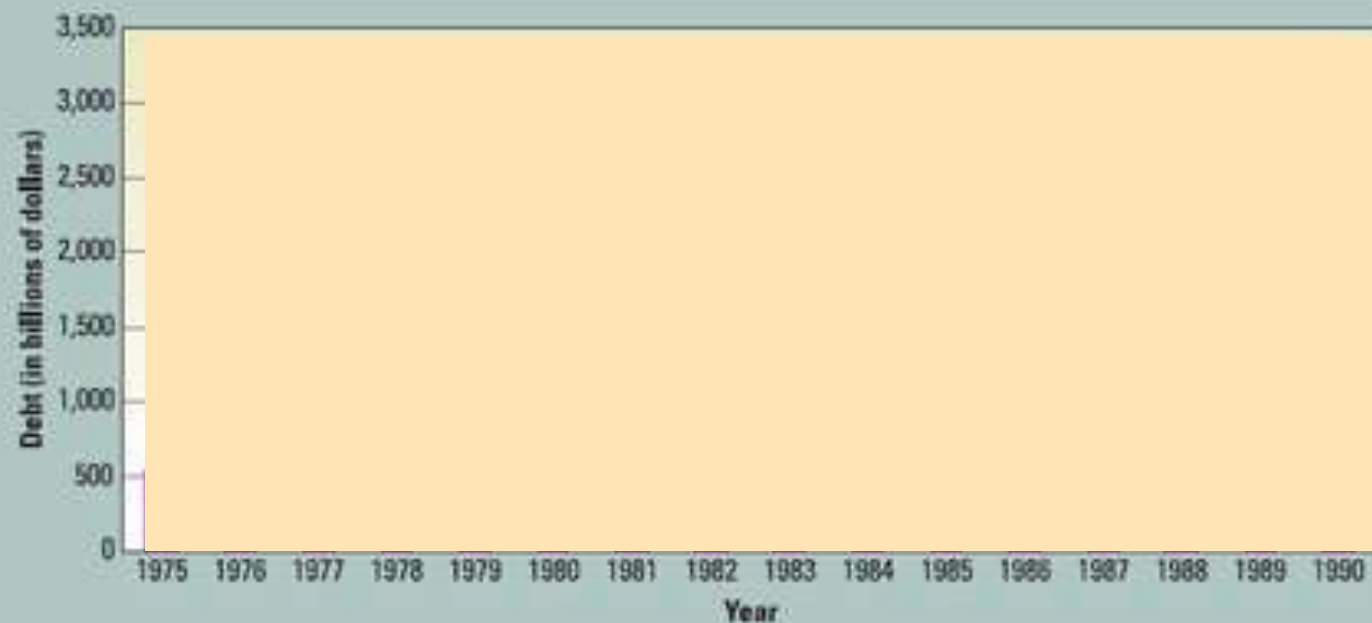
PollEverywhere



U.S. Federal Budget Deficit, 1975–1990



U.S. National Debt, 1975–1990



A Venn diagram with two overlapping ovals. The top oval is labeled 'Liberals' and contains three text elements: 'Equal Opportunity and Equality' at the top, 'Government programs solve problems.' on the left, and 'Government is there so that no one is in need.' on the right. The bottom oval is labeled 'Conservatives' and contains three text elements: 'Reduced government solves problems.' on the left, 'Individualism and personal success/responsibility' at the bottom, and 'Government is there so that freedom is provided to the people.' on the right. The intersection of the two ovals contains the text 'Both sides promise change.' The background features abstract geometric shapes in shades of orange and grey.

# Liberals

Equal Opportunity  
and Equality

Government  
programs solve  
problems.

Government is  
there so that no  
one is in need.

Both sides  
promise change.

# Conservatives

Reduced  
government  
solves problems.

Individualism and personal  
success/responsibility

Government is there  
so that freedom is  
provided to the  
people.

## "Reagan Revolution"

CRASH COURSE

2:20-4:21



CARTER WAS WEAKENED BY A NUMBER OF THINGS IN THE 1980 ELECTION, INCLUDING THE SITUATION IN IRAN, BUT HIS BIGGEST PROBLEM WAS THE FRACTURING OF THE DEMOCRATIC COALITION, JUST AS REAGAN WAS PUTTING TOGETHER HIS CONSERVATIVE COALITION.

What were  
some criticisms of Reaganomics?

Anti-Trust Laws

Gap between  
rich and poor

Decreased spending  
On domestic programs

Monopolies?

Reward  
Companies

Deficit Spending

# *Reagan Domestic Policy*

- *Welfare*
- *HIV/AIDS Epidemic*
- *Civil Rights and Immigration*

*Deregulate it all!*



# Conservative Supreme Court

- ▶ Brought a strict Constitutionalist outlook to Supreme Court judiciary system.
  - ▶ Interpret **original intentions and wording**
- ▶ Nominated Justice Sandra Day O'Connor



*Born in 1787 and still kickin'*

The Constitution should be read AS IT IS.



*"I have left orders to be awakened at any time in case of an emergency. Even in a cabinet meeting."*

*"Honey, I forgot to duck!"*

*- After assassination attempt, to his wife*

*"How can a President not be an actor?"*

*- when asked, "how could an actor become president?"*

*"I hope you're all Republicans..."*

*- to the doctors in the operating room after assassination attempt*

*I will NEVER deal with terrorists.*



# *Reagan Foreign Policy*

*Did Reagan's foreign policy actions mostly impact America positively or negatively?*

*The Soviet Union is an evil empire that needs to be stopped.*

1. *SDI*
2. *Intervention*
  - a. *Nicaragua*
  - b. *Iran*
  - c. *USSR*



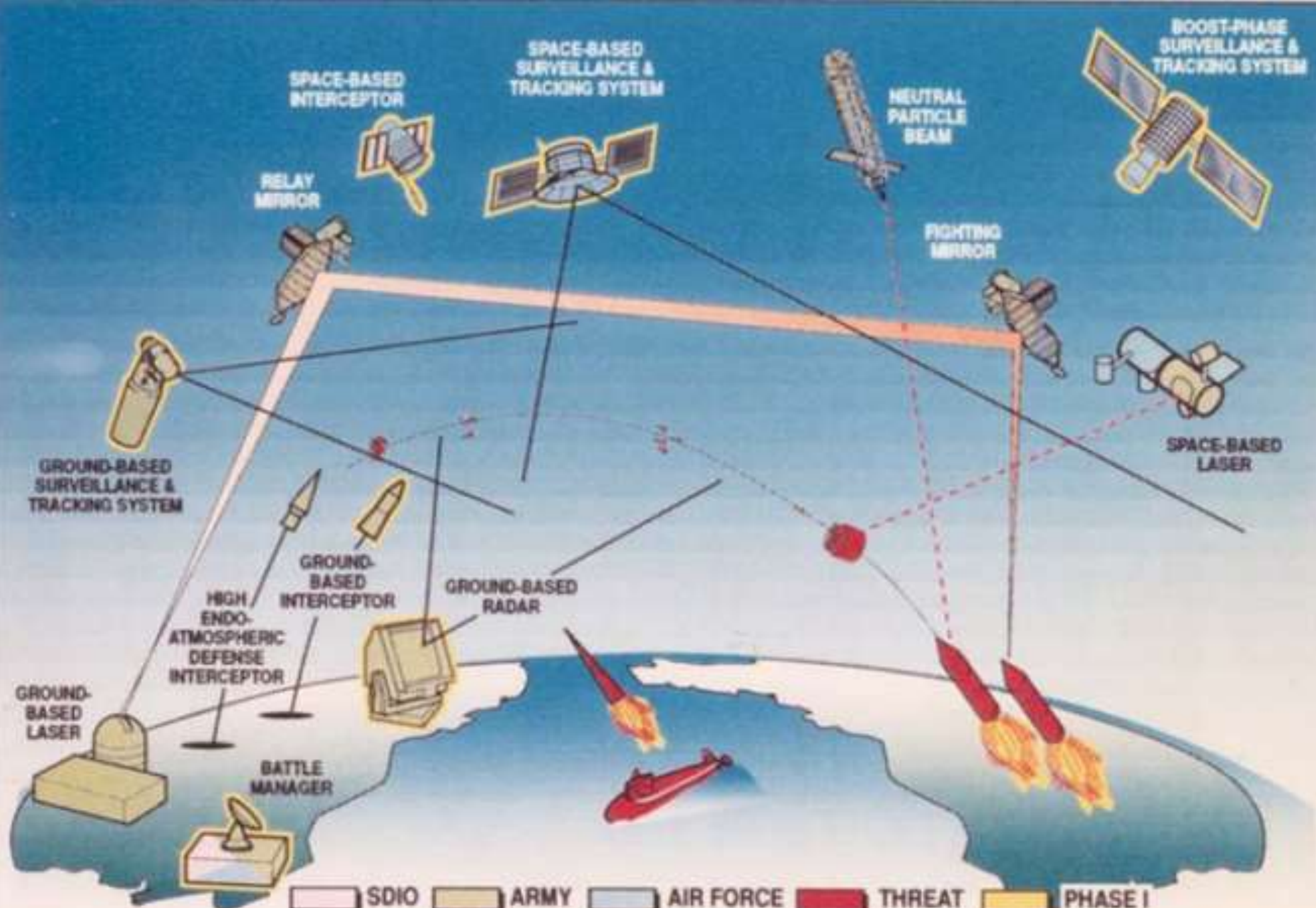


"Reagan  
Revolution"  
CRASH COURSE

9:51 – 13:02

Nickname: Star Wars

-







- ▶ Reagan supported the Contras by funding operations to overthrow the Sandinistas
- ▶ Congress questioned this
- ▶ Banned military aid
- ▶ Reagan continued it

Armed over 10,000 rebels

Also involved in Grenada, El Salvador, Guatemala

Contras killed, kidnapped, tortured



# *The Iran-**Contra** Affair*



- ▶ Reagan secretly sold arms to Iran
- ▶ In exchange for US hostages being held in Lebanon
- ▶ Weapons sales would help fund the **Contras** in Nicaragua
- ▶ Becomes a political scandal



*Sells  
EXPENSIVE  
weapons to  
Iran*



**Iran**

*US hostages  
are in  
Lebanon*

**Lebanon**

Breaks the news  
of the scandal

*Takes US  
Hostages*

**The USA**

*Use the money to  
help the Contras*

**Contras**

THIS IS ILLEGAL

**MILLIONS**





25 victims were Americans  
Secret negotiations and 'swap' for hostages

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad



Hassan Rouhani

# Jimmy Carter 19

- Defeated Ford in 1976 election
- **Democratic Party**
- Former governor of Georgia – a peanut farmer
- “Down to earth” feeling to White House
- While in office...
  - 1. National Energy Act
  - 2. Civil and Human Rights Achievements
  - 3. Problems & Success in the Middle East



# Legacy of Iran-Contra

- ▶ Broken promises – “I would never deal with terrorists!”
- ▶ Illegal funding
- ▶ Lying to Congress
- ▶ Abuse of executive power

*"How can a President not be an actor?"  
- when asked, "how could an actor become president?"*

*"I have left orders to be awakened at any time in case of an emergency. Even in a cabinet meeting."*

*"Honey, I forgot to duck!"  
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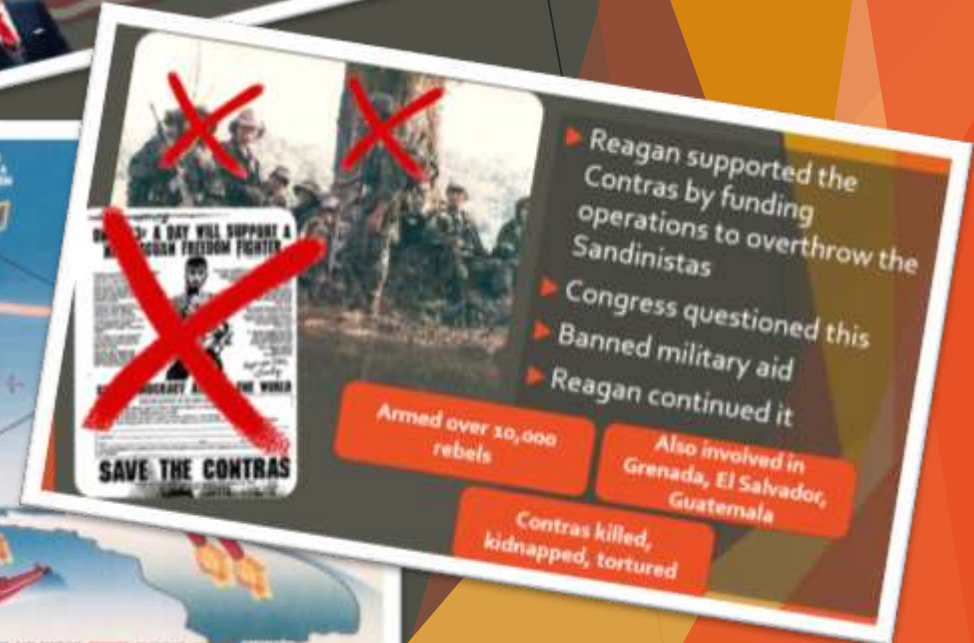
*I will NEVER deal with terrorists.*

*"I hope you're all Republicans..."  
- to the doctors in the operating room after assassination attempt*



# Check for Understanding

- ▶ 1. What is SDI?
- ▶ 2. Why did the Reagan administration decide to fund the Contras?
- ▶ 3. How did Iran get involved?
- ▶ 4. Why was Reagan's deal with Iran so negatively viewed?



- ▶ Reagan supported the Contras by funding operations to overthrow the Sandinistas
  - ▶ Congress questioned this
  - ▶ Banned military aid
  - ▶ Reagan continued it
- Armed over 10,000 rebels
- Also involved in Grenada, El Salvador, Guatemala
- Contras killed, kidnapped, tortured

# New Changes in the Soviet Union

- ▶ Communism is not working
- ▶ New leader: Gorbachev
- ▶ Reforms to help Soviet economy
- ▶ Believed in communism, but not the arms race
- ▶ Negotiated with Reagan



Mikhail Gorbachev



# Reagan and Gorbachev Negotiations

- ▶ Mostly back and forth
- ▶ Positive, “warm” relationship
- ▶ Agreed on the INF Treaty, which removed all missiles up to 3400 miles
  - ▶ Inspect both sides’ military bases
  - ▶ Best part: destroy those weapons

*INF =  
Intermediate  
Range Nuclear  
Forces*



1987 Speech to Gorbachev



“Walled In”

What did the  
Berlin Wall  
look like on  
the interior?



