

## Domestic

- Reaganomics/Supply-side economics
  - The federal economic policies of the Reagan administration, elected in 1981.
  - These policies combined a monetarist fiscal policy, supply-side tax cuts, and domestic budget cutting.
  - Reagan cut taxes on the "trickle down" idea that if the people had more money, they would invest rather than spend the excess on consumer goods.
  - Results would be greater production, more jobs, and greater prosperity.
  - Government revenues would increase despite lower taxes
- Economic Recovery Tax Act
  - Congress granted Reagan a 25% cut, spread over three years
- Tax Reform Act of 1986
  - Lowered tax rates, changing the highest rate on personal income from 50% to 28% and corporate taxes from 46% to 34%.
  - Removed many tax shelters and tax credits.
- Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986
  - Attempted to deal with problem of illegal immigration.
  - Escalated penalties on employers hiring undocumented workers.
  - Increased resources of Immigration and Naturalization Service to enforce the law.
  - Offered resident alien status to any individual who proved they had been living in the U.S. continually since 1982.
- Black Monday, October 19, 1987
  - Stock prices had soared in the early 80s due in part to Reagan's easing of controls on the stock market, brokerage houses, banks, and savings and loan institution
- Morning in America
  - 1984 election; Reagan's effective political campaign television commercial formally titled "Prouder, Stronger, Better"
- War on Drugs

## Foreign

- Reagan's Third World Policy/Mentality
  - The Reagan doctrine said that the root cause of unrest in the Third World was the Soviet Union's communist influence rather than local factors such as poverty, overpopulation, or political corruption.
- Intent of Strategic Defense Initiative
  - Was to develop a sophisticated anti-ballistic missile system in order to prevent missile attacks from other countries, specifically the Soviet Union.
  - With the tension of the Cold War looming overhead, the Strategic Defense Initiative was the United States' response to the possibility of long range nuclear attack.
- Failure of Strategic Defense Initiative
  - So, as the reality of creating many nuclear plants diminished, so did the ambitious designs of the project.
  - At the end of the Strategic Defense Initiative, thirty billion dollars had been invested in the program and no laser and mirror system was ever used, not on land, not in space.
  - The Strategic Defense Initiative was eventually abandoned, and after a few years, it was nothing other than a short chapter in history books.
- Goal of Reagan Doctrine
  - The Reagan Doctrine was implemented as an alternative to containment and isolation which Reagan regarded as a failure.
  - The Reagan Administration's focus was to reverse the spreading of communism in the Third World, regardless of whether the communist regimes were controlled by the Soviet Union.
- Involvement in Third World
  - In 1983, the US invaded Grenada to "liberate" it from a so called "brutal gang of leftist thugs".
    - This upset many heads of state, including Margaret Thatcher, who condemned the military action as an invasion of a

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ campaign of prohibition undertaken by US gov, with the assistance of participating countries, intended to both define and reduce the illegal drug trade             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ "Just say no" ...very effective</li> </ul> </li> <li>● John Hinckley, Jr             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Charged with attempting to assassinate Reagan in 1981</li> </ul> </li> <li>● PATCO             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1981 union of air traffic controllers that went on strike during Reagan's presidency.</li> <li>○ Reagan threatened to fire them if they did not return to work, and he ended up firing most of them, showing his union busting attitude</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Sandra Day O'Connor             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ first woman supreme court justice appointed by Reagan</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Bowers v. Hardwick             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The court legitimized homophobia and anti-gay legislation</li> </ul> </li> <li>● D.A.R.E             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A series of police run programs held in public schools to promote anti-drug ideals but had no impact</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ sovereign state.</li> <li>○ In Afghanistan, a Soviet backed regime had come to power in 1978 after a coup, and, to support this government, Soviet forces invaded and occupied the country.</li> <li>○ In Nicaragua, a widely popular revolution by the Sandinistas, overthrew a decades old oligarchy in 1979, and moved gradually toward their own brand of communism.</li> <li>○ In Angola, an oil rich Portuguese colony, won its independence and the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, which had waged a war of independence for 20 years with support from Cuba, came to power.</li> <li>○ All these regimes were condemned as tools of the USSR, and any group that rose up against them was supported by Reagan despite their complete disregard for human rights.</li> <li>● Reagan believed that people under a communist rule were essentially slaves that had to be freed.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ He wanted to free them from the mental and moral attack he believed that they were under</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Angola             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In Angola, a rival rebel group vied with the ruling party for the leadership of Angola, but when several peace agreements failed the rebels, who were supported by the white apartheid supremacist regime in South Africa and also by Reagan, tried to take the country by force.</li> <li>○ While the leader of the movement was condemned as a tool of South Africa, Reagan welcomed him to the White House as "America's best friend in Africa." He provided the warlord with \$30 million annually in weapons and other needs to sustain the insurgency.</li> <li>○ When the war finally ended, the ruling party stayed in power and Angola was crippled by 27 yrs of war.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Nicaragua             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In Nicaragua, U.S. hostility toward the new leftist government turned the new</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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party toward the Soviets. When Reagan took office, the Sandinistas were high on the right-wing hit list.

- With covert support for a collection of mercenaries, drug runners, and anti-communist zealots collectively called the contras an immense amount of pressure was exerted on the Managua government.
- The Central American presidents consistently voiced their opposition to Reagan's lavish support for the contras, to no avail.
- Afghanistan
  - To combat the Russian invasion, the mujaheddin, a significantly "fundamentalist" Muslim group began waging jihad against them.
  - The CIA funded the mujaheddin, supplying training and weapons in the early 1980s.
    - An estimated 3 million AK-47s were provided to them.
  - After the Soviets pulled out of Russia, the Mujahadden, using the weapons and technology given to them by the U.S. became the beginning of the jihadists, including Osama bin Laden's, which have since grown to be such a significant threat worldwide.