

Contemporary History 1

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Contemporary History 1

What is Contemporary History?

See sheet from Siegenthaler ("Contemporary History", 1 page)

- History of our Time (one life of a man) → after that time the protocols are closed in the federal archive
- Files from 1st and 2nd world war are closed
 - o But these from the 2nd had been opened again, because of the "Holocaust-Problem" in Switzerland

Outcome of the 1st world war:

- development of Fascism/Nationalism
- Boom of 10 years in America
- Germany had to pay reparations, lost colonies and territory
- Austria – Hungary → new states like Tschechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia (Yugoslavia → was given to the Serbs, because the Serbs were on the "good/winner side" in the war → Problem in the 2nd world war → Yugoslavia was happy to get rid of the Serbs!)
- The Osmanion territory was cut into pieces, first colonized under English / French control, afterwards the become states ex. Arabia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey

Fascism

- One of the outcome of the 1st world war was Fascism
 - o Fascists are not racists (blue eyes, fair hair) because Italy was already in former history a mixed race (slaves from Rome, later influence of Spain, Arabs, etc) Italy is multi racial!
 - o Fascism/Nationalism: Not divided by the race but by the nation, the way of life
 - o The cultural/national identification was the point for Mussolini

The Development

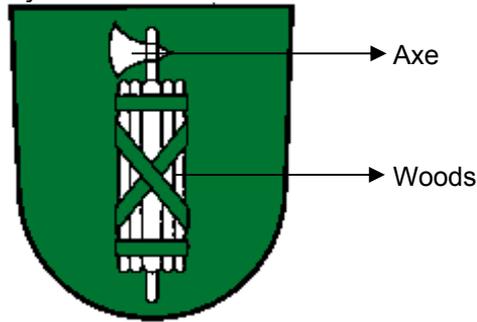
After the 1st world war Italy was disappointed. In the 1st world war they were at the side of the winners, but after the war they didn't get what they expected to get! (Only South Tyrol and Triest) → but they wanted more!

Moreover, there was a fear of a communist revolution in Europe (Start in Russia). The people in Italy were afraid of the revolution (owner of shops, production, farmers, etc)

→ People joined the movement of fascism

- Benito Mussolini (*1883) worked as a teacher and editor of a journal
- Originally he was socialist and he was disappointed of the socialism after the 1st world war, because the socialists didn't expect the war (→ the real problem in socialism was about the rich and poor)
 - o → The war between nations will not take place! (in the eye of socialism)
- Mussolini's idea: People identify with the nation, not with the race
- He created his own party/movement: fascists
 - o "Fasces": sign of the state; authority in the roman empire

- Axe to cut the head of the people, woods to beat people → from roman legal system

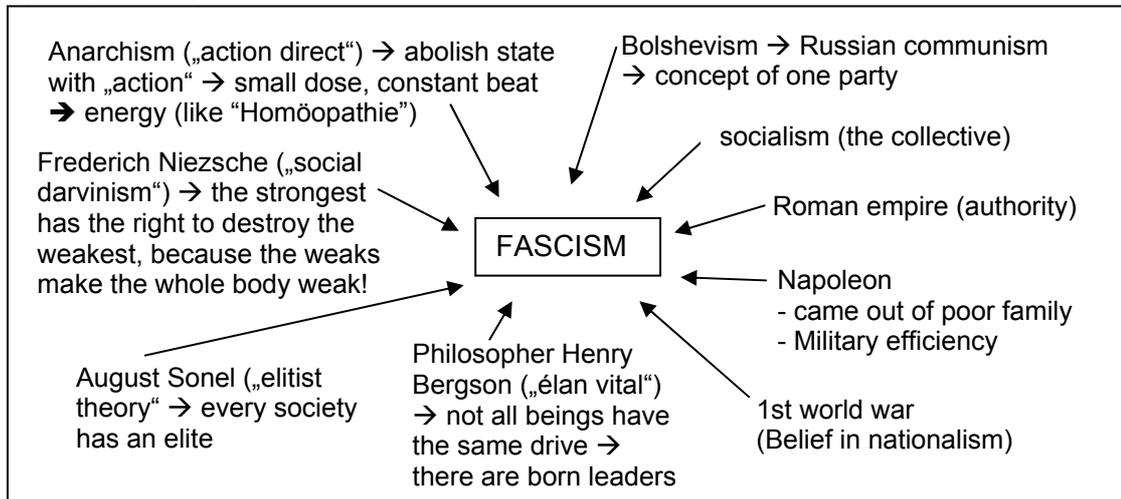


- Sign was carried through the streets when a magistrate walked through the road
- → Reflected the power/authority of the state
- Mussolini liked “a state of authority like during the roman empire”
 - You have to contribute to the success of the state. The state has authority
- Not liberalism (liberalism → state is only a frame; you are free and the state should only protect you and offer security)
 - The liberal state does not offer help, like the social-ideal-state.
 - Liberalism is “risky” for people (no welfare)

What is Fascism?

The fascism idea of state is like a family, where you are protected and instructed, but not much individualistic. The goal is the success of the “family”

- opposite of liberalism
- parable: human body = political system (main objective) ; cells = individual (have to serve) → the whole body has to survive, single cells could die (like an accident with the bicycle → certain cells could be killed, but not the whole body)
- Influences to Mussolini:



- Impacts from Mussolini:
 - Used radio to mobilize people to march to Rome from everywhere in Italy “March to Rome”
 - With the radio he could “over blow” the whole thing → great happening
 - So he could block the state and got the opportunity to create his own government → “semi legal approach” (Hitler copied Mussolini in that way)

Economic Fascism

Discussion sheet from Siegenthaler ("Economic Fascism", 5 pages)

- Lot of fascistic ideas are still alive in today's live
- Writers position about economic fascism → not a planned economy, but planned capitalism
 - o Role of state: Intervention when economy fails to coordinate → use pressure
 - o He was liberal, more than Adam Smith
 - o He was against socialism, democrats, increasing of government of Roosevelt ("New Deal")
 - o Do not care about the "little man"
 - o Republican perspective → family and church should help the little poor man
 - o Against democratic welfare state, socialism but against extreme right also!
 - o against big industry (big industry = some kind of public institution, lots of jobs)

National Socialism

National Socialism is not just the result of one sick person, it has influenced millions of people (not only in Germany) and it is still alive (not urgently obviously)! The danger comes from "belief" in NS without realizing that it is a Nazi position!

- Belief in "survival of the fittest"
- Do NS / Social Darwinism make sense on a rational level?
 - o The world is full of competition
 - o Hitler: Germans will survive, and the others not
- What are the basics of NS? How do we define it?
 - o Social Darwinism elements (survival of the fittest)
 - true for animals, but not for us
 - Crucial for Humans: strength of the system and the systems efficiency, not of the individual
 - If animal could organize → sheep crowd would kill wolf → they would build lines and run against the wolf to confuse and kill him. But sheeps can't coordinate properly → that's what just human beings can do!
 - o State ≠ liberal concept (State in the service of the individual)
 - o State = superior form of being → Individuals are cells in the body of the state
 - o Law within the state is there to strengthen the state
 - o between the states there can't be any law (jungle = survival of the fittest)
 - o Ethical norm: built on the interest of the state → everything what serves the state is good

Biography of Adolf Hitler

The Ideology of National Socialism is not biographical! The NS didn't come with Hitler and disappeared with his death. But there are biographical elements.

- Hitler was born 1889 in Braunau (Austria)
- His mother worked in a Jewish household → some of Hitlers NS ideas derive from there
- Hitler was a good boy (schoolish) and would become abbot (Abt)
- High school in Braunau, but after 2 years he fell through
 - o He would join the art school and become artist. But he failed at the entrance test. He thought he had been rejected, because he wasn't a Jew.
 - o instead of going to school, he studied for himself (read in the library and draw pictures)
 - o He pretended to go to art school. He was an impostor (Hochstapler)

- At the age of 24 he became uncomfortable with his life, and the pays from “orphan casse” (Weisenalimente) would stop, when he was 25 (father died when he was 14, mother died when he was 18)
- He decided to go to Munich and start all over there
- 1st world war broke out → this was a chance, a way out!
 - o He joined the German army, got the German Passport and became soldier at the French front
 - o The Army was like a family, and “war” became a positive aspect for him
 - o Hitler was a good Soldier
 - o He was blinded by a gas-grenade, but he could be healed
- When the war was over, he couldn't believe it
- Versailles contract → Germany lost the war!
- “Stab in the back” (Dolchstoßlegende) → they got killed by their own government, not by the enemy in the war
- For Hitler the end of the 1st world war was a tragedy
 - o he was 29, had no education, no money, no job, no future → depressed
- 1919 he got a job as a propagandist for the new German army
- He also joined “Deutsche Arbeiterpartei” and soon became leader of the party
 - o DAP grew in 1920
 - o Hitler changed the name into NSDAP (Neue deutsche Arbeiterpartei) and started a new type of propaganda → he caught the eye of the population
 - o Party became anti communism, anti foreign and Hitler started Anti-Semitism → Jews have cheated German people (lots of Jews were educated and therefore rich)
 - o Hitler could make a living out of his action in the party
 - o DAP was a left party but got support from right. Hitler wasn't very comfortable with it and steered the party more to the right
 - o Röhm Putsch → NSDAP had been forbidden → Hitler imprisoned
- In prison he wrote “Mein Kampf” where he explained his intention in detail

Mein Kampf

Discussion sheet from Siegenthaler (“Mein Kampf by Adolf Hilter”, 3 pages)

- Hitler defined the nation State, the people's state and talked about Marxism
 - He hated the idea of equality → serve the Jews → Jews take over world!
 - Hitler believed in hierarchies of races
-
- What is the idea expressed in a)?
Hitler: First culture is built under the influence of the Aryan. Really old Egyptians in the Nile Religion was the first culture (Africans with dark-brown or red skin) → not Germans. And also one of the first cultures in Sumerians in lower Mesopotamia → not Germans → but indo-Europeans rushed into the Land. For Hitler they were the one who created the country.
 - What is in b) and c) together?
Service for the society goes further than the self-preservation / -interest. Human being = cell, national state = body. Hitler thought Germans want to be cells and are willing to scarify themselves! (Kadavergehorsam → critical term, never used by Hitler, but after the war)
 - In d) he comes to the Jews. What is surprising?
He considered them as an intelligent culture (Rank Nr. 2). They are a danger, because they can make it to the top! But why can they not reach the top? They are

destructive, no culture creating force they are parasites → if the virus wins, the body dies! (Aryans are constructive, good for the world)

- Really Jewish contribution was not seen as Jewish “outcome”. So there were a lot of Jews, who contributed a lot to sciences, art, etc.
- Contence of e) (complicated)
Aryans didn't have the Christian ethic (help the weak) and no humanism (human rights, equal rights, Freimaurer)
→ Hitler says: This all comes from Jews, because it's all a virus to weaken the Aryans (become sheep!)
 - Protocols of the Group of the Elders of Zion → secret constitution (4000 years ago and they still exist) → Attack against Aryans → goal: rule the world
- In f)
He wants that people drop all moral inhibitions and forget all legal barriers and start burning down Jewish homes. Attacking without being provoked!

Some weaknesses of National Socialism:

- Moral Weakness
- Logical Weakness (survival of the fittest is not possible among human beings)

2nd World War

See also sheet from Siegenthaler (“Summary of the Second World War”, 4 pages)

The development

- 1933 Hitler gained Power → in the end von Hindenburg (State president) decided to give Hitler the chance to form a cabinet, despite some resistance of the people.
- “Reichstagsbrand” like 9/11 → psychological effect → seen as republic is in danger
 - Hitler → Law of empowerment (Ermächtigungsgesetz) → government had special power to fight against danger
 - Law became permanent → Hitler → Dictator, could use this unchecked power
 - Like in the US after the 9/11: Law: “The US Patriot act” → people who are supposed to be terrorists can be taken into custody. Who supposes? The government! Government power → could use it against anybody! Danger because of errors.
- After Hitler got power he prepared for the war
 - War was not coincidence → Hitler wanted a re-match for the 1st world war, also expressed in “Mein Kampf” (against Jews, France, and he wanted more land in the east for the Aryans, destroy communism, oil form the Russians)
 - Reasons of the 1st world war → militarism, imperialism, tension (Balkan) → coincidence
 - He was not against Christianity (lots of his followers were Christians) → he wanted to hollow it out and fill it with new ideology
 - Germany left League Of Nations and Hitler wanted a reunion with Austria
 - 1848 Revolution in Europe, idea of unification of Germany → in Frankfurt people came together → Hitler wanted the same
 - 1935 League Of Nations gave the Saar Area back to Germany (admission that Treat of Versailles was not fair) → Hitlers interpretation → Produce pressure and you can get anything (there is no generosity)
 - 1935 Hitler introduced compulsory military service (allg. Wehrpflicht) → he could increase his force (old army 100'000) to 10 millions

- Violation of Versailles Treat → no big protest from Western Union → sign to Hitler, that they were afraid of Germany → he felt very strong!
- Germany → strong army, overcomes Depression
 - Deficit spending (Keynesian strategy) → weapons, technology
- 1938 second move from Hitler to incorporate Austria, lots of Austrians were against. They wanted to vote but Hitler moved troops and walked into Austria.
- Hitler also took German speaking part Czechoslovakia (Sudetenland)
 - GB and France didn't react, because of this "little parts of land"
- President of Czechoslovakia was invited to Berlin for discussion with Hitler → Hitler blackmailed (erpresste) the President → could annex Czechoslovakia

- Time was right for the world war.
- GB / France → Hitler has to be stopped!
 - Hitler had advantage:
 - Dogs ----- Rabbit → Hitler had advantage, but he knew that the dogs would be faster. But Hitler had some Time (chance) to go safely into the forest (or expand!)
 - Hitler took Poland (wanted corridor between Germany and east Prussia → Danzig should be German), because moving west was more problematically
 - Poland: military weak, open border
 - GB / France would help Poland → problems to place troops (time, France wanted troops to defend own borders) and few (geographically) possibilities to attack Germany (couldn't cross other countries, own mine fields and tank barriers, no chance trough the sea way)
 - Hitler signed Hitler-Stalin pact → GB / France couldn't make anything
 - Russia agreed to support Germany for getting the Baltic States (Finland → resistance against USSR)

- GB / France declared war in September 1939
 - They tried to stop the supply lines (steel from Sweden)
 - Hitler moved into Denmark, towards Norway and pushed back the Britain troops who stopped the supply lines
 - Hitler attacked and took Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg and conquering France
 - France didn't bargain for (rechnen mit) such a fast conquering

- England moved their troops back to GB
 - Hitler "lost" Great Britain → why didn't German interact? Some theories:
 - Tanks were out of gas, logistics stopped
 - Communication problems (no new orders from Berlin)
 - Some German generals didn't want to kill Engl. troops (honor code)
 - Decision from Berlin → not to kill English troops → Hitler wanted deal: GB accept, that France is under German control
 - France was divided
 - North of France → occupied by Germany
 - South "Vichy France" → governed by France, but influence from Berlin → Germany didn't take whole France because they wanted to save troops

- Italy (under Mussolini) attacked Greece in October 1940
 - GB tried to help, but Germany moved to Greece and conquered the area

- 26 June 1941 Germans started "Barbarossa" → attack on Russia
 - There was the Hitler-Stalin pact but Hitler knew, that there would be a war between Germany and Russia (different ideology)
 - Surprise attack → Stalin wasn't ready (he thought Hitler would first attack GB)

- December 1941 Attack from Japanese on Pearl Harbor → USA declared war to Japan → Germany declared war to USA (Pact Germany & Japan)
 - Similar to 9/11 → what was the idea behind the attack on P.H.?

- Japanese attacked USA because of economical pressure from USA (Japan has no raw material → American economic expansionism). Japan also wanted to grow, knock out America for some time and expand in that time in the Asian area.
- Was the CIA informed about the attack? Because the new war material wasn't in the harbor when Japan attacked.
- Did USA just need the attack in order to fight back: "Cowboy ethics" → Christian element → act in self defense (USA lost 2000 people, but in a war we always lose people!)
- Same theory about 9/11 → need attack to start war on terrorism: "US-Patriot act" allows government to take people into custody for indefinite time if they are under suspicion of terrorism! Danger of mistakes – against human rights! That was only possible after 9/11.
- So far USA was "neutral", delivered war material to England and Russia for cash and carry, later on for "land & lease"

The World War started

- 1942 the WORLD WAR started when USA joined the war
 - USA helped England → Preparing for sea war against Japan
- June 1942 battle of Midway → USA pulled Japan back, moving closer to main land
- Americans wanted Russians to help them to fight against Japan. They agreed to help after the defeat of Germany.
- 3 set backs for Germany:
 - 1: Battle of Britain (attack the north of France), Germany lost the air war
 - 2: in northern Africa (El Alamein) ground war, loss of northern Africa
 - 3: Stalingrad → Germany surrounded by Soviets → fight against Russia
 - After the loss in Stalingrad, Hitler had a stroke (Schlaganfall) he didn't appear at mass-meetings and speeches → for him the war was lost (but there is no surrender in a social Darwinist picture!)
- June 42 Sea Battle on the east
 - US took islands from Japan (Philippines, ...)
 - US were afraid of landing operations on Japan
 - US needed the help of the Russia
 - Russia would support USA but only after having conquered Germany
- 1944 landing of allied troops on Normandy
- Major effort done by Soviet Army in Stalingrad → they weakened Germany
- Allied attack on Dresden with phosphorus bombs (→ technical experiment)
- 6th of May 1945 world war ended in the west

- Americans did have atomic bombs, but they didn't believe that this bomb works!
 - Nobody was aware of the effect and they didn't know about radioactivity
 - At that time in every better shoe store of Switzerland there was an x-ray machine to look if the shoe fits! People weren't aware of impacts!
 - In magazines → ideas to paint the walls with radium (save energy)
- 1945 the Americans dropped atomic bomb in Hiroshima ("fat boy" → uranium bomb)
- USA wanted to force Japan's surrender as quickly as possible to minimize American casualties. In addition, the USA needed to use the atomic bomb against Japan before the Soviet Union entered the war to establish US dominance after the war.
- Americans wanted to use the world's first atomic bomb for an actual attack and observe its effect. For these reasons, those in charge were in a hurry.
 - Why was Hiroshima selected?
 - Size and topography of the city made it suitable for testing the destructive atomic bomb, and to confirm the destructive effects later
 - There was a concentration of military troops, installations, and factories in Hiroshima that had been spared previous bombing.

- Why did they throw the bomb on a city and kill so many people?
 - It was some kind of test/demonstration to show that the bomb works
- Why did they throw a second bomb on Nagasaki (plutonium bomb)?
 - Was it a second test with a different kind of atomic bomb?
 - Maybe it was planned and couldn't be stopped (lack of communication)
 - ➔ This reminds to Dresden, when the Americans fired Dresden with Phosphor bombs (fire storm) this wasn't necessary for the surrender of Germany ➔ it was a power demonstration!

Questions about Switzerland in the 2nd World War

- Jewish bank accounts
- Gold-Transfers trough Switzerland to finance the war (wash gold)
 - Some gold was Jewish gold (from teeth from Auschwitz)
- Why did Hitler not attack Switzerland?
 - Money, gold transfer
 - Military reason
 - Swiss were good Nazis? ➔ Special treatment for Switzerland?
 - Economic exchange through the war (Military transports)
 - Sale of guns ➔ contributing to War
 - Switzerland closed the border ~1942 (but also other countries did this)



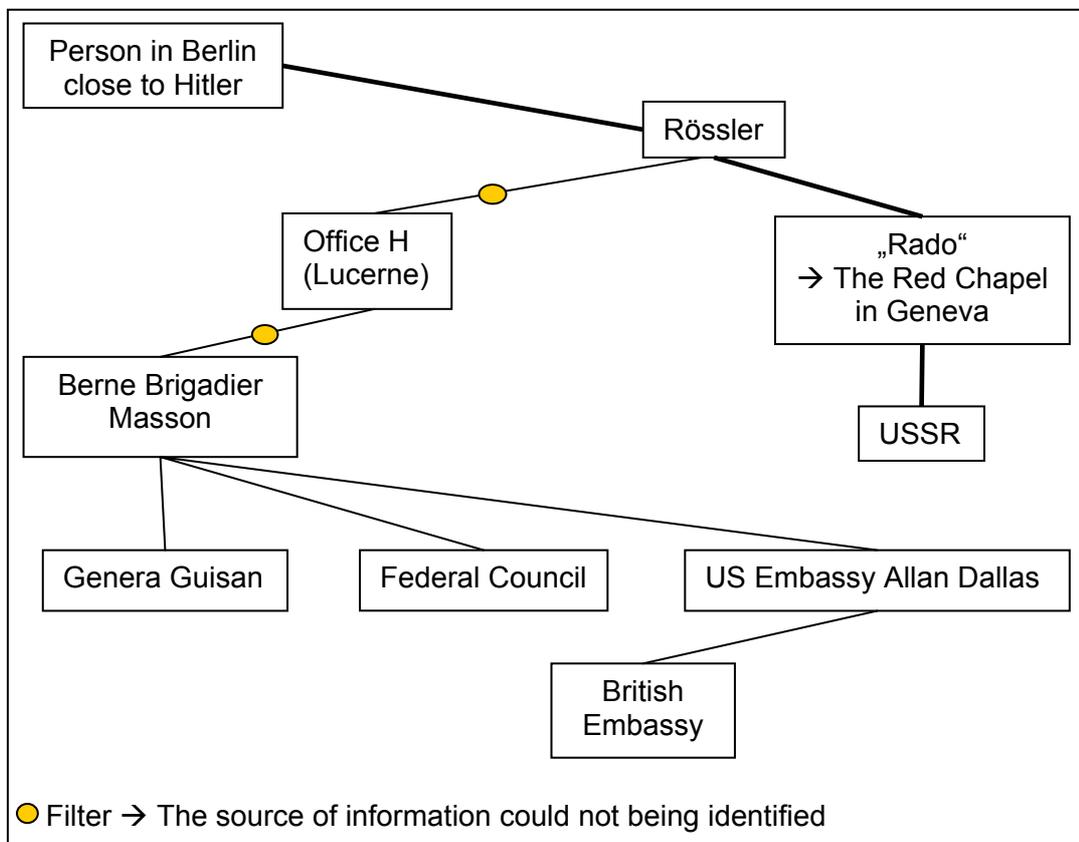
- CH was in a very uncomfortable position during the 2nd world war (see map above)
- Ideology in CH → long before the war the CH population was against Hitler and Nazis
 - o In Parliament the foreign affairs councilor (Marcel Pilet-Golaz) was a pro-Hitler because he knew that Switzerland would never win against Germany
 - o CH population thought that they are very strong (→ spiritual national defense)
 - o CH → separate movement since 1291 (autonomy and self-determination)
 - From there on CH kept always out of everything (→ many thought CH hates Germany, but it is only because CH didn't want their proximity)
 - o CH has been/is also a multicultural country so racism couldn't work in CH
 - o CH doesn't like strong leadership → has to be divided (as our seven councils)
 - the only person in the council who has some followers today is Blocher
 - Nazis had been too centralist and charismatic for CH
- Mr. Eizenstat's attack on Switzerland:
 - o "... Switzerland figures prominently in any history of the fate of Nazi gold and other assets during and after World War II because the Swiss were the principal bankers and financial brokers for the Nazis, handling vast sums of gold and hard currency. ..."
 - o "...Switzerland's role was very mixed. It ended World War II as one of the wealthiest nations in Europe. It conducted trade with the Allied countries as well as with the Axis powers. ..."
 - o "...Switzerland persuaded the Nazis to establish the "J" stamp which prevented tens of thousands of Jews from entering Switzerland or other potential sanctuaries. Like Canada and the United States, Switzerland tightened its immigration policies, and during the War it virtually closed its borders to Jews fleeing deportation from France and Belgium. ..."
- 1939 National exhibition in Zurich and the outbreak of the war
- Mobilization in CH (400'000 soldiers) → call to arms
 - o Force of dissuasion (Abraten) not deterrent (=frightened as USA)
 - CH tried to persuade Germany, that there is no advantage of an attack
 - Topography was also an advantage for CH
 - The war material of CH was not up-to-date (only 24 tanks)
- 1940 CH was totally surrounded (see map above)
- May 1940, after German attack on France → 2nd mobilization (almost totally)
 - o Problem: economic survival of Switzerland was at risk
 - Cultivation battle (degree of self-sufficiency: 80%)
 - Meat had to be imported (20%)
 - Big problem was also the oil which had to be imported
 - Raw materials
- To finance the imports CH had to export goods and services to Germany
 - o Germany wanted war material → to survive CH had to sell it to them
 - o CH gave financial services to Germany to survive
- CH bought oil from England with the permission of Germany
 - o Swiss sent precision instruments for military use to England
 - o Germany had the permission to send "food" to Italy through CH, also if Switzerland knew that not everything was "Danish butter"
- "Rütli-Rapport": General Guisan presented on the Rütliwiese the new plan of defense against Germany: the "Réduit-Plan".
 - o „Wir stehen an einem Wendepunkt der Geschichte. Es geht um die Erhaltung der Schweiz. Soldaten von 1940! Wir wollen uns an diesem Ort die Lehren und den Geist der Vergangenheit einprägen, um Gegenwart und Zukunft des

Landes mit Entschlossenheit ins Auge zu fassen, um den geheimnisvollen Ruf, welcher aus diesem Ort emporsteigt, zu vernehmen. Wenn wir mit klarem Blick in die Zukunft schauen, werden wir die Schwierigkeiten überwinden, die sich stets zeigen und die schon im Bundesbrief von 1291 als die Arglist der Zeit bezeichnet wurden.“

- Summer 1940 → plans from Germany to attack CH
 - o Plan “Fir tree” → worked out by Halder the idea was to attack CH form the north by Germans and from Italian army from the south (Germany thought Italy would never reach to enter the south of CH)
 - Halder thought they could enter into CH after only 3 to 4 weeks and conquer 90% of the industrial area but to win against militarily it would take at least half a year (“Réduit-Plan”)
 - Hitler’s plan was to win all borders, then CH had to renounce (zurückziehen)

- “Dog fights”: when Hitler planned to attack CH this was also a test to CH:
 - o Germans started to fly over CH → more and more they made bigger turns in order to see, if CH had the courage to attack
 - o CH reacted: Dog fight in the air CH against Germany → CH lost 3 plains, Germany 17. Hitler was angry. This proved that CH was willing to fight back.

- “War was won in Switzerland”: Mr. Rössler (German Communist lived in Aargau) got very good information directly from Berlin from a high officer or a technical officer (it’s not clear) and handed it to “Office H” in Lucerne (private secret service office)
 - o The secret person in the Führerbunker was never smoked out (aufgeflogen)
 - o The information was spread to different important persons (see picture below)



- Germany tried to find out from where the Russians got the information → asked Masson, but he couldn't give information (he really didn't know) due to the Office H, which was run private and had some kind of a filter function
 - After the 1st world war Germans could send troops to Russia to be trained (secret deal). Probably some persons in Germany established relations to Russian generals → these persons used personal link to stop the war
- Shows that the official Switzerland hoped for a defeat of Germany (but they didn't say it aloud, because there were not in the position)
- Accusations of Switzerland:
 - CH returned lots of refugees → a very sad fact, because the fact was known, that these persons had been sent to concentration camps
 - July 1938 conference of Evian → CH would receive most of the refugees, if they could hand them on to other countries (USA, Australia). But these countries didn't accept. So CH didn't accept them either. Closing of borders.
 - CH couldn't have accepted all refugees, but at least some
 - Switzerland knew about German detention camps. But the awareness about the existence of concentration camps came really late ~1943 and was more individualistically known, not by the whole society
 - Also the Americans did not really know about this (They could have bombed the railway lines very easily!!!)
 - "J" Stamp in the passport → not in the category of refugees to accept
 - The stamp was instead of a visa for all German citizens → it was not an anti-Semite idea
 - CH → dormant accounts: Some Jews who had been killed in the concentration camps had numbered accounts in CH. The off-springs of these people couldn't access the accounts because they didn't have the numbers.
 - CH has tradition to keep this money for decades. Similar money in America has been confiscated by the state (after 10 years), so why was CH blamed for it?
 - Gold transaction in CH from stolen gold in Germany shouldn't have been accepted!
 - At that time there was no international law dealing with that problem
 - Forced labor → criminals and detainees were forced to work for CH companies (e.g.: Nestle in Wiesbaden) → they didn't receive a real salary

- The good cards in the hand of CH:
 - Transports between Germany and Italy: CH could blow up the railway tracks
 - Financial service of CH was important
 - Industrial production of CH
 - Rössler, and the whole flow of information
 - The bad cards in the hand of CH:
 - Dependency on resources (no oil, coal, steel) → not self-sufficient
 - The position: CH was surrounded by Germany
 - Size and weakness and not experienced in war
- The cards were played very well from the Federal Council. CH had a "good" position

The cold war (1945-1990)

What is the cold war and how did it come about?

- Ideological conflict between communism and pluralism/capitalism
- Conflict between two super powers, conflicting ideologies → Battle for domination
- Soviet Union (deep red) vs. United States (deep blue)

- Lighter shade of blue: England, France and Germany (→ NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization)
 - Light blue (neutral but sympathetic): Switzerland, etc
- Lighter shade of red: Iran, Turkey, Pakistan, (South Eastern Treaty Organization) → Pact of Warsaw
 - Light red (neutral but sympathetic): Some eastern countries
- ➔ Increase area of the “specific superpower”.
 - Everything was seen through this lens
- Goal: Gain new party → support revolutions: send weapons, money, medias, (beauty contest → Olympia → collect gold medals), space technology
 - Space technology: Russia was leading → Sputnik first Satellite in space
- Different kind of contest → no direct confrontation because of fear of atomic bombs
 - MAD → Mutual Assured Destruction: If Soviets attack America with atomic bombs; America has still enough atomic bombs to destroy Russia.
 - No one could win this war

“Collage”

- Conflict in Ethiopia (light blue) and Somalia (light red), Pakistan and India
 - Dispute about territory
 - Revolution in Ethiopia → Emperor had been displaced with Russian support Ethiopia changed from light blue to light red
 - Somalia had to change from light red to light blue because of the dispute between these countries and the dependence from support
- Conflict in South Africa between black and white
 - Always critics from America, however they were light blue
 - South Africa was important because of the strategic position, raw materials, ...
 - America could control the area
 - ANC (Africa National Congress) → organization of the black people got support from Russia → they were slightly red!
 - When Soviet Union collapsed → no support → light red faded into all other colors. But blacks have always been seen as reddish and white as light blue. This lasted until the end of the cold war.

Strange alliance

- Strange Alliance between East and West and between GB and the USA → Strategic differences → it was no surprise that they will fall apart
 - In the 2nd world war Russia thought USA wanted to take over the world by weaken Germany and Russia → they expected more support!
 - At the end of the 2nd world war GB wanted to attack Russia through Greece, Bulgaria, Rumania directly into the heart of Russia → USA wanted to attack through the Normandy to stop the expansion of Russia

The Yalta Conference

- Big decisions come up at the conference in early 1945 → Agreement after the war
 - **UNO**
 - Roosevelt wanted United Nation Organization to stabilize, but the Russians didn't want it because they thought they would always be in minority but Stalin agreed when Roosevelt offered him a veto.
 - **Poland**
 - Both sides had a government and their arguments → there should be a united government.
 - **Germany** → occupation until de-Nazifying and reunifying Germany

- Should be re-united and cut up in 4 zones belonging to England, United States, France and Russia (as well as Berlin was cut up)
- In the end they made the iron curtain
- Roads to Berlin for the occupying nations through the iron curtain



- **Reparations**
 - No reparations, because they led after the 1st world war to the 2nd world war! But the winners could take things from Germany (plunder).
 - USA didn't take anything, but Russia took e.g. Industry of Leika
→ Proofs that Russians didn't want to stay in eastern Germany!
- **War in Asia** (Korea) → Americans wanted Russia to help against Japanese after the defeat of Germany
 - Agreement of split of North and South Korea

The Potsdam Conference

- Potsdam Conference in summer 1945 → Beginning of the cold war!
 - Strange alliances fell apart
 - New people (Roosevelt died) → new President: Truman was under pressure; had to prove that he wasn't under Russian power) → getting better deal for USA
 - Atomic Bombs
- Russia has established communism in the occupied countries
 - The West saw growing iron curtain → growing tension

The inner situation of the 2 Superpowers

- At that time Americas had been ruled from Democrats very long
 - o They handled the war and the economy very well → overcame problem in the 30-ies, won 2nd world War, led America to the beginning of prosperity
 - o What about the Republicans? They tried to convince by trying to “fight” against the danger of communism → “red scare”: Ugly time → Everybody had to prove that he wasn’t a communist
 - o 1952 Truman → Eisenhower → America turned from Democrats to Republicans
 - o USA needed the conflict!
- Stalin → in Russia lots of contacts to America due to the 2nd world war. This was seen as a danger for Russia → Stalin needed the conflict to stay in power!

The Truman Doctrine

- Truman: President of the US 1945 → got the job for free, because he was Vice President when Roosevelt died.
- Soviet Union had grown (Communism wanted to spread) → USA wanted to stop them
 - o USA wanted to support every anti-Communist group
 - o Aggressive policy → siege of the borders (Belagerung)

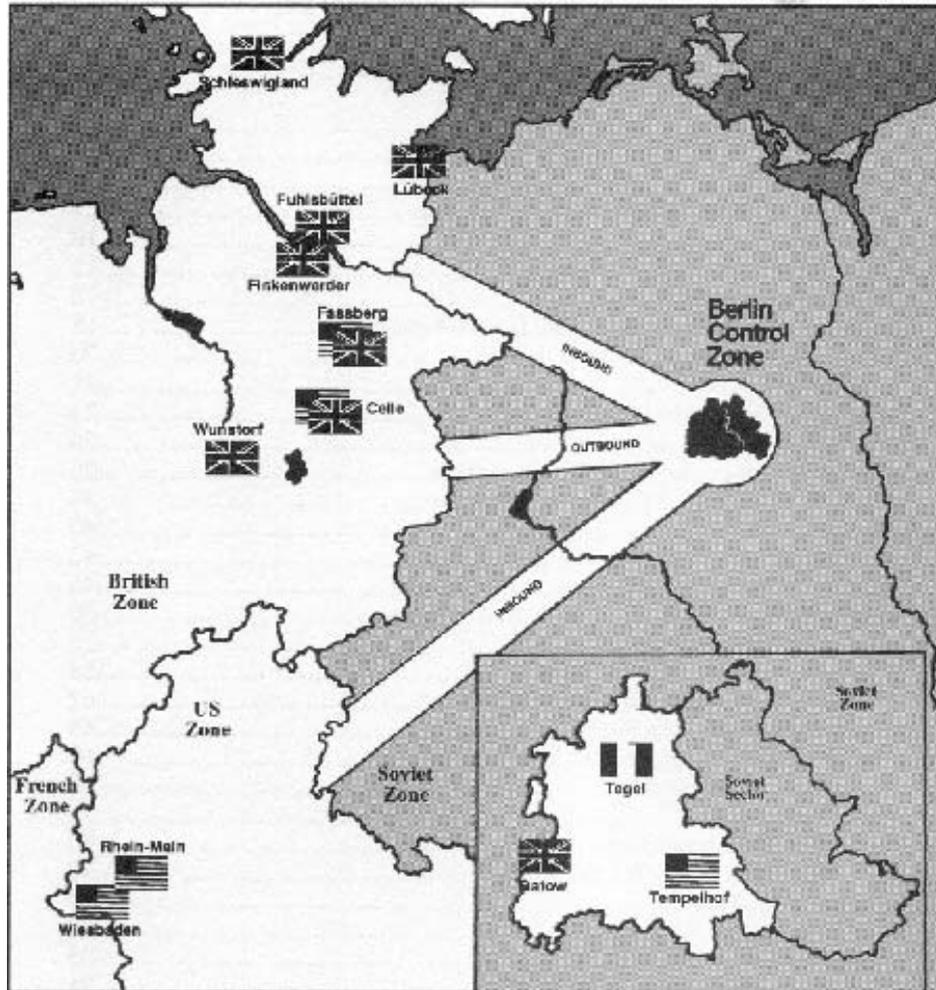
The Marshall Plan

- After 2nd world war USA pumped a lot of (aid-) money into Europe (money was taken by England, France, Belgium, Luxemburg, Germany, but not by Switzerland) → fast recovery → Wirtschaftswunder → USA helped the looser:
 - o **Humanism:** Strong wish in America to help people (even today)
 - o **Strategy:** American Offer → money to countries willing to accept certain rules: Open books → USA could observe these countries
 - USA planned to strengthen western Europe, not Eastern Europe
 - Iron curtain cut Europe in a half → Russian thing → built up tension
 - Economic build-up → military build up (so USA could take back their troops which supported military strength of western Europe)
 - o **Ideology:** USA didn’t want that the countries adopted the Communism
 - o **Economy:** US Economy → war economy → immediate end of need for a lot of ammunition → this would have led into a “post war-crises”
 - E.g. Tank factories → Caterpillar factory → (at the beginning) the Americans gave Europe money to buy these Caterpillars from the USA → kept workers busy; USA didn’t have to pay unemployment money
 - Europe turned automatically into profitable market for USA

The Reform of the German Currency

- USA wanted a stable new Currency in Germany (according to the gold reserves)
- Americans spoke to Russians about currency reform
 - o Russians were afraid, if a hard currency was introduced in whole Germany
- “Neue Deutsche Mark” (DM) was introduced in the three western zones; Soviets started their own money in their zone.
 - o Problem was Berlin: What currency in Berlin?
 - 2 different currencies in Berlin
 - Western currency infiltrated slowly east Berlin
 - DM infiltrated the whole eastern zone → Russians wanted to stop the infiltration → Russians → pressure on West → blocked the roads to Berlin
- USA → big airlift to support Berlin by plane. Nearby every 90 seconds a plane started
- Nobody intervened by military aggression
 - o Cowboy Ethics → you act only in self-defense

- Airlift was show of force → Russians felt in danger and opened roads again
 - o Americans moved planes away
 - o Berlin-Problem was not solved → last solution: Build a wall (self-defense)



March 7, 1948: NATO

- Big alliance

1949 Big set back

- Russians → tests with atomic bombs
 - o Shock for the West → relied on the USA that they had the atomic bomb
- Mao's victory in China

The Korean War

- Korea was occupied by the Japanese → two rulers: North and South was split up
- 1950 North Korea attacked South Korea → Americans came to help South Korea
 - o Pushed North back
- China started to support the North
 - o Turnaround → Americans were driven back
- War ended where it started → showed the split between East and West and the balance, that neither side had a chance against the other. No one could use the atomic bomb

Islam

See also sheet from Siegenthaler ("Some basic Islamic Beliefs", 3 pages)

Same roots of Christianity, Judaism and Islam

- Mohamed (born 517 in Mecca) was a business man
 - o 610 in the desert he met Archangel Gabriel and he started teaching Judaism.
 - o He fell into spell and talked (unconscious) his secretary wrote down what he said [was he an epileptic? → some people argue that way]
 - People thought God talked directly through Mohamed
 - That way the Koran was created
 - Old testament of the bible has got the same content like the Koran
 - o Mohamed saw himself as prophet of Judaism and gained lots of followers.
 - o People at that moment had no unique god/religion → Mohamed wanted only one God and follow this teachings:
 - Rule 1: "**Islam**" (God = almighty, creator of the world) → You have to trust in God
 - Rule 2: "**Sakat**" → You have to give alms (Almosen) to the poor
 - Rule 3: "**Sala**" → You have to pray (kneel down and touch the ground with the forehead in the direction of Mecca [it was not always the direction Mecca]); 5 times a day from sunrise to sunset
 - Rule 4: "**Ramadan**" → They mustn't eat/drink between sunrise and sunset for 1 month. Effect: No much activity.
 - Rule 5: "**Hadsch**" → once in your lifetime you have to go to Mecca
- Islamism → fundamentalist Islam → literal belief in everything you find in the Koran. Problematical "tschi had" → fight against other beliefs; warrior strives for a good life
- Majority of Islam → see the Koran as a symbolical way, not so fundamentality
- People in Mecca didn't like him and his followers because he destroyed the business
 - o He said don't make image of nature/god, just ornaments → what the people in Mecca did.
- 622 he and his followers left Mecca and went to Medina (year 0 of Islamic time) to the Jewish community
 - o Jews didn't accept him as prophet of Judaism
 - o He turned the direction of the prayer from Jerusalem to Mecca

Koran, Hadith, Bible (OT, NT)

Koran

- The Word of God
- Written when Mohamed was in trance

New Testament

- Life of Jesus written 100-200 a.C. by the 4 Evangelists (Marc, Luke, Mathew, John)
- Wrote down what they had heard, not was Jesus had said

←→

Hadith

- 2nd book of Mohamed Hadith → Collection of his teachings, ideas, rulings, when he was not in trance

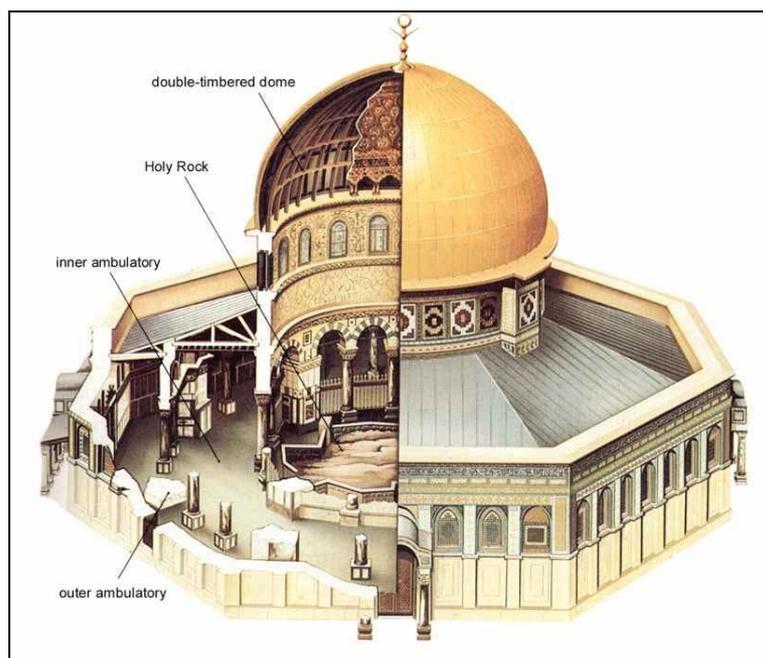
Old Testament

- Bible was written 500 b.C. by several people (collection of different stories by different people)

- Makes it easy for Islamist to motivate people to change to their religion, because the writings of Islam are directly from God
- Mohamed got lots of followers, when he died he had conquered back Mecca

The dome of the Rock (Israeli: Shethiyah, Moslems: Qubbet as Sakra)

- When Mohamed died he jumped with his horse from a rock in Jerusalem into heaven (today Dome of the rock)
 - o This rock: important role in Jews and Arabs history (same backgrounds)
 - Abraham / Ibrahim didn't have a son from his real wife Sara
 - When Sara was 90 she got message from an Angel, that she would get a son → Isaac
 - When Isaac was 14, the Angel came again: Abraham had to sacrifice him
 - Abraham went to the rock to sacrifice his son. Angel came with a sheep as he saw, that he would really sacrifice his son → Abraham could take a sheep instead of his son (→ Stop of sacrifice)
 - Abraham used from now on this rock to sacrifice to god
 - Salomon (Jew) has built a temple over this rock
 - o Temple was destroyed by Babylonians → people of Israel had to leave the country and were brought as prisoners to Babylon
 - Later the Jews returned and built a 2nd temple 500 b.C. (where Jesus was in)
 - o Temple was destroyed by Titus 60 a.C. (Roman emperor) → Jews were driven out of Palestine because of insurrections (70 and 130 a.C.) (Aufstand) of the Jews against the Romans. Jews were dispersed all around the world.
 - 700 a.C. when the Islam spread the built the Dome of the Rock. Since then there have been Arabs in Palestine, no Jews, until the return of the Jews
 - o Today movement of Jewish fundamentalists who want to blow up the Dome of the rock, which is in hand of Moslems → Jews want to build their temple again
 - o Part of the present problem in the Far East is deep in the roots. We can't find the key for a solution in the present → NO COMPROMISE
 - For Jews this temple was the most holy place (very holy)
 - For Moslems this temple is for everyone (allowed to touch the stone)
- Hinder of peace agreement between Jews/Moslems today was the place around the stone. American Foreign Minister Madlen Albright thought that she could solve the problem → negotiations broke off when Sharon forced to go into the Dome of the rock to touch the stone



- 1896/7 Jews came back with the movement of Zionism → return of the Jews to Palestine and creation of country of their own

- County belonged to the Osman Empire

The history of Israel

See also sheet from Siegenthaler ("Israel & the Palestinian Territories: History", 2 pages)

- Today Palestinians want their own county
 - They have no identity like the Jews → Their roots are all over the Arab world
 - Claim: Palestinians were there for the last 1500 years
 - Palestinians: Israeli-Arab, Arab-Palestine, refugees → Jews = intruders
 - ➔ Total Claim: Israelis have to go
 - Lesser Claim: State of their own (Gaza Strip and occupied West bank), return of refugees
 - UN: 50/50-Plan (partition of Palestine 1948, right for Israeli state) refused by Arabs because they didn't want to give "their" country to some immigrants; Israel would have accepted because they knew, that Arabs wouldn't accept it
 - Today, Arabs accept that there is no back for the 50/50-plan, but Jews should give parts back which they conquered in the 1967 war
- Jewish immigration (Zionism) started
 - They want to return to their roots (→ Arabs have other places to go!)
 - 1. Claim: God gave them the land long time ago and they lived there and they did not leave it by their own, they were driven away. People took their country → they should give it back
 - 2. Claim: Decision partition from the UN that each gets 50% of the country. (Jews have already 60%)
 - 3. Claim: Jews improved the country (built it up from desert and made a garden out of it) → right of the cultivator
 - 4. Claim: They bought a lot of territory before the Arabs immigrated
 - ➔ Total Claim: Arabs have to go
 - Lesser Claim: Clear borders, Palestinian state should not be more than 50% of West bank plus Gaza Strip, no army, refugees can't come back because they fear the population pressure (→ serious water problems)
 - Rabin was ready to give back ~1995 about 10% of the country, but Arafat couldn't sign contract, because the holy rock would belong to the Jews and the refugees wouldn't have had the right to return
 - Today Israel is military not threaten, only by the Iran (Atom bomb) → Israel is not under any pressure
- 1947-1949 first Arab-Israeli war
 - 15th May 48 → Israel declared to be a sovereign country
- 1950 Jewish Knesset declared right to return → every Jew could get a Israeli passport (→ Population pressure → settlements in Gaza Strip and West Bank)
 - But what and who is a Jew? 2 different definitions:
 - If mother is Jewish, child is Jewish (racist definition)
 - Jewish is religion → anyone can join
 - ➔ Jews accept only the racist definition; you have to be born as Jew
 - Otherwise you have to pass a difficult test
- Arafat founded a movement for the liberation of Palestine (→ terrorist group)
 - Gaza-Jericho agreement (Arafat/Rabin got Nobel prize)
- 1956 2nd conflict "Suez crisis"
 - Egypt Colonel Gamal A. Nasser wanted to be leader of all Arabs → Pan Arabism → Socialism (not communism) E.g. Nationalization of Suez Canal
 - Declared Suez Canal to be in possession of Egypt → England / France → military operation, because they had built the canal.

- England / France wanted Israel to help → conquered some territory
 - USA wanted England / France to retreat → to gain sympathy in the 3rd World
 - Israelis → agreement → go back but as a result better condition for Israel
 - Stabilized the situation of Israel, and made it worse for Palestinians
- 1958 Arafat created organization “Fattah”, 1964 PLO → improve interests of Palestinians → Military operations, attacks against Israeli Army / citizens. Is this Terrorism? Do they have a right to fight that way?
 - Palestine identity came up
- 1967 “6-days-war” → great success of Israel
 - Israel planed to attack all countries around → got weapons from USA
 - Egypt (Nasser) wanted to gain more power for the Arabic world → propaganda → moved troops to Sinai, created pressure by closing the Gulf of Akaba → no passing for Israel
 - Israel was under pressure from Arab neighbors → attacked all countries around them at the same time in an air fight
 - Good air fight equipment of Israelis eased the attack → destroying 90% of the air force of Egypt, Jordan, Syria
 - Israelis could easily fight the tanks with their airplane guns and rockets
 - After 6 days war was practically over → Israel could easily take territory
 - American technology/training/financing behind this strike
 - Lots of sympathies for Israel in the whole world
- UN Resolution: Israel had no right to annex any of the territory → they have to give it back, in reverse they get peace agreement with the other countries and the right for Israelis to live in Israel and military installations in strategic positions for their safety
 - Settlements to support military installations of Israelis
- When Nasser died Saddat came to power and sent Soviets away from Egypt
 - 1973 “Jom Kippur War” → Military attack from Egypt and Syrians → after 2 Days of real war → Israel shortage of ammunitions.
 - Egypt wanted to show that they have power
 - America started air lift to support Israel
 - Switzerland supported Israel also with war material (radio equipment)
 - Israelis could move counter attack → drove back Egypt and Syria
 - Armistice led to talks between Egypt and Israel → peace agreements
- Henry Kissinger (US Foreign Minister): Reopening of Suez Canal would be welcome for both partys → give Egypt income and for Israel very useful to use canal.
 - Outcome: Shuttle diplomacy: Decision to reopen Suez Canal
- 1979 Saddat visited Jerusalem offering peace to Israel
 - Outcome: Camp David peace agreement between Egypt and Israel
 - Israel should also deal with Syria → agreement with Palestinians giving West bank and Gaza Strip to Palestinians
 - For many Arabs this was a poor agreement → different Protests
 - Egypt kicked out from Arab league, Saddat was killed
 - Israel lost strongest enemy (Egypt)
- 1980 Jerusalem Law → Israeli moved capital from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and enlarged Jerusalem
- 1981 Israel declared Golan highs as their property (water)
- Lebanon → Christian had a majority; today 50:50 with Moslems and lot of other religions. Different armies in Lebanon, e.g. Christian army of south Lebanon
- From Lebanon often attacks on north Israeli settlements → Israel wanted to clean up
- 1982 Lebanese civil war → Israel helped and conquered southern parts of Lebanon
 - PLO had to leave Beirut (in Beirut lot of refugee camps of Arabs)
 - Today Israeli withdraws Lebanon and built wall between Lebanon and Israel. They did this because there were lots of bloody disputes.

- Under the eyes of Sharon lots of refugees in camps have been killed by the Christian Lebanese Army (radical army)
 - West bank and greater Jerusalem → lot of Israeli settlements
 - Israelis are building a wall around Jerusalem up the West bank around their settlements to protect their territory against attacks from Arabs
 - This is against international law! But the word “Terrorist” allows you to do anything today. If someone is a terrorist he has no human rights and the law doesn’t exist (American sight)
 - 1987 Intifada (uprising of the Palestinian children) begun → spontaneous thing
 - Palestinian youth saw that their attacks did not achieved anything
 - They started to throw stones against the Israeli occupation army patrols
 - Israeli strikes back with rubber coated bullets, later real ammunition
 - Dozens of Palestinian youth killed by the Israeli Army
 - Negative effect for Israel → Israel was no longer “David” → they were international seen as “Goliath”
 - Great depressions especially on left Israeli party → Isaac Rabin give up territories and agreement with Palestinians → to get heroic identity again
 - Intifada helped to produce climate of an agreement
 - First secret meetings (Spain, Norway) where Israeli and Palestinian begun to talk about the future settlement
 - At that time collapse of Soviet Union → lot of Russian Jews came to Israel (every Jew could get an Israeli Passport) → put them in occupied territories
 - Speedy growth of settlements

→ Stumbling stone for agreements
 - 1993/94 Gaza – Jericho agreement was signed (Arafat and Rabin shake hands)
 - Palestinian → own Administration and Police force for Jericho and some of the Gaza strip
 - If no more terrorism (creating trust) → Palestinian territory will be extended
 - 1994 Jordanian signed peace agreement with Israel
 - 1999 Clinton had always forced peace agreements, but these had been deteriorated due to political disputes mostly in Israel (back tracks)
 - Clinton wanted to restart peace agreements → wanted to come to final result
 - But not any problem could have been handled (holy stone, refugees)
 - Arafat refused to sign → Sharon went in Dome of Rock (see above)

→ Al-aksa Intifada started (provocated by Sharon → he wanted conflict)
 - Al-aksa Intifada → all deals were thrown from the table
 - War of some armed Palestinians supported by Palestinian police, and battle of suicide bombs
 - Israeli fought with helicopters and aircraft fighter and armed caterpillars destroying Palestinian buildings
 - Idea: create anger in the Palestinian people against Al-aksa Intifada
 - Abbas today wants agreement and to stop Al-aksa Intifada → reach real peace, and then talks should start
 - Problem of talks: Terror is the only pressure Palestinians have against Israel
 - Climate in America is very much in favor for Israel (against terrorism)
 - No pressure on Israel to cooperate and maybe give back some territories
- It’s a really complex situation in Israel which is deeply anchored in the history.

Summary



Influences of America

- Israelis are feared from terrorism
- USA is 100% behind Israel → big influence of the Jews
 - o American Media, Financial sector, Universities
- America is 50% fundamentalist Christian (Free Church) → also Bush, but not Kerry (a reason why he was not elected?)
 - Literal belief in Bible → Jews will return to country and God will make peace with the Jews and then there will be a great big war: “Armageddon” → good (with the help of God) against bad
 - So Americans want to be at the good site → attitude of Americans: Fight for the good, liberation and peace
- No one helps Palestine: only card that Palestinians have is that they are there
- There will never be a solution in Israel with the help of America