

AMERICA

AFTER the WAR

The WORLD AFTER the WAR

The only major world power to have had minimal fighting on the home front, the U.S. came out of the war better off than its allies and enemies in almost every way. (The only fighting that took place on U.S. soil was the attack on Pearl Harbor.) The economy had been helped by the war and continued to grow.

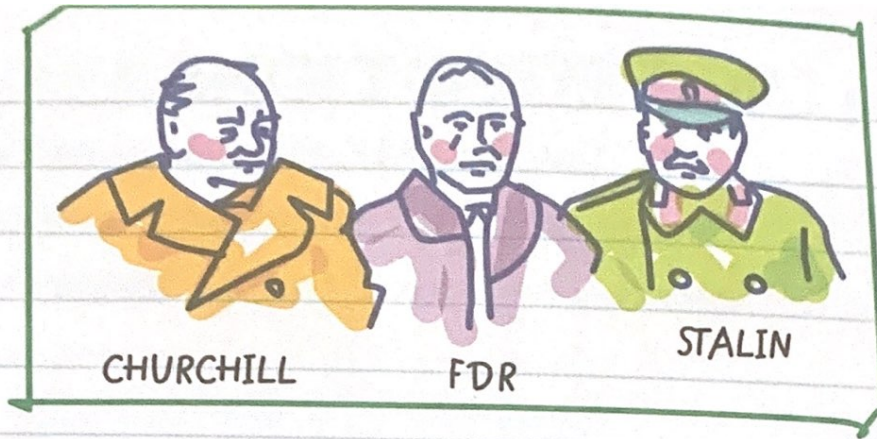
YALTA and POTSDAM

When it was clear that the Allies would win, the Allied leaders discussed ways to prevent another world war.

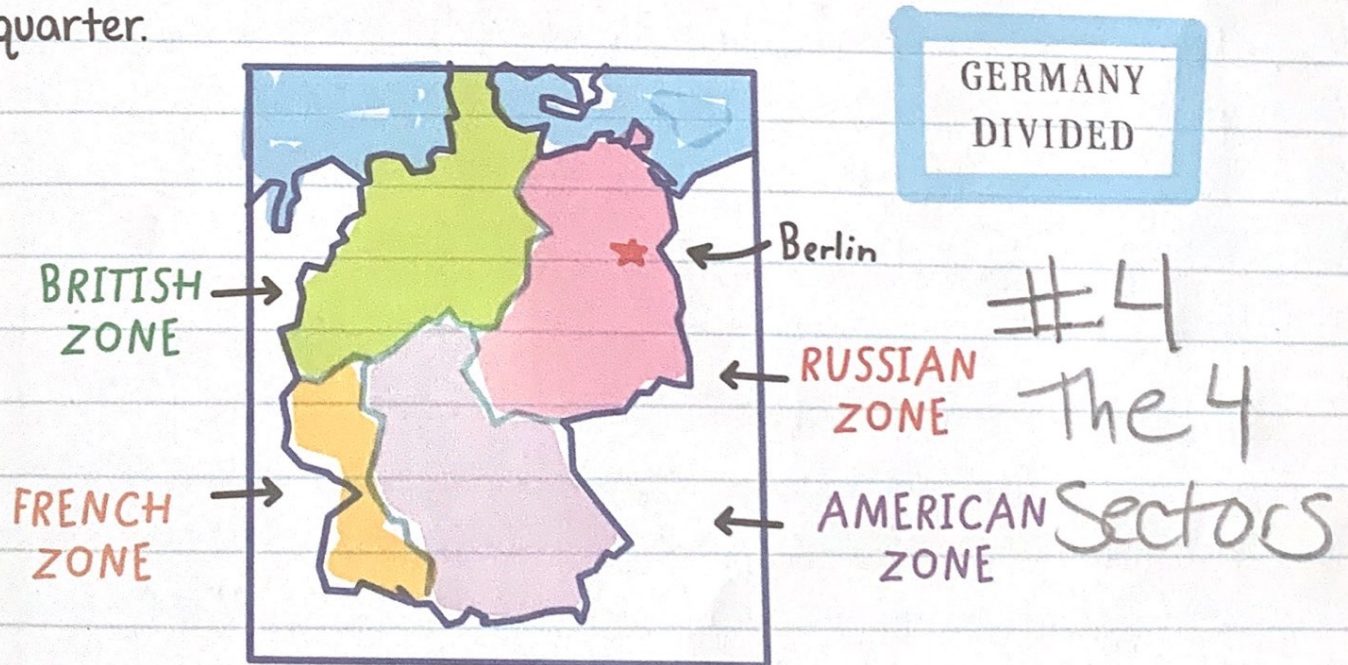
In February 1945, the **BIG THREE**—Churchill, FDR, and Stalin—met at the **YALTA CONFERENCE** and decided they needed a better peacekeeping group than the League of Nations to prevent war. Even Stalin agreed that nations

→ Located in Soviet Union

The **BIG THREE**



should have the right to autonomy and democracy (though he later forced nations into Communism, so there's that). Stalin also agreed to fight against Japan after Germany was defeated. The leaders decided to divide Germany into four parts. The city of Berlin would also be divided in four. The U.S., the U.K., France, and the Soviet Union would each control a quarter.



In July, President Truman also met with Churchill, Clement Attlee (also from Great Britain), and Stalin at the **POTSDAM CONFERENCE**. There they focused on the prosecution of Japan and confirmed Soviet involvement in the war in the Pacific.