

Nixon Through Present

Unit 9- Chapters 24-26

Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, GHW Bush, Clinton, GW Bush, Obama, Trump

New Conservatism

- Nixon wanted to decrease size of federal government
 - Great Society programs gave govt. too much responsibility.
 - Wanted to overhaul welfare programs (Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security)
- New Federalism- Distribute some federal power back to state governments
 - Revenue sharing- state and local government could spend federal money as they wanted within limits

Southern Strategy

- Nixon wanted to appeal to Southern voters unhappy with desegregation
- White Southerners had supported Democratic Party since Civil War
 - Many left because it had become too liberal (Great Society, civil rights)
- Nixon attempted to slow integration in Southern schools.

Busing (1971)

- *Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education*- Supreme Court ruled that districts may bus students to other school to end all-black or all-white schools
- Opposed by Nixon

Anti-Busing Protest



Economic Problems

- Stagflation- a combination of high inflation and high unemployment
- High cost of Vietnam War and Great Society (deficit spending) led to inflation.
- Increase in workers (women, immigrants, baby boomers) led to unemployment
- OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) cut off oil sales to US because of its support of Israel.

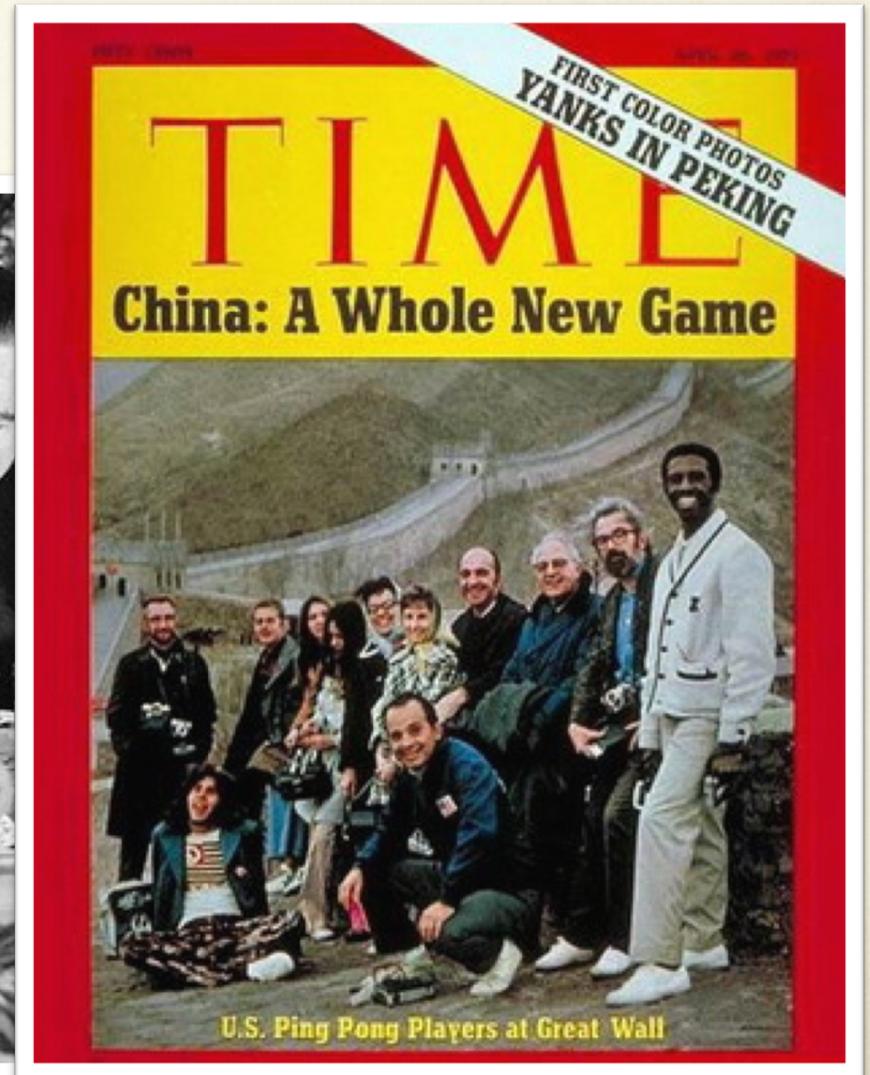
Nixon's Foreign Policy

- Wanted to improve relationship with China and Soviet Union
- Realpolitik- Foreign policy should be based on consideration of power, not a country's ideals or moral principles.
 - It didn't matter if a country was communist if it was small and weak.
- Détente- a flexible policy of dealing with Communist countries- aimed at easing Cold War tensions

Nixon and China

- US did not recognize the Communist government of China
- Nixon wanted to “normalize” relations with China
- China and Soviet Union had split over differences.
- Nixon visited China in 1972.
- Opened up diplomatic and economic relations

Nixon in China



Nixon and Soviet Union

- Visited Soviet Union in 1972
- SALT I Treaty- limited the number of intercontinental ballistic missiles and submarine-launched missiles
- Helped lead to Nixon's reelection later that year

Nixon in USSR



Watergate Scandal

- Nixon administration attempted to cover-up a burglary of Democratic National Committee headquarters
 - Burglars wanted to photograph documents and place wiretaps on phones
 - Nixon asked FBI to end its investigation into burglary
 - CREEP paid the burglars off to remain silent
- Senate investigated and determined that Nixon was involved in the cover-up.

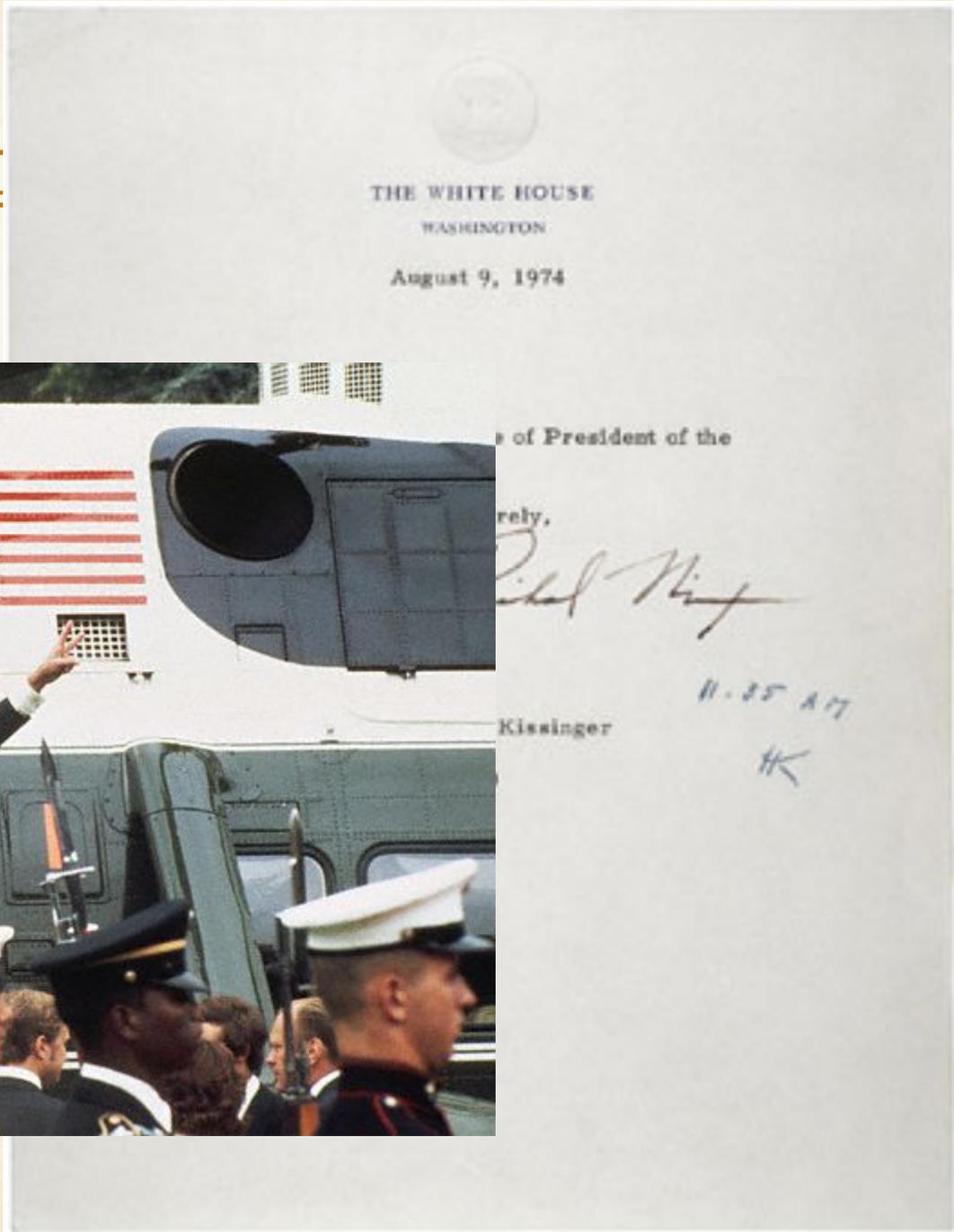
U.S v. Nixon

- Executive privilege- the privilege, claimed by the president for the executive branch of the US government, of withholding information in the public interest
- The Special Prosecutor sought audio tapes recorded by Nixon in the Oval Office
- Nixon claimed executive privilege and released edited versions of the tapes

Resignation of Nixon

- House Judiciary Committee brought charges of obstruction of justice, abuse of power, and contempt of Congress
- Nixon had refused to release tapes recorded in the Oval Office
- Nixon finally released tapes that showed he had known about the cover-up
- Resigned on August 8, 1974.

Resignat



Effects of Watergate

- 25 members of Nixon administration were convicted
- Made people cynical about government
- Biggest scandal in Presidential history.
- Gerald Ford became President

Gerald R. Ford

- Pardoned Nixon
 - Wanted to end the scandal and move on
- WIN- “Whip Inflation Now” urged Americans to cut back on oil and gas use to save energy
- Cut spending and encouraged Federal Reserve to raise interest rates
 - Made recession worse

Gerald Ford



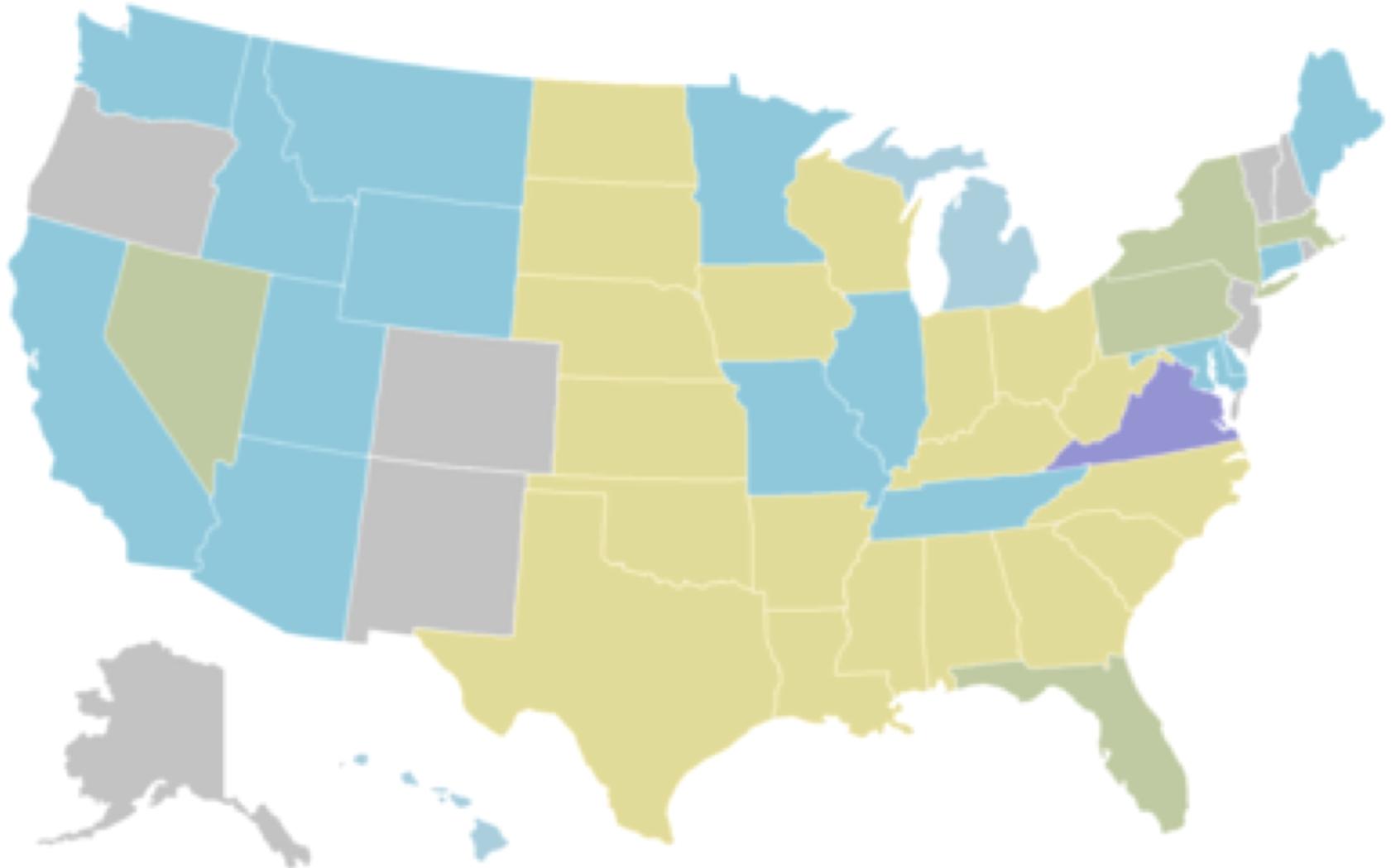
Roe v. Wade Case

- 1969- A Texas woman wanted to terminate an unwanted pregnancy.
 - Could not afford to travel to another state
 - Challenged anti-abortion laws as “Jane Roe”
- Supreme Court ruled 7-2 to strike down the Texas law
 - Right to abortion implied by “right to privacy”
 - 1st trimester- cannot ban abortion
 - 2nd trimester- can regulate abortion
 - 3rd trimester- can ban except when mother’s life is in danger

Abortion Laws by State

Latest you can get an abortion in each state

Up to 20 Weeks Up to 24 Weeks At Viability 25+ Weeks No Limit



○ STOP HERE THURSDAY

Crash Course

○ Rise of
Conservatism

Jimmy Carter

- Won election of 1976
- Energy crisis was main issue
- National Energy Act- placed a tax on gas-guzzling cars, extended tax credits for development of alternative energy

Bakke v. UC Case (1978)

- Supreme Court ruled that racial “quotas” in admissions is unconstitutional
 - UC Medical School reserved 16/100 seats for minorities.
- Allen Bakke (white guy) was denied admission despite having high test scores, GPA
 - Sued alleging the policy violated the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Court ruled that race may be a factor in admissions but only if considered alongside other factors.

Economic Changes

- Manufacturing jobs had been in decline
- More competition from foreign manufacturers
- Many service jobs required more education
- Auto industries were hardest hit

Carter and Civil Rights

- Appointed more African-Americans and women than any previous administration
- Appointed Andrew Young ambassador to United Nations

Carter's Foreign Policy

- Focused on human rights
- Believed foreign policy should reflect a nation's moral principles
- “Our policy is based on an historical vision of America's role. Our policy is derived from a larger view of global change. Our policy is rooted in our moral values, which never change. Our policy is reinforced by our material wealth and by our military power. Our policy is designed to serve mankind.”

Camp David Accords

- Israel (Jewish) and Egypt (Arab) weren't BFFs.
- Carter met with the two sides at presidential retreat in Camp David, Maryland
- Israel agreed to withdraw from Sinai peninsula.
- Egypt agreed to recognize Israel's right to exist as a country.

Camp David Accords



Iran Hostage Crisis

- Revolution in Iran overthrew the Shah (a US ally)
- Ayatollah Khomeini led rebels and established strict Islamic rule
- Carter allowed the Shah into US for cancer treatment.
- Revolutionaries got mad and seized hostages at US embassy in Tehran
- Carter refused to return the Shah to Iran
- Hostages were held for 444 days

Iran Hostage Crisis



Environmental Movement

- Silent Spring- 1962 book by biologist Rachel Carson that warned against use of pesticides
- Earth Day- 1970
- Environmental Protection Agency- established by Nixon in 1970 to set and enforce pollution standards
- Clean Air Act- gave government authority to set air standards
- Endangered Species Act (1973)

Cuyahoga River Fire (1969)

- Located near Cleveland, Ohio
- Once one of the most polluted rivers in US
- Caught fire 13 times since 1868.
- Helped bring attention to need to clean up nation's waterways
- Clean Water Act (1972)- all rivers must be clean enough to allow swimmers and fish by 1983

Love Canal

- Located near Niagara Falls, NY
- 1940s-1950s- a chemical company dumped/buried toxic waste into an old canal
- By 1970s, waste was leaking into basements and backyards of nearby homes causing health problems
- Superfund- govt. fund to pay for cleanup for hazardous waste sites.

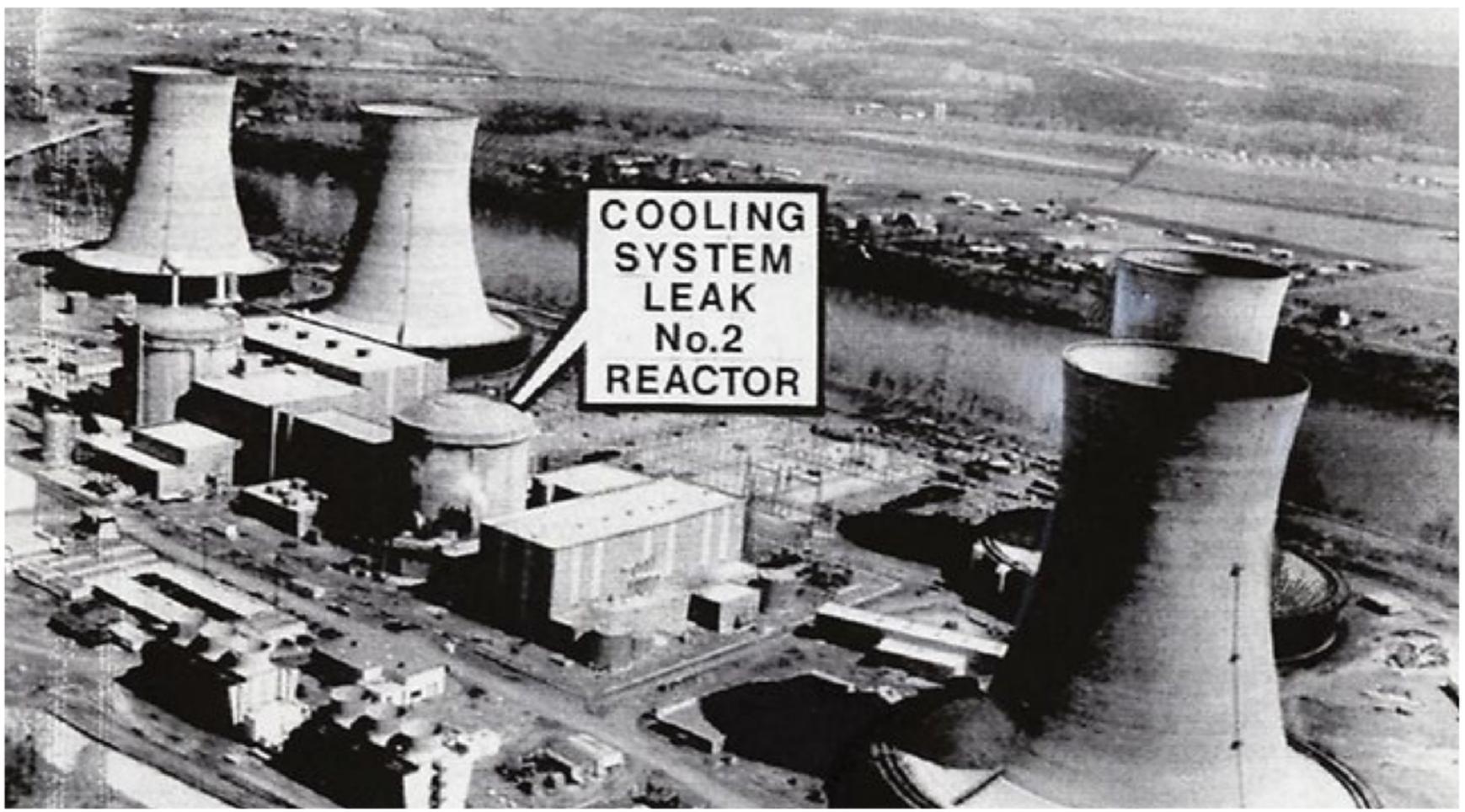
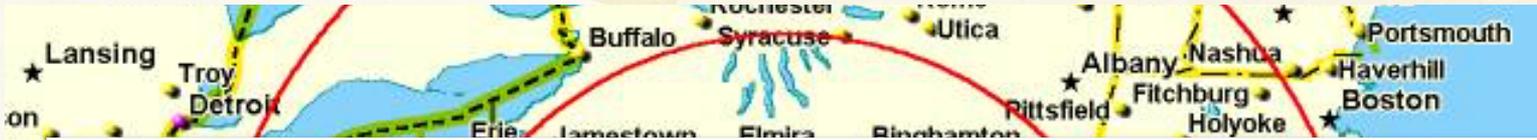
Love Canal



Three Mile Island (1979)

- Nuclear reactor overheated and released low-level radiation
- 100,000 people were evacuated
- Opponents used the incident to show dangers of nuclear power
- Led to better inspection and regulatory procedures at nuclear plants

Three Mile Island



Crash Course

○ Ford and
Carter

○ STOP HERE MONDAY

○ [You Will Love History: The Carter Years](#)

Conservative Revolution

- New Right- opposed abortion, Equal Rights Amendment, busing, wanted return of school prayer
 - Criticized affirmative action, said it was reverse discrimination that favored one race or gender
- Conservative Coalition- alliance of business leaders, middle-class voters, disaffected Democrats, and fundamentalist Christians

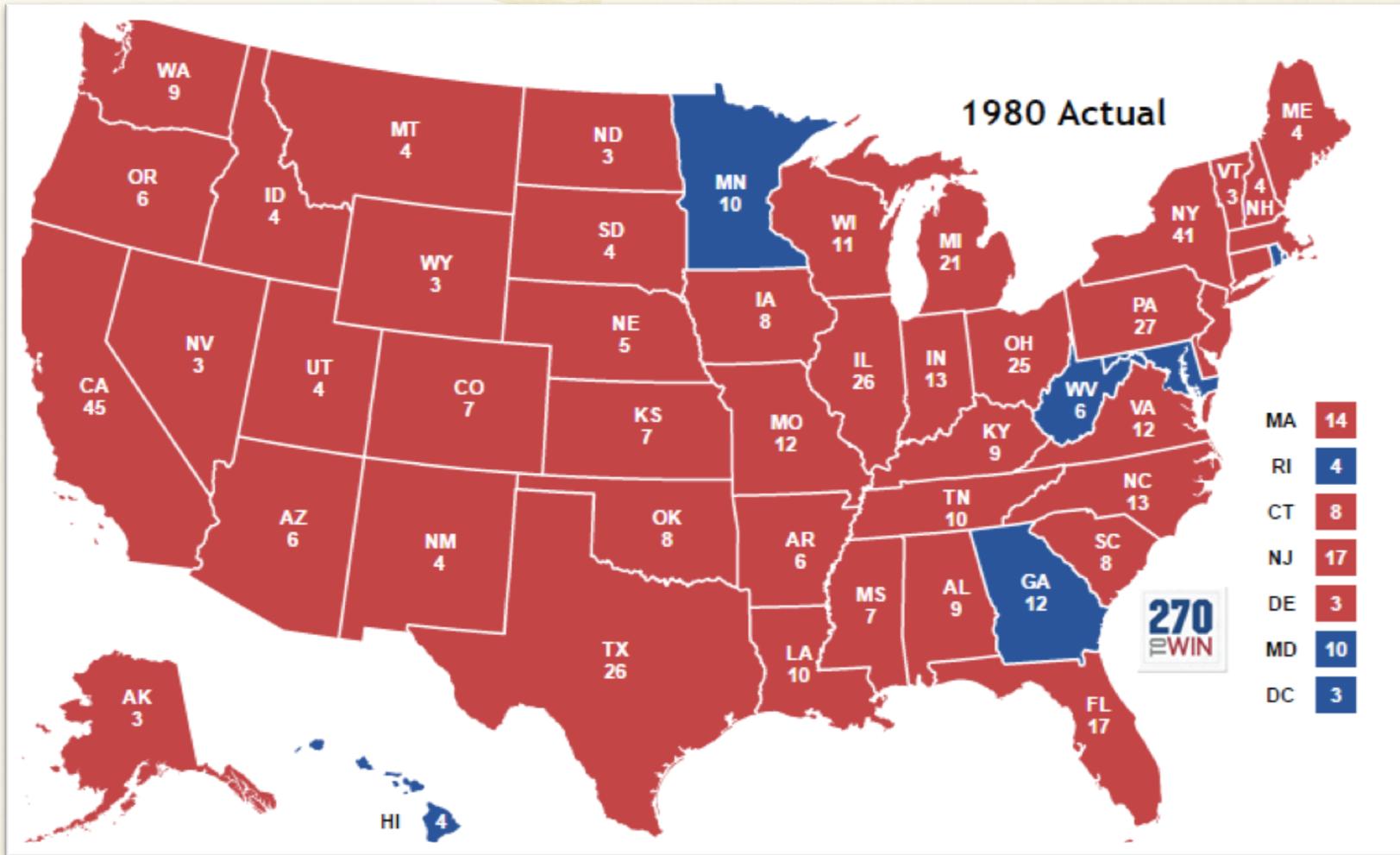
Moral Majority

- Organization of Christians who interpreted the Bible literally and believed in absolute right and wrong
- Led by Jerry Falwell
- Raised money to support candidates
- Wanted to bring back “traditional family values”
 - Lower divorce rates, out-of-wedlock children, encourage individual responsibility, and patriotism

1980 Election

- Ronald Reagan defeated Jimmy Carter
- Former actor and governor of California
- “The Great Communicator”
- “A recession is when your neighbor loses his job. A depression is when you lose yours. And recovery is when Jimmy Carter loses his.”
- Carried 44 states and won 489 electoral votes
- Less government, lower taxes, and traditional values

1980 Election



“Reaganomics”

- Government budget cuts to social programs- food stamps, welfare, Medicaid, school lunches
- Tax cuts- **Supply-side economics**- If people paid less taxes, they would spend more on other things

Defense Spending

- Militant anticommunist (“Evil Empire”)
- Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)- proposed space-based missile defense system that would use lasers and other technologies to shoot down Soviet missiles before reaching targets
 - Nicknamed “Star Wars” by critics
- Raised defense spending from \$267 billion to \$393 billion from 1980-1988.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mN3z3eSVG7A>

SDI "Star Wars"



Supreme Court Shifts

- Reagan appointed 3 conservative justices to Supreme Court
 - Sandra Day O'Connor- first female justice
 - William Rehnquist became chief justice
- Ended liberal control of court since FDR
- Reversed some decisions related to abortion, civil rights and affirmative action

Economy Under Reagan

- Deregulation- cutting back federal regulation of industry
 - Deregulated airline industry
 - Removed price controls on oil
 - Led to more competition
- Cut budget of EPA and eased restrictions on coal mining and timber cutting

Reagan Economy

What Reaganomics Did

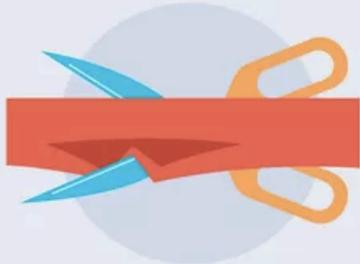
President Ronald Reagan (1981-1989) pledged to make cuts in four areas:



1. The growth of government spending.



2. Both income taxes and capital gains taxes.



3. Regulations on businesses.



4. The expansion of the money supply.

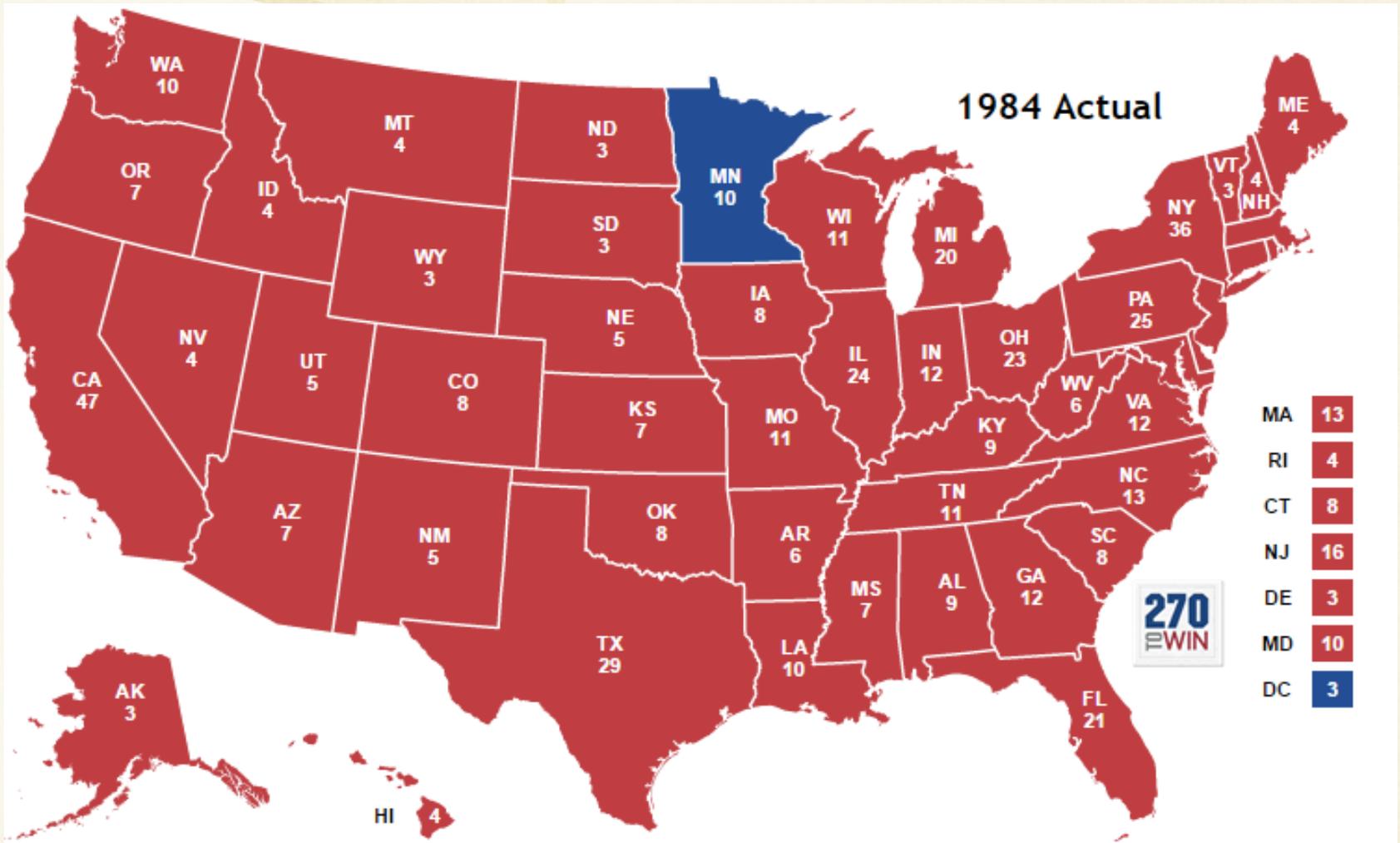
PATCO Strike

- Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization- went on strike August 1981
 - 12,000 members
 - Higher pay, better hours, better equipment, improved working conditions
- Reagan: ““I must tell those who failed to report for duty this morning they are in violation of the law, and if they don’t report for work within 48 hours, they have forfeited their jobs and will be terminated.”
- Sec. of Transportation fired workers 2 days after strike began

1984 Election

- Supporters of Reagan
 - Businesspeople- wanted less regulation of economy
 - Southerners- wanted federal government to have less power
 - Westerners- fewer restrictions on mining and grazing
 - Reagan Democrats- thought the Democratic Party had drifted too far left (liberal)
- Reagan and VP George Bush won every state but Minnesota and DC.

1984 Election



Iran-Contra Affair (1986)

- Reagan was a strong anti-communist
- Nicaraguan dictator Somoza was overthrown in revolution by left-wing group Sandinistas
- US was covertly supplying aid to militia groups (“Contras”) fighting to overthrow Sandinista government
- US was also secretly selling missiles to Iran (at war with Iraq) and transferring the proceeds to the Contras.
- Sales continued after Congress had passed a law banning the sales.
- Tarnished Reagan’s public image

Invasion of Grenada

- Island in the Caribbean
- Setup a leftist government in 1979.
- Protestors clashed with government in 1983
- Reagan ordered 6,000 troops to island
- Government collapsed and setup government friendly to U.S.
- Reagan called it first “rollback” of Communist influence since beginning of Cold War

Grenada



Soviet Jokes

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mN3z3eSVG7A>

○ STOP HERE TUESDAY

1988 Election

- Reagan's legacy- economy was very good, he restored America's respect around the world, he rebuilt the Republican party as a conservative party, he got southerners and the religious right to become Republicans.
- George H.W. Bush was elected because people were happy with Republican leadership.

George H.W. Bush

- Had been Reagan's Vice-President
- Former congressman, CIA director, oil businessman
- Promised strong defense, toughness on crime, opposition to abortion

Foreign Policy

- Mikhail Gorbachev- became leader of Soviet Union in 1985
 - Wanted to reform Soviet Union
- Glasnost- allowed open criticism of government and more freedom of press
- Perestroika- less government control of economy and some private businesses
- Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty- allowed each nation to make inspections of the other's military installations

Invasion of Panama “Operation Just Cause”

- December 1989
- Invaded to overthrow Gen. Manuel Noriega
 - Dictator who had been indicted in US for drug trafficking
 - Protect US citizens, Panama Canal
 - 27,000 troops
- Noriega was captured and sentenced to 17 years in prison.

Invasion of Panama



End of Soviet Union

- December 1991- 14 republics declared independence
- Gorbachev resigned
- Bush and Boris Yeltsin declared an end to the Cold War in 1992
- Gorbachev had allowed satellite nations to move toward democracy and allow non-Communist political parties

Persian Gulf War

- Saddam Hussein- leader of Iraq
- Iraq invaded Kuwait and headed toward Saudi Arabia
 - Wanted OIL
- Operation Desert Storm- operation to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi control
 - Air assault and invasion from Saudi Arabia
 - Lasted about 6 weeks

Operation Desert Storm

Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm- Timeline 1990/1991

- ▶ 2nd August- Iraqi invasion of Kuwait
- ▶ 8th August- US begins troop build-up in Saudi Arabia
- ▶ 10 August- Arab League condemns the invasion of one Arab country by another. Kuwaiti liberation coalition begins to form.
- ▶ 12th August- Saddam proposes conditions for withdrawal (Israeli to withdraw from Palestinian occupied territories, Syria to withdraw from Lebanon and the US to withdraw from Saudi Arabia)
- ▶ 28th August- Kuwait officially declared 19th province of Iraq
- ▶ 29th November- UN Security Council resolution passed (opposed only by Cuba and Yemen) that authorized military action if Iraq did not withdraw from Kuwait by the 15th of January
- ▶ 15th January- Iraq failed to meet UN deadline
- ▶ 16th January- Operation Desert Storm commenced (first part was an air campaign)
- ▶ 24th February- Land operation began
- ▶ 27th February- Kuwait liberation, Gulf War finished

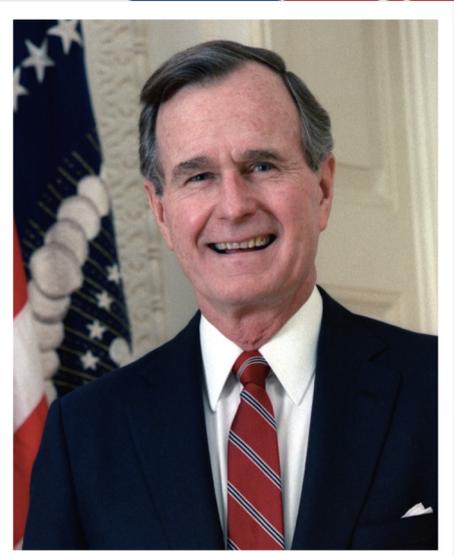
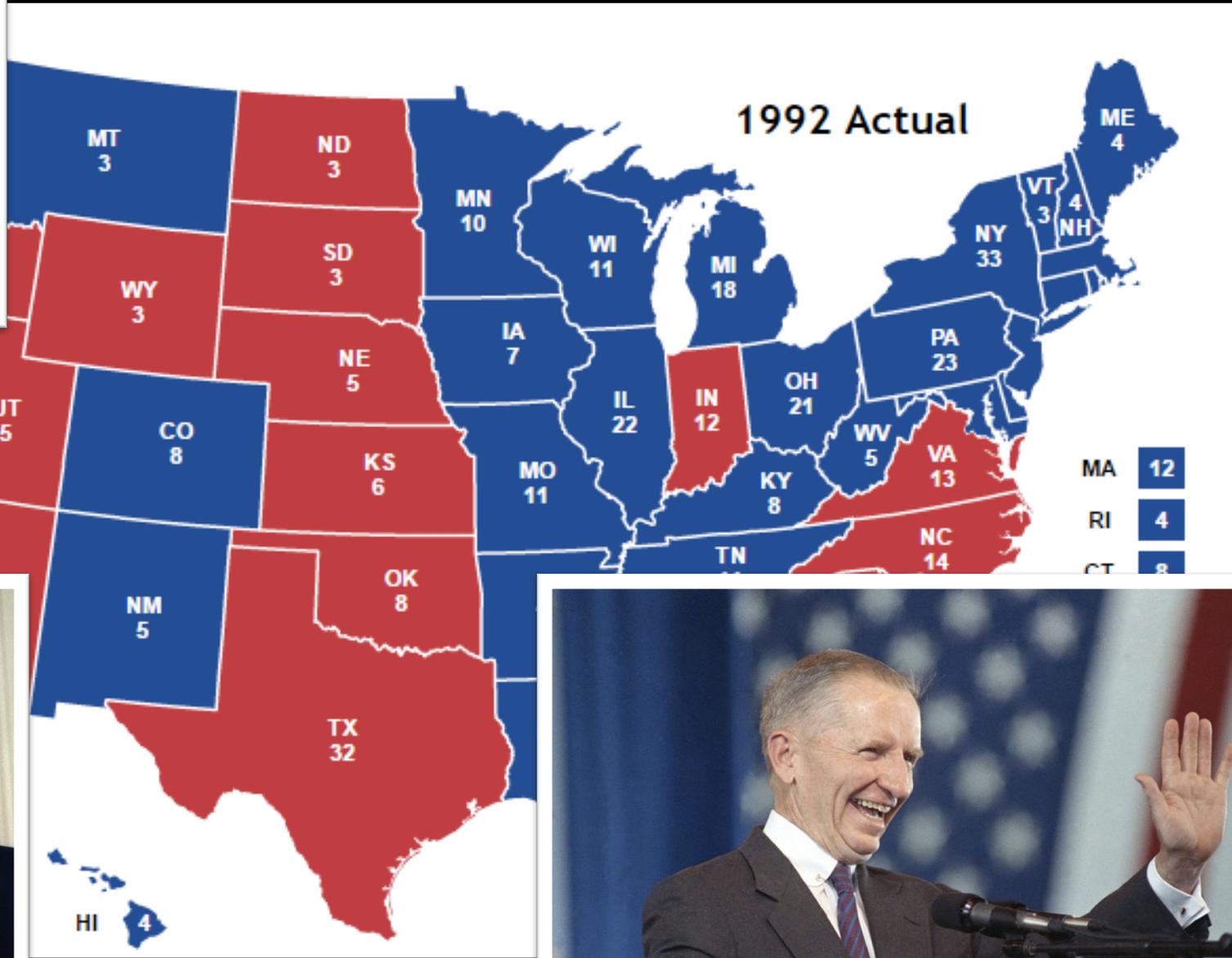
Americans with Disabilities Act

- This act prohibited discrimination against citizens with physical and mental disabilities in hiring, transportation, and public accommodations.

1992 Election

- Bush was popular after Gulf War victory
 - Economy worsened
- Bill Clinton- Governor of Arkansas
 - Promised to promote private business and reform welfare system
 - Clinton won

1992 Election



Contract with America (1994)

- Document outlining legislation to be enacted by Congress in the first 100 days.
- Republicans gained control of the House in 1992
 - Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House
- Middle class tax cuts, balanced budget amendment, term limits, line-item veto.

Welfare Reform

- Congress passed a bill that placed limits on how long people could receive benefits.
- More people went back to work because the economy had recovered.
- **Temporary Assistance For Needy Families-**
 - Required that those who receive welfare look for work
 - Placed limits on how long people could receive welfare
 - Based on belief that welfare programs discouraged work and trapped people in poverty
- Millions of people moved from welfare to work

Foreign Policy

- Cold War was over
- US intervened in regional conflicts (NATO, UN)
- 1992-1996- Bosnia- humanitarian airlift to help refugees
- 1993- Somalia
- 1994- Haiti- restore democratically elected president
- 1999- Serbia

NAFTA

- North American Free Trade Agreement- added Mexico to trade freely with Canada and US
 - Opponents- US would lose jobs to Mexico where wages and pollution standards were lower
 - Supporters- would strengthen the economy of all three countries and create more American jobs
- Globalization- the easing of trade barriers around the world to make it easier for the US to buy and sell products to other countries.

Impeachment of Bill Clinton

- Clinton was being investigated for financial deals made before he was President
- He was also being sued for sexual harassment by Paula Jones
- A former White House intern, Monica Lewinsky, alleged an affair with Clinton. He denied it under oath.
- HOR approved two articles of impeachment for perjury and obstruction of justice.
- Clinton was acquitted by the Senate (45-55, 50-50).
- Some believe Clinton was impeached for political, not Constitutional reasons.
- <https://www.cnn.com/videos/politics/2019/09/28/impeachment-clinton-kaye-pkg-vpx.cnn>

2000 Election

- George W. Bush- Republican candidate
 - Governor of Texas
- Al Gore- Democratic candidate
 - Clinton's VP
- Election was close. Democrats wanted manual recounts in Florida. Republicans sued to stop recounts. Supreme Court agreed. Bush won. Wasn't decided til December 12th.

9/11

- September 11, 2001- Terrorist attacks in NY and Washington, DC.
- Patriot Act- an antiterrorism law that gave the federal government more authority in tracking and intercepting communications
- Department of Homeland Security- cabinet department that coordinates national efforts to combat terrorism

War on Terror

- October 2001- US led a coalition of forces in Afghanistan
 - Harboring Osama bin Laden
 - Responsible for 9/11
- War in Iraq- (Operation Iraqi Freedom) US believed that Iraq was supporting terrorists and might provide them with chemical, biological or nuclear weapons
- Saddam Hussein was overthrown. NO WMDs were found.

Domestic Agenda

- No Child Left Behind Act- called for more accountability for schools, mandatory testing, and school choice for parents
- 2003 Tax Cut- to help economy and create jobs
 - Opponents- said it would only benefit the rich

Hurricane Katrina

- Hit US in August 2005
- More than 1,800 killed
- Costliest natural disaster in US history
- By August 30, New Orleans was 80% below water
- National Guard mobilized to distribute food and water
- Storm caused more than \$160 billion in damage
- N.O. population dropped by 29%.

2008 Election

- Barack Obama- Democratic candidate
 - Senator from Illinois
 - He won.
 - First African-American President
- John McCain- Republican candidate
 - Senator from Arizona
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
 - Wanted to stimulate the economy through tax cuts, increased domestic spending, and increased social welfare spending

Affordable Care Act of 2010

Modern Economy

- Wage inequality- gap between upper and lower income American is growing
- Most jobs (80%) are in the service sector.
 - Teachers, lawyers, medical professions, clerks, people who provide services to others
- Manufacturing and farming declined.
 - Fewer people are able to produce more due to automation of some jobs.
- High-tech industries grew (dot-coms)

Climate Issues

National Debt

Global Economy

- General Agreements on Tariff and Trade (GATT)- 1994- lowered trade barriers and established the World Trade Organization
- Many US businesses moved jobs to countries where wages are lower.
- Competition with other countries allows US businesses to keep wages and benefits low.

Changes in American Population

- People continued to move from cities to suburbs.
 - Overcrowded, high crime, poor schools
- Gentrification- people began to return to cities
 - Rebuild rundown neighborhoods
 - Usually young, single adults who preferred excitement of city life
- Many Americans began to telecommute (work from home)

Aging of America

- Median age was higher than ever before
- Americans were living longer
- Baby boomers were aging
- Put a strain on Social Security and healthcare systems.

Shifting Population

- Population grew from 204 million to 284 million between 1970 and 2000
- Many new immigrants were from the Western Hemisphere
 - Asia and Mexico
- California became a majority-minority state
- Hispanics are now the largest minority group in US

2016 Election