**THE LONG TELEGRAM** A memo from a US Diplomat in the Soviet Union to President Truman

describing his opinions and views of the Soviet Leadership.

*On the one hand [the Soviets are] more sensitive to contrary force, more ready to yield on individual sectors of the diplomatic front when that force is felt to be too strong, and thus more rational in the logic and rhetoric of power. On the other hand it cannot be easily defeated or discouraged by a single victory…not by sporadic acts…but only be intelligent long-range policies on the part of Russia's adversaries…*

*In these circumstances it is clear that the main element of any United States policy toward the Soviet Union must be that of long-term, patient but firm and vigilant containment of Russian expansive tendencies.*

-George Kennan, US Diplomat

**THE TRUMAN DOCTRINE**

The peoples of a number of countries of the world have recently had totalitarian regimes forced upon them against their will. The Government of the United States has made frequent protests against coercion and intimidation in violation of the Yalta agreement in Poland, Rumania, and Bulgaria.

At the present moment in world history nearly every nation must choose between alternative ways of life. The choice is too often not a free one. One way of life is based upon the will of the majority, and is distinguished by free institutions, representative government, free elections, guarantees of individual liberty, freedom of speech and religion, and freedom from political oppression. The second way of life is based upon the will of a minority forcibly imposed upon the majority. It relies upon terror and oppression, a controlled press and radio, fixed elections, and the suppression of personal freedoms.

I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures.

I believe that our help should be primarily through economic and financial aid which is essential to economic stability and orderly political processes.

The free peoples of the world look to us for support in maintaining their freedoms. If we falter in our leadership, we may endanger the peace of the world. And we shall surely endanger the welfare of this nation. Great responsibilities have been placed upon us by the swift movement of events.

- Truman to Congress on March 12, 1947.

**According to this doctrine, does Truman follow Kennan’s recommendation?**

**Provide evidence to support your answer.**

**MARSHALL PLAN (drafted by Secretary of State George C. Marshall)**

Following the Truman Doctrine, and in the spirit of containment, the United States enacted the Marshall Plan to provide aid for post-war reconstruction.

**European Recovery Program:** US offered aid to ALL European nations *including the Soviet Union and its satellite nation*s to rebuild their economies. 17 Western European countries accepted the aide (including Britain and West Germany).

3,000

2,500

2,000

1,500

1,000

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **COUNTRY** | **TOTAL**  **(in millions)** |
| **Total for all countries** | **$13,325.8** |
| Austria | 677.8 |
| Belgium-Luxembourg | 559.3 |
| Denmark | 273.0 |
| France | 2,713.6 |
| West Germany | 1,390.6 |
| Greece | 706.7 |
| Iceland | 29.3 |
| Ireland | 147.5 |
| Italy | 1,508.8 |
| Netherlands | 1,083.5 |
| Norway | 255.3 |
| Portugal | 51.2 |
| Sweden | 107.3 |
| Turkey | 225.1 |
| United Kingdom | 3,189.8 |
|  |  |

500

United Kingdom

Turkey

Sweden

Portugal

Norway

Netherlands

Italy

Ireland

Iceland

Greece

West Germany

France

Belgium

Austria

Denmark

**Directions: Using the information provided, respond to the following questions.**

Why did Truman offer this plan to everybody, including the Soviets?

Which four countries received the highest amount of aid? Explain why.

What is the amount of aid that the Soviet Union received? Explain the reasoning behind this amount.

What is the amount of aid that East Germany received? Explain the reasoning behind this amount