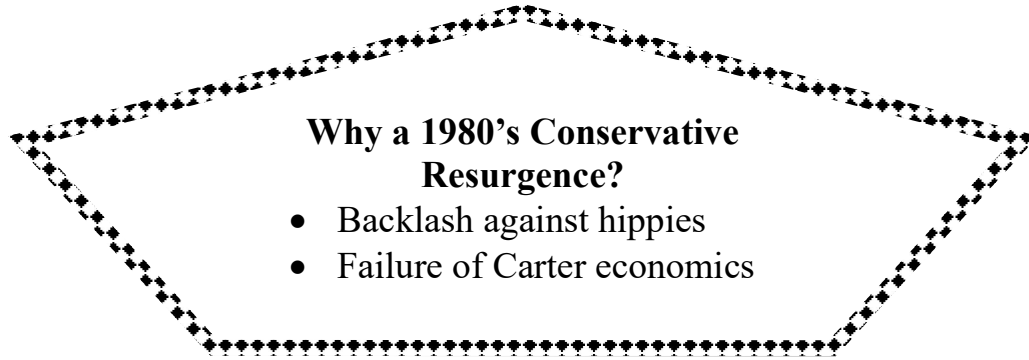





1980's Ronald Reagan



Why a 1980's Conservative Resurgence?

- Backlash against hippies
- Failure of Carter economics

(New Right) Conservative Groups Who Support Reagan

<p>1973 Heritage Foundation</p>	<p>Moral Majority </p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Conservative think-tank (research and advocate issues) ✓ Led new Conservative movement ✓ Pushed for Reagan's election ✓ Reduce role of government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led by Southern Baptist Jerry Falwell • Fundamental Christianity • Censor media against their values. • Anti-Equal Rights Amendment, abortion, and gay marriage. • Voted liberals out of office.
<p>Conservative Coalition</p>	<p>National Rifle Association</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Created by business leaders, middle-class voters, disaffected Democrats, and fundamental Christians. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  NRA  2nd Amendment Rights



Reaganomics



Supply Side Economics

- Cut taxes, especially for wealthy and businesses.
- Cut government spending (not military) to make up for lack of tax revenue.
- Reduce regulation of businesses.

Intended Results:

-  Wealthy to use money they saved to invest in the economy.
-  Businesses use money saved to hire workers and pay better wages.

Critics called it "Trickle Down (Voodoo) Economics"



Sandra Day O'Connor: First female Supreme Court Justice; appointed by Reagan.



Reagan's War on Drugs

- Stepped up drug enforcement and prisons overflowed, but drugs still available and state debt skyrocketed.
- **“Just Say No”** Teen Drug use went down; led by Nancy Reagan.
- **HIV/AIDS:** New virus in the 1980's where many died (some through needle exchange) vast improvements in medical care today.

✈ **Military Invasion Grenada:**

- Grenada was taken over by Communist; Caribbean countries asked for U.S. help.
- Reagan ordered military invasion of Grenada.
- Invasion successful, democracy was set up.

Reagan Escalates the Cold War: “Peace Through Strength”

- 1) Increased military spending included nuclear missiles.
- 2) Spoke negatively about the Soviet Union... "Evil Empire."
- 3) Reagan Doctrine: US gave aid to anti-Communist resistance movements, including Mujahidin in Afghanistan.
- 4) **Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) *Star Wars*:** Lasers/missiles in space over US, missile shield; caused Soviets to over-spend on weapons.
 - ✓ Soviet economy begins to fail, Gorbachev began working with Reagan to reduce nuclear weapons.
 - ✓ US won the Cold War.

US in Lebanon... Reagan sent U.S. Marines to Beirut to establish peace during the Lebanese Civil War. U.S. Marine and French paratrooper's barracks were bombed (1983) by terrorists killing almost 300 U.S. and French servicemen. Reagan withdrew forces from Lebanon due to lack of diplomatic progress.

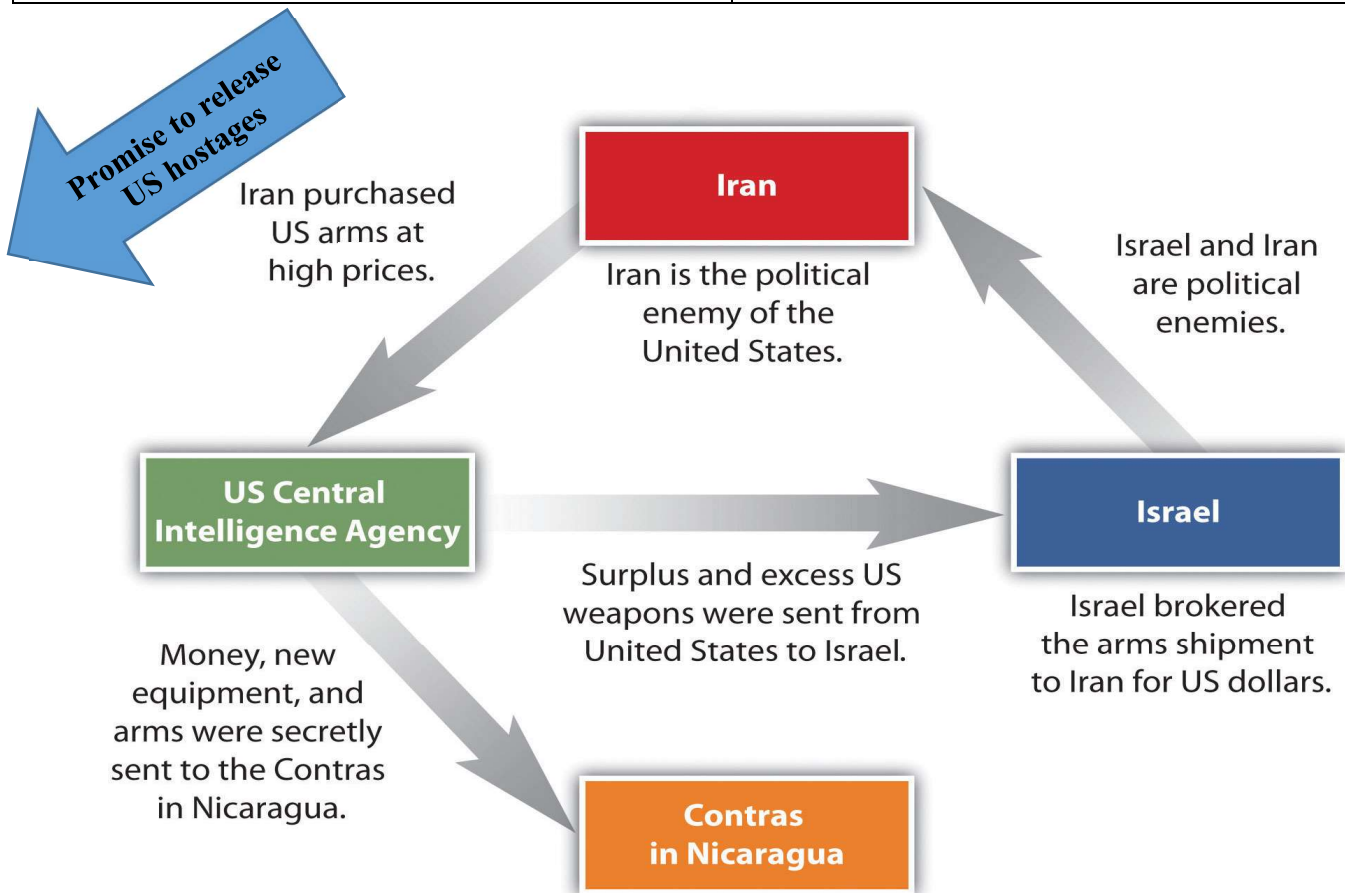


Tiananmen Square

- Chinese students protest against the communist government; students slaughtered.
- Shows the government willing to change economically, but not politically.

Iran-Contra Affair

Iran	Contra
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1986, terrorists with ties to Iran took 7 Americans as hostages. • Fighting a costly war with Iraq and running low on weapons. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandinistas: Nicaraguan Communist • Contras: Anti-Communist rebels trying to take over Nicaragua; supported by Reagan, (violated human rights.)



The Affair

- ✓ US sold weapons to **Iran** through **Israel**, bypassing the embargo.
- ✓ Iranians promised to get the terrorists to release the hostages.
- ✓ \$ from weapon sales went to **Contras** (violation of a U.S. law illegal to fund them.)
- ✓ Money was funneled through private groups in other countries.
- ✓ Reagan authorized arms sales to Iran, said he didn't know about funding Contras.
- ✓ Retired Admiral John Poindexter and Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North convicted of crimes; both later cleared in appeals due to violations of their 5th Amendment rights. North later said that Reagan definitely knew about almost everything.