Kennan Long Telegram 22 Feb 1946 Moscow to Washington

We have here a political force committed fanatically to the belief that it is desirable and necessary that our traditional way of life (capitalism) be destroyed, the international authority of our state be broken if Soviet power is to be secure, but the problem is within our power to solve, without military conflict.

US ambassador to the Soviet Union, George Kennan



What Truman thought...

- USSR don't trust Truman
- Stalin wanted to see the destruction of Capitalism and were building their military
- Stalin is paranoid of the rest of the world
- USSR was not suicidal so USA could force Stalin to back down
- A policy of 'containment' should be adopted to stop the spread of Communism



US foreign policy has been characterized in the post-war period by a desire for world domination. All these steps to preserve the great military potential are no an end in itself, of course. They are intended only to prepare conditions to win world domination in a new war being planned by the most warlike circles of American imperialism.



USSR ambassador to USA, Nikolai Novikov

- USA don't trust Stalin
- USA wanted to use the massive military to dominate the world
- Since Roosevelt's death, the USA were no longer willing to cooperate with USSR
- American people would support their government in a war
- To protect themselves, USSR needed to develop as much protection as possible

What Stalin thought...



