

most outpost of the Soviets, leaving them in control of the core of Europe. This demonstrated once more the long-range consequences of the shortsighted American conception of solving the German problem after victory. During the years of decision, America's leaders failed to recognize that the defeat of Hitler's Germany was an objective which lost its significance for the democratic powers of the West if it was not combined with the objective of keeping the Soviets out of Central Europe. Churchill seems to have been aware of this necessity, but he was overruled. As a consequence, the Western allies had lost the first great battle of the cold war before America managed to realize that she had become a main party to this war.

—HELMUT R. WAGNER.

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