

THE POTSDAM CONFERENCE

July 1945

Who attended?



The UK

**Prime Minister
Clement Attlee**

Atlee replaced Winston Churchill part way into the conference as he had won the 1945 General Election



The USA

**President
Harry S Truman**

As vice-president, Truman had replaced Franklin D Roosevelt following their death.



The Soviet Union

**Premier
Joseph Stalin**

Key agreements

1. The Nazi Party was banned
2. Germany was to be reduced in size
3. All economic decisions about Germany must be agreed to by the four allied powers.
4. War criminals were to be prosecuted
5. As had been decided at Yalta, Germany would be divided into four occupation zones, with the capital Berlin then subdivided between the four allies.
6. The Soviet Union would receive 10% of the industrial output from the other three occupied zones.

The four allies: The USA, UK, France & the Soviet Union

Disagreements

Truman had delayed the conference so the USA could test the atomic bomb, which he then revealed to Stalin at the conference. Stalin was unhappy that there were secrets between supposed allies.

Stalin was not allowing free elections to be held in Soviet occupied eastern Europe. Something that had been agreed on at the prior Yalta conference.

Arguments were had on where the boundaries between occupation zones should be drawn.

The UK and USA worried the high reparations requested by the Soviet Union would repeat the mistakes of the Treaty of Versailles .