

## **US History**

### **The Cold War - A**

#### **Learning Target:**

*I can analyze how America's position on containment influenced the implementation of the Marshall Plan.*

#### **4. The Marshall Plan**

##### ***Condition of Europe after WWII:***

- 2 years after the war Europe in dire straights
- Churchill referred to it as “a rubble heap . . . a breeding ground of pestilence and hate.”
- Great breeding ground for communism – haves vs. have nots

##### ***The Speech (June 1947):***

- Given by George C. Marshall – Sec. of State (former general and native of Uniontown)
- Given at Harvard University commencement

##### ***The Plan:***

- The US would finance a massive European recovery program
- Offered to all European countries (except Spain – not involved in WWII)
- USSR and satellites did not accept
- 16 western European nations participated under the condition they would buy American goods and services

##### ***The Result:***

- US sent 17 billion dollars to western Europe “a miraculous economic recovery”
- The Marshall Plan further underscored the fact that the objectives of containment were economic and political as well as militaristic.

##### ***Conclusions:***

1. No loss of American lives to stop communism.
2. American economic incentive
  - Must buy American Products
  - Helps our economy as well