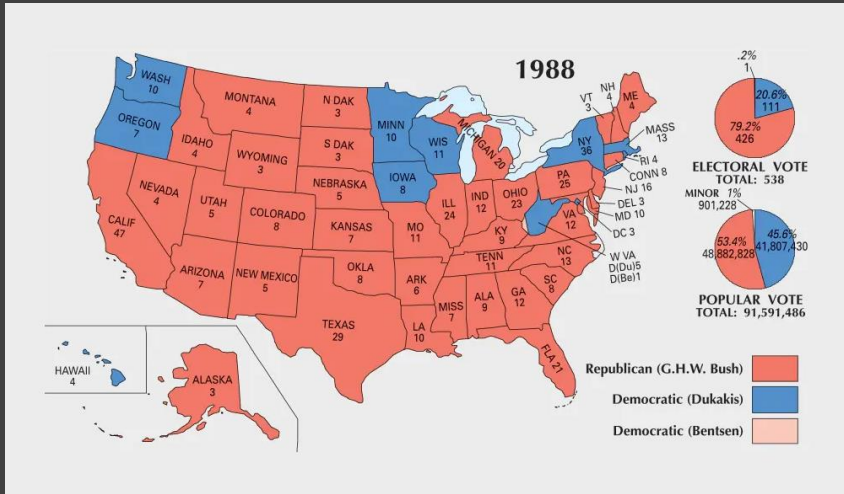
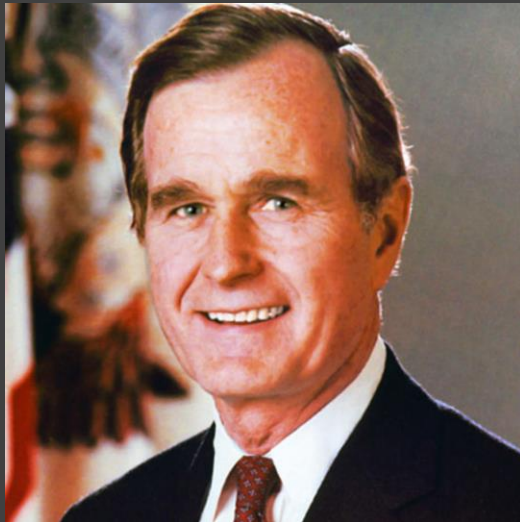


The End of the Cold War



Election of George H.W. Bush (1988)

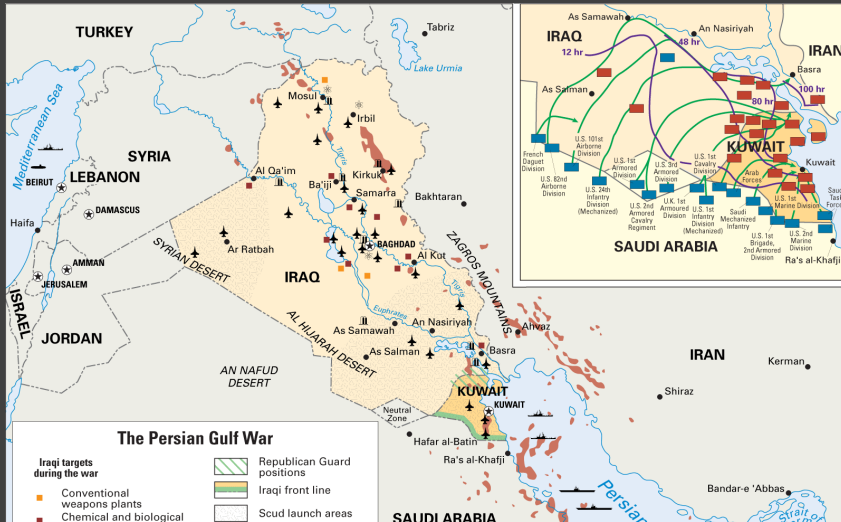
- The economic boom of the 1980s, often referred to as the "Reaganomics" era, played a significant role in shaping the political landscape leading up to the 1988 election.
- George H.W. Bush, who had previously served as Vice President under Ronald Reagan, was seen as a continuation of Reagan's policies, particularly on matters of foreign policy and economic deregulation.
- Bush's opponent in the election was Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis, the Governor of Massachusetts. The campaign largely revolved around issues such as taxes, crime, and national defense.
- Despite concerns about Bush's ability to distance himself from Reagan's shadow and accusations of being out of touch with everyday Americans, Bush won the election with 54% of the popular vote and a decisive victory in the Electoral College.





Foreign Policy Challenges

- The Persian Gulf War, triggered by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990, marked one of the defining moments of Bush's presidency. Operation Desert Storm, launched in January 1991, saw a coalition of international forces, led by the United States, expel Iraqi forces from Kuwait.
- The Tiananmen Square protests in China in 1989 presented a moral dilemma for Bush as the U.S. sought to balance its support for human rights with diplomatic relations with China. The violent crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators by the Chinese government led to condemnation from the international community.
- The Panama crisis centered around General Manuel Noriega's regime, which posed a threat to stability in the region and U.S. interests, particularly regarding the Panama Canal. In December 1989, Bush ordered U.S. military intervention, resulting in the removal of Noriega from power.





End of the Cold War

- Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms of perestroika and glasnost aimed to modernize the Soviet Union's economy and foster greater openness and political freedoms.
- The collapse of the Berlin Wall in November 1989 symbolized the end of Soviet domination in Eastern Europe and paved the way for the reunification of East and West Germany in 1990.
- The failed coup attempt against Gorbachev in August 1991, orchestrated by hardline Communist officials, hastened the disintegration of the Soviet Union and led to the declaration of independence by the former Soviet republics.



Domestic Challenges

- Despite his foreign policy successes, Bush faced criticism for his handling of domestic issues, particularly the economy. The recession of the early 1990s, exacerbated by factors such as defense industry downsizing and high levels of debt, led to rising unemployment and public dissatisfaction.
- Bush's decision to renege on his famous campaign promise, "Read my lips: no new taxes," by agreeing to a tax increase in a compromise with congressional Democrats, damaged his credibility and contributed to his loss in the 1992 election.

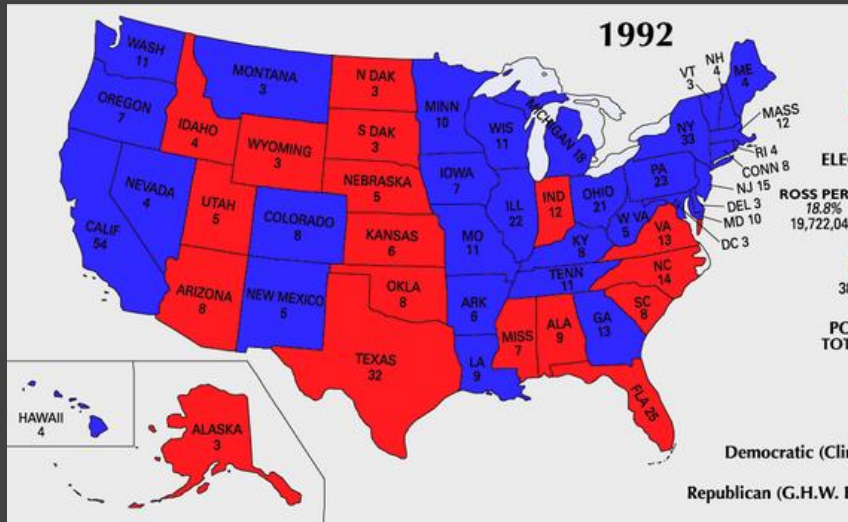
**Handicap
access
law starts
Jan. 26**



Legislation and Policies

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 was a landmark piece of legislation aimed at prohibiting discrimination against individuals with disabilities in various aspects of public life, including employment, transportation, and public accommodations.





1992 Election

- The 1992 presidential election saw a three-way race between Bush, Democrat Bill Clinton, and independent candidate Ross Perot.
- Clinton's focus on economic issues and his appeal to the middle class resonated with voters, while Perot's anti-establishment message and grassroots campaign garnered significant support.
- Clinton ultimately won the election, securing 43% of the popular vote and a convincing victory in the Electoral College, marking the end of Bush's presidency.



Economic Recession



- The recession of the early 1990s was characterized by a slowdown in economic growth, rising unemployment, and corporate downsizing.
- Factors contributing to the recession included the end of the Cold War, which led to defense spending cuts and layoffs in the defense industry, as well as high levels of consumer and government debt.

Strait of Hormuz and Oil Production

- The Strait of Hormuz, a narrow waterway between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman, is crucial for global oil transportation, with significant oil reserves located in the Persian Gulf countries.
- During the Gulf War, access to the Strait of Hormuz was strategically important for the coalition forces, as Iraq's invasion of Kuwait threatened regional stability and oil supplies, highlighting the geopolitical significance of the region.

QATAR

Habshan

UNITED ARAB

Fujairah

Gulf of Oman

Strait of Hormuz

Persian Gulf

The End
