



A



"YUP SONNY, AN THEM THAR LAST TWO I GOT FOR THE AIRLIFT BACK IN 1948-!!"

B

As punishment for starting WWII, Germany was divided into 4 zones occupied by American, British, French and Soviet troops in 1945. Berlin, the capital of Germany, was also divided into 4 parts even though it was in the "Soviet Zone". By 1948, after three years of occupation, the Americans, French and British withdrew their troops and reunited their parts of Germany. Stalin, however, felt that reuniting Germany opened the possibility of another World War and refused to withdraw his Soviet troops from the Eastern Part of Germany and also the city of Berlin. The Soviets quickly closed all roads, railway lines and water routes connecting Berlin with West Germany. President Truman didn't want Communism to spread to Berlin so he decided that airlifting supplies to the blockaded city would be the best course of action. For nearly a year, American planes flew supplies such as coal and wheat into the blockaded city of Berlin without so much as a shot being fired at them.

1. What action is happening in cartoon A?
2. What "medals" is the Grandfather proud of in cartoon B?
3. Why was Germany divided after WWII?
4. Why didn't Stalin want Germany to be reunited?
5. How did President Truman respond to the blockade?
6. Why do you think the Soviets never shot down any American planes?