**POTSDAM (AUG 1945)**

**OBJECTIVE:** To negotiate terms for the end of WWII in the European Theater.
- Demand "unconditional surrender" from Japan and demicracy in E. Eu
- Try to agree on punishment for war criminals, land boundaries, reparations
- UK wants to maintain Brit. empire colonies

Potsdam was the last WWII meeting held by "Big Three"

Leaders: Truman replaced FOR (USA), Stalin (SU) Atlee replaced Churchill (Brit)

Stalin had the greatest knowledge from previous meetings such as Yalta
so he used it to his strategic advantage, downplaying importance
of atomic bomb and portraying the SU army to be stronger than reality.

SU, the US wanted UK support in the Japanese Theater, but the UK didn't
have enough airpower. Because the US wanted Soviet support, they had an upperhand because the US felt that they needed it even though
the Soviet didn't really have it (distressed image).

**OUTCOME:** The Potsdam conference didn't do much besides expanding & clarifying
policies agreed upon at Yalta

It is significant in that it showed if wartime alliance
- 4 days later, the US dropped a bomb on Japan, the Soviets invaded
  - Korea
  - Japan & China and made a Japan occupied territory