Carter’s Foreign Policy

Main Goal:
Use American power to improve human rights worldwide
South Africa and Apartheid

Carter: wanted to end Apartheid
South Africa: Apartheid Stayed

US: Continued to trade with South Africa
Carter: Looked weak
US-Panama Relations

Panama wanted control of the Panama Canal
Panama Canal Treaties

- Gradually turned over control of the Canal to Panama by 2000
Panama Canal Treaties

- Proponents: Improved relations
- Opponents: Gave it away
Recognition of the PRC
January 1, 1979
Taiwan - severed formal relations with Taiwan
Carter and the PRC

- Proponents: Improved relations with PRC
- Opponents: Got nothing; sold out Taiwan
Is America suffering from “Empire Shock?”

America’s Foreign Power is slipping
Peace in the Middle East
Camp David Accords

March 26, 1979

Egyptian President
Anwar Sadat

Israeli Prime Minister
Menachem Begin
Camp David Accords

- Israel agreed to a phased withdrawal of the Sinai Peninsula
- Egypt fully recognized Israel
No Break for Jimmy: The Soviets invaded Afghanistan

December 25, 1979
Carter’s “Strong” Reaction to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan

- Hot Line
- Withdrew SALT II
- Olympic Boycott
- Helped Afghan Freedom Fighters
- Carter Doctrine
Carter Doctrine

Containment + Persian Gulf =
Did the Soviet Army leave Afghanistan?

NO

Carter: Looked weak
Iran-Hostage Crisis
444 Days
1979: Struggle for Power in Iran

Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini
Riots in Iran (1978 – 1979)

Shah’s “Vacation”
January 16, 1979

Entered US:
October 22, 1979
The Iranian people are angry at the Shah but they cannot get him.

- But they can get Americans
52 Americans taken hostage
WWCD?
What would Carter do?

Felt like his child was kidnapped
Rescue Attempt: Operation Eagle Claw

April 24, 1980
Failure: Operation Eagle Claw
The Shah Died July 27, 1980
Difficult Negotiations

United States  Algeria  Iran

English  French  Farsi (Arabic)

The Deal: January 19, 1981
Freedom: January 20, 1981

33 minutes into Reagan’s Presidency
Bye Bye Jimmy