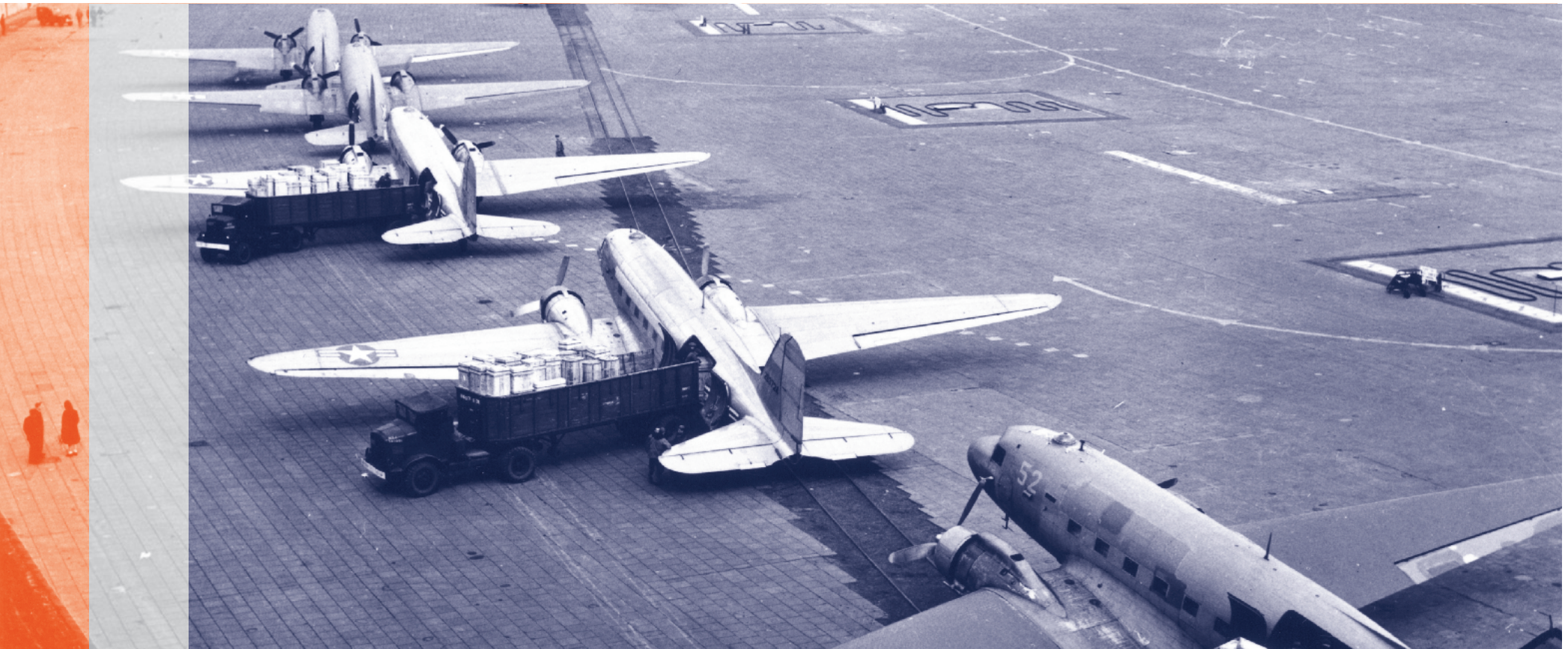


THE BERLIN AIRLIFT 1948/49

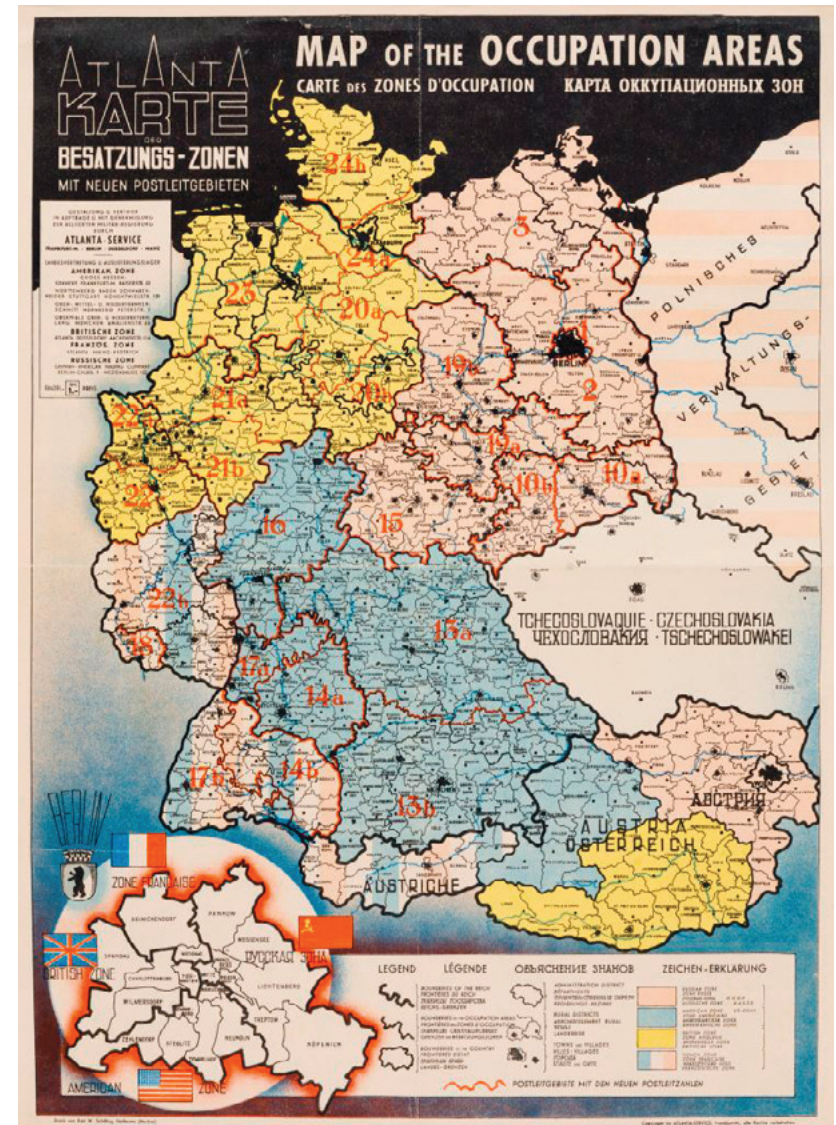


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explains
the history of the Berlin Airlift

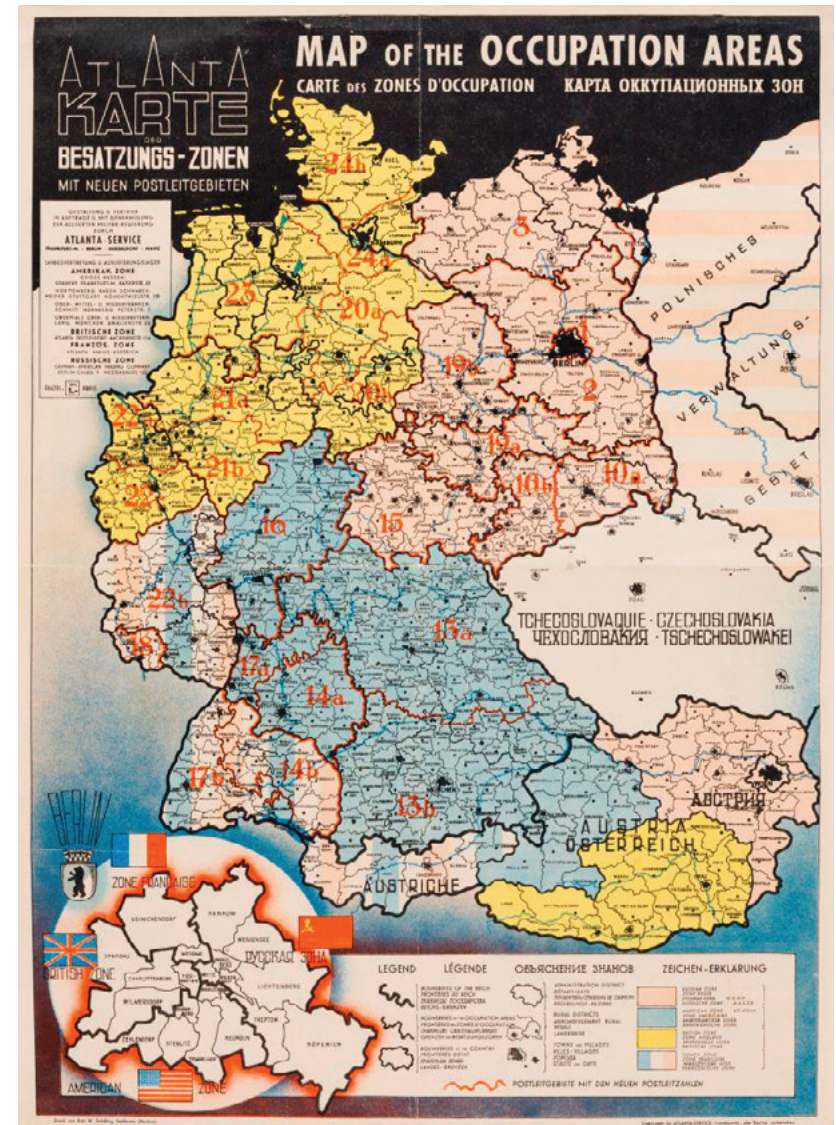
CRISIS IN BERLIN



Map of the four zones of occupation in Germany and the sectors of Berlin, 1946

Cold War, The;

Significance: The Cold War was a global conflict in which the West under the leadership of the USA struggled for world supremacy against the Soviet Union and the Eastern Block it dominated. It was above all ideologically, economically, and technologically driven. Militarily, the competition between both blocs fueled an unprecedented arms race and escalated in numerous proxy wars.



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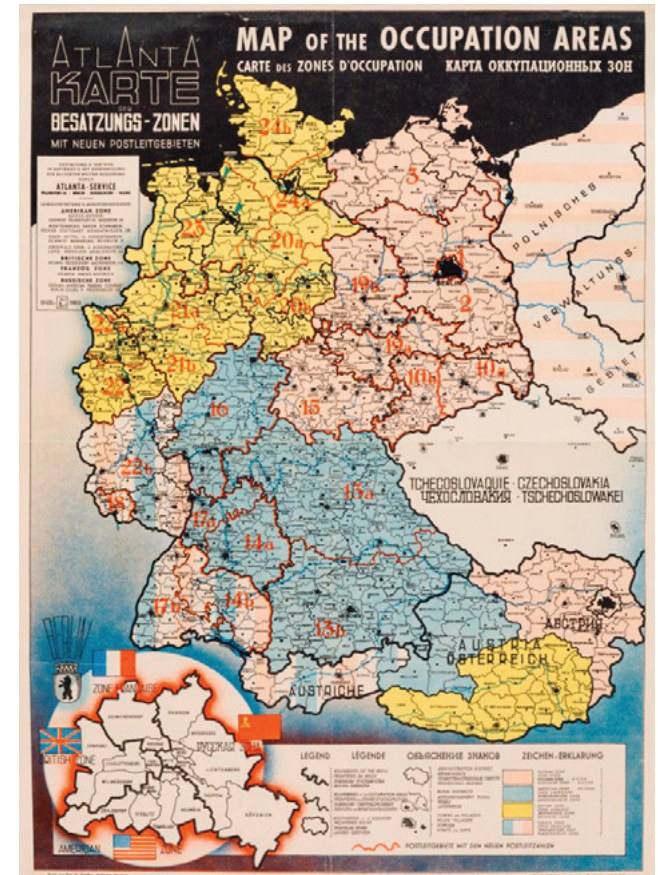


These trucks cannot deliver their goods to the Western sectors of Berlin as all access roads have been blocked, June 1948.

Together, think about what the Soviet Union hoped to achieve with the blockade of the access roads to Berlin.




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These trucks cannot deliver their goods to the Western sectors of Berlin as all access roads have been blocked, June 1948.

OPERATION AIRLIFT

What measures did the Western powers take in response to the Berlin Blockade? What could alternative reactions have looked like?



OPERATION AIRLIFT

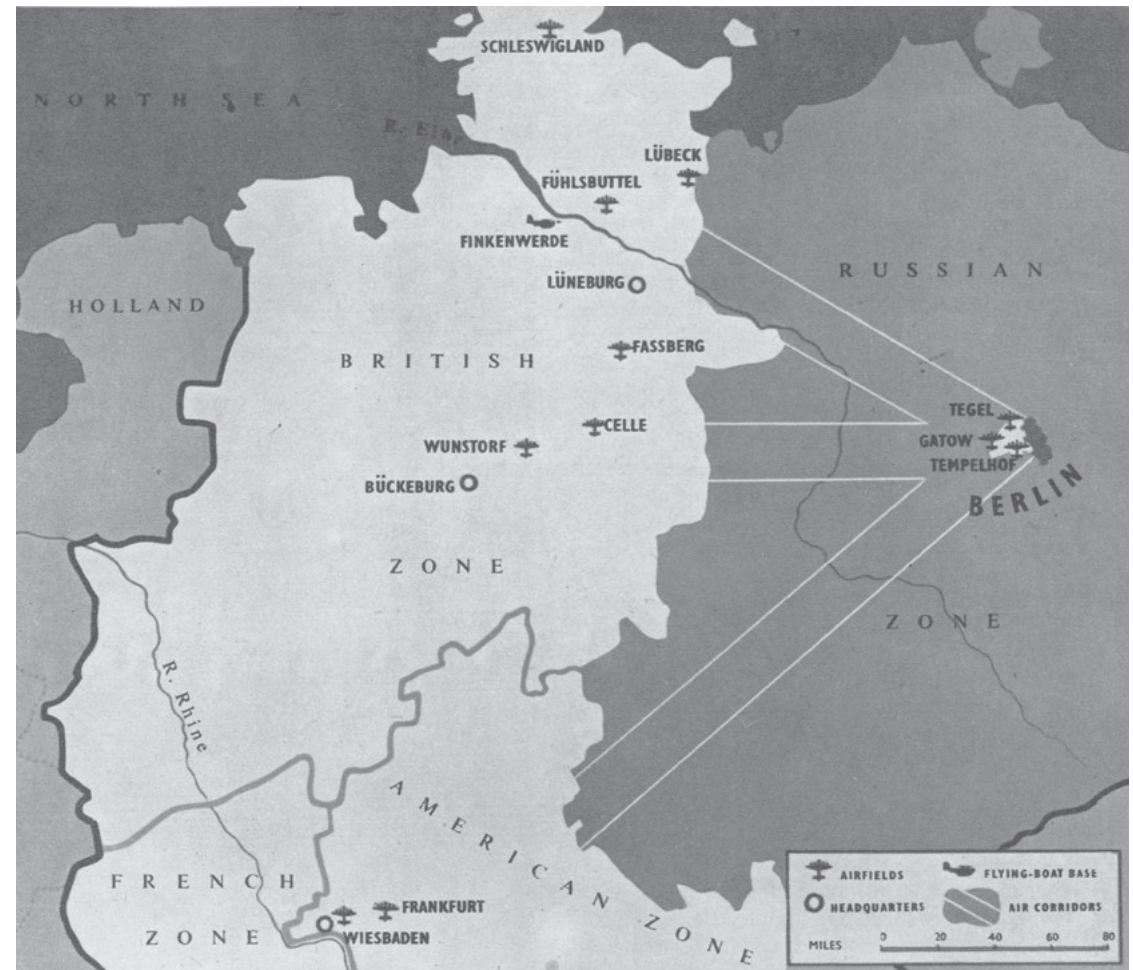
What measures did the Western powers take in response to the Berlin Blockade? What could alternative reactions have looked like?



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General Lucius D. Clay:

“Why are we in Europe? We have lost Czechoslovakia. We have lost Finland. Norway is threatened. ... After Berlin, will come Western Germany....If we mean that we are to hold Europe against communism, we must not budge.”
(April 1948)

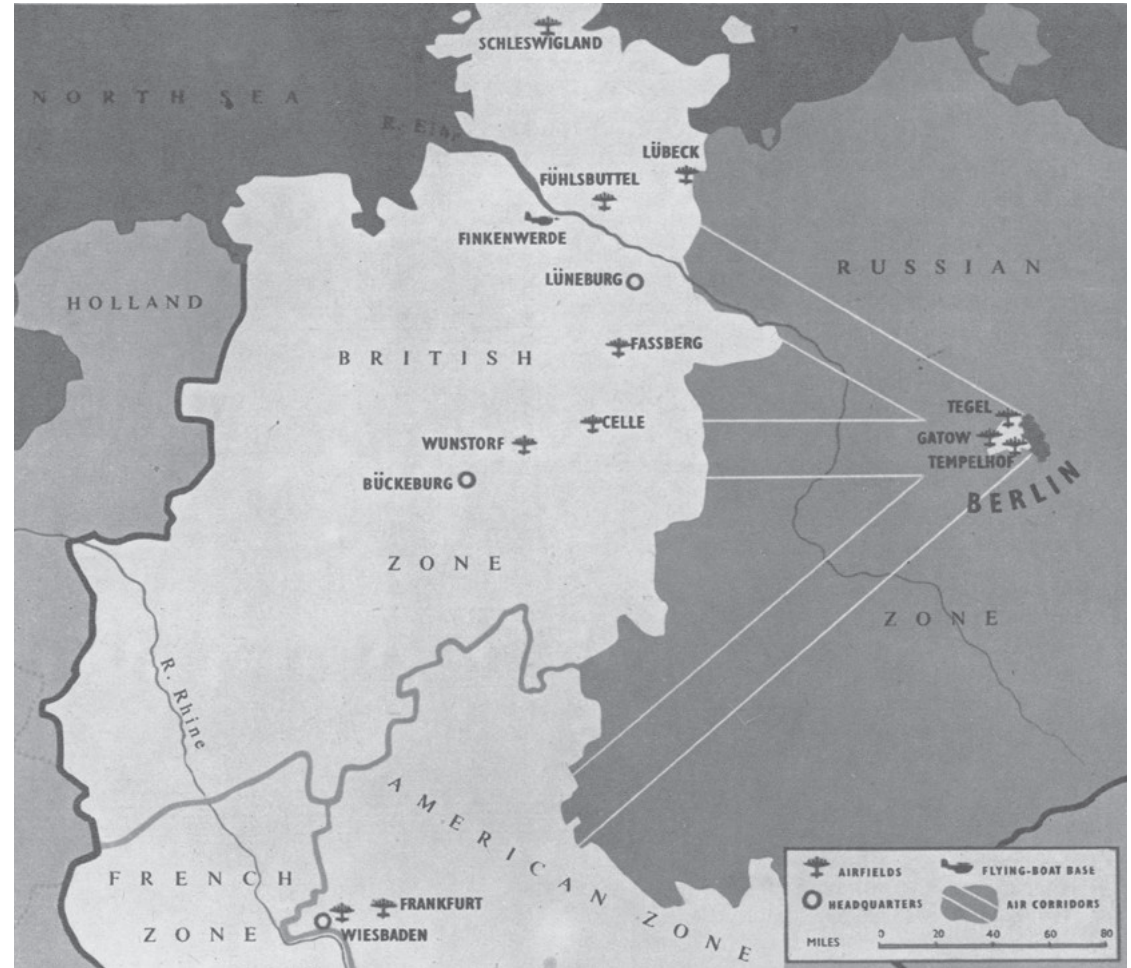


© Air Ministry and the Central Office of Information (Hg.), Berlin Airlift. An Account of the British Contribution, London

Map of the four zones of occupation in Germany denoting the Airlift's airports and the three air corridors connecting Berlin



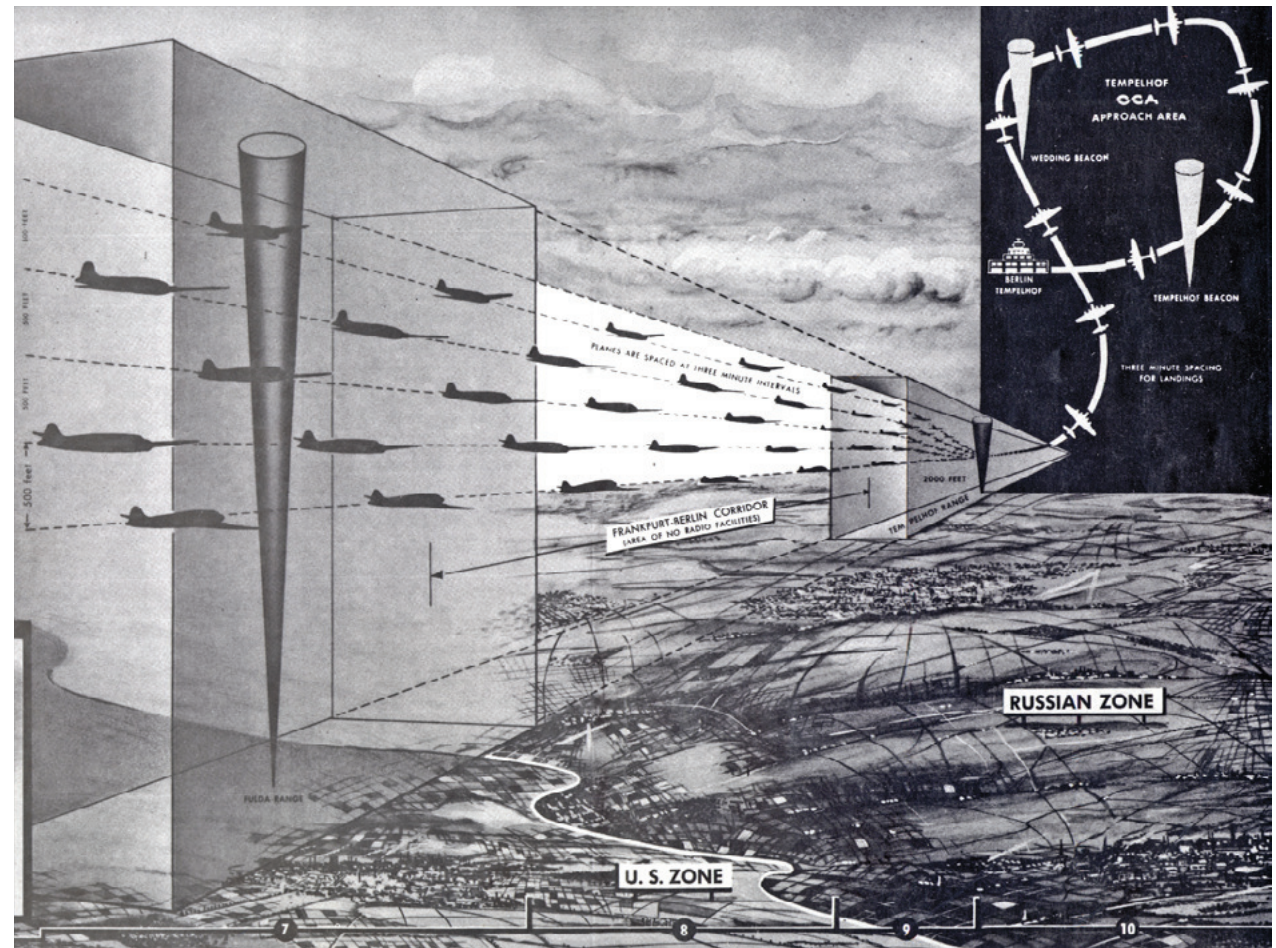
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Flightline of C-47 planes being
unloaded at Berlin Tempelhof Airport,
July 1948

A QUESTION OF ORGANIZATION



© Aviation Operations Magazine 5 (1949)

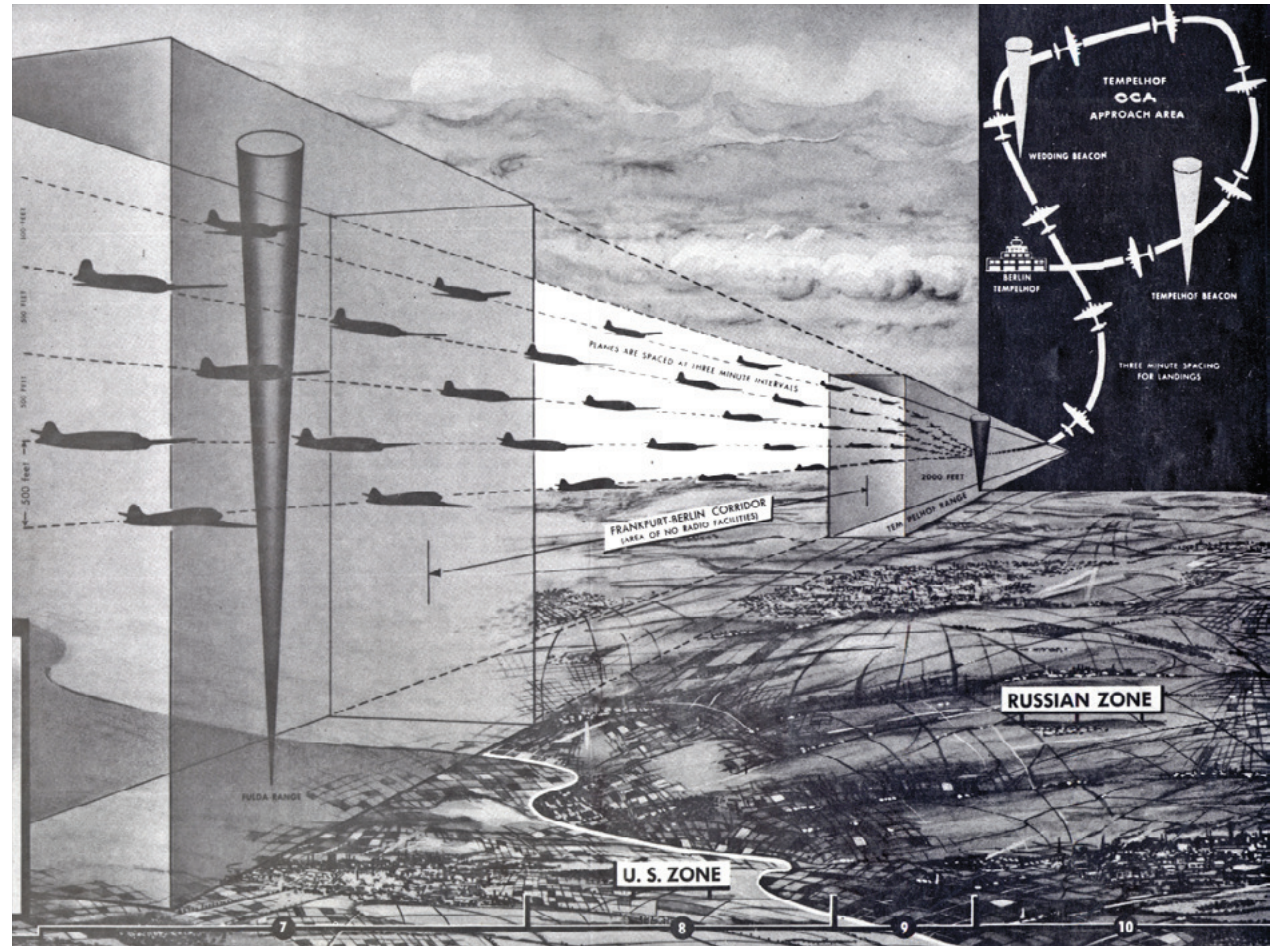
Visualization of the corridor between Frankfurt Main and Berlin during the Berlin Airlift



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Lieutenant General William H. Tunner:

*“Even to think of supplying a city by air alone
was daring. It had never been done before.”
(1964)*



© Aviation Operations Magazine 5 (1949)

Visualization of the corridor between Frankfurt Main
and Berlin during the Berlin Airlift



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Lieutenant General William H. Tunner:

*“Even to think of supplying a city by air alone
was daring. It had never been done before.”
(1964)*



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Situation control room during the Airlift, at
Gatow Airport in the British sector of Berlin,
September 1948

On April 16th, 1949, the Airlift airplanes delivered 12,940 tons of coal to the Western sectors of Berlin: it was a joint record performance by the Airlift pilots and the German freight loaders.

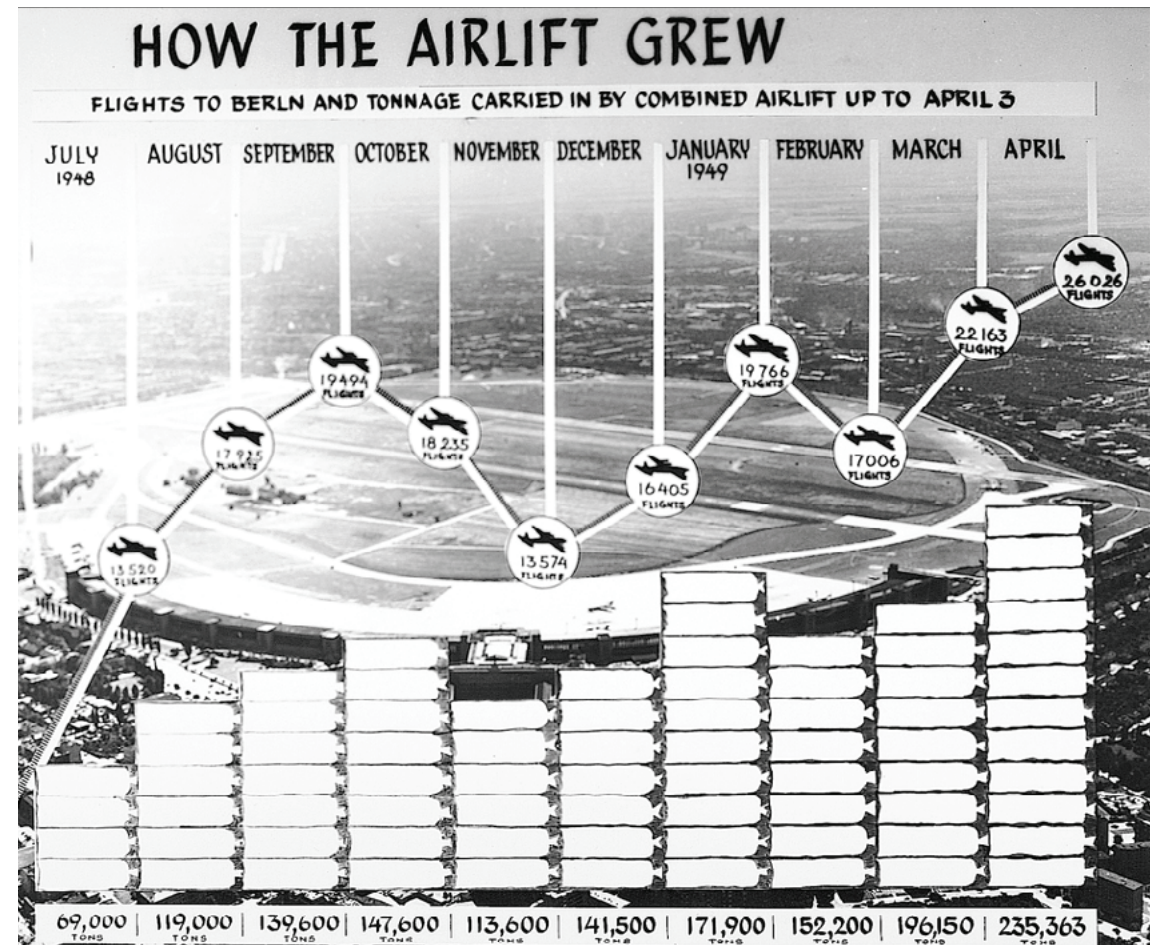
Together, think about what was supposed to have been demonstrated by this record achievement.



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Situation control room during the Airlift, at Gatow Airport in the British sector of Berlin, September 1948

OF COAL AND RAISINS



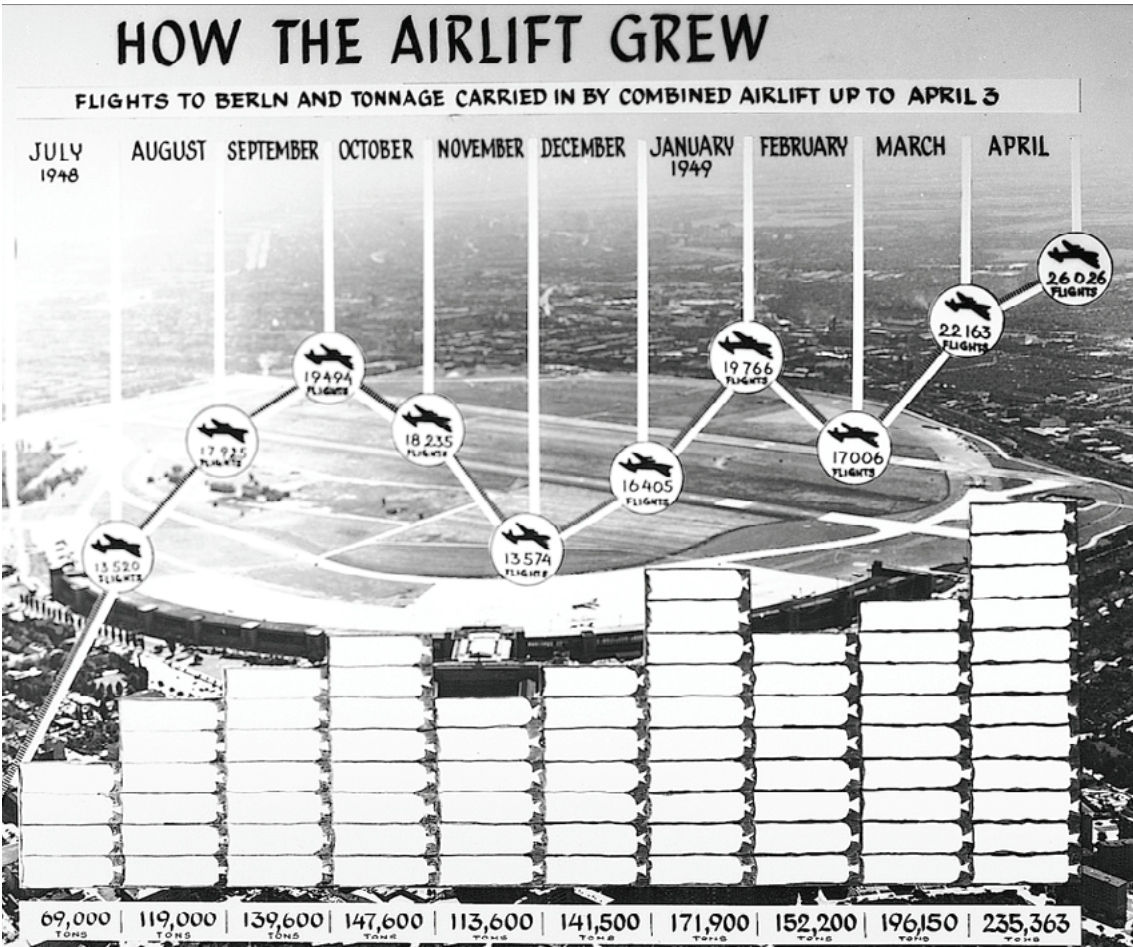
© Air Ministry and the Central Office of Information (Hg.), Berlin Airlift. An Account of the British Contribution, London

Freight tonnage flown to Berlin
between July 1948 and April 1949



© CARE|Archive

CARE package distribution station in Berlin Dahlem in the American sector, 1948/49



© Air Ministry and the Central Office of Information (Hg.), Berlin Airlift. An Account of the British Contribution, London



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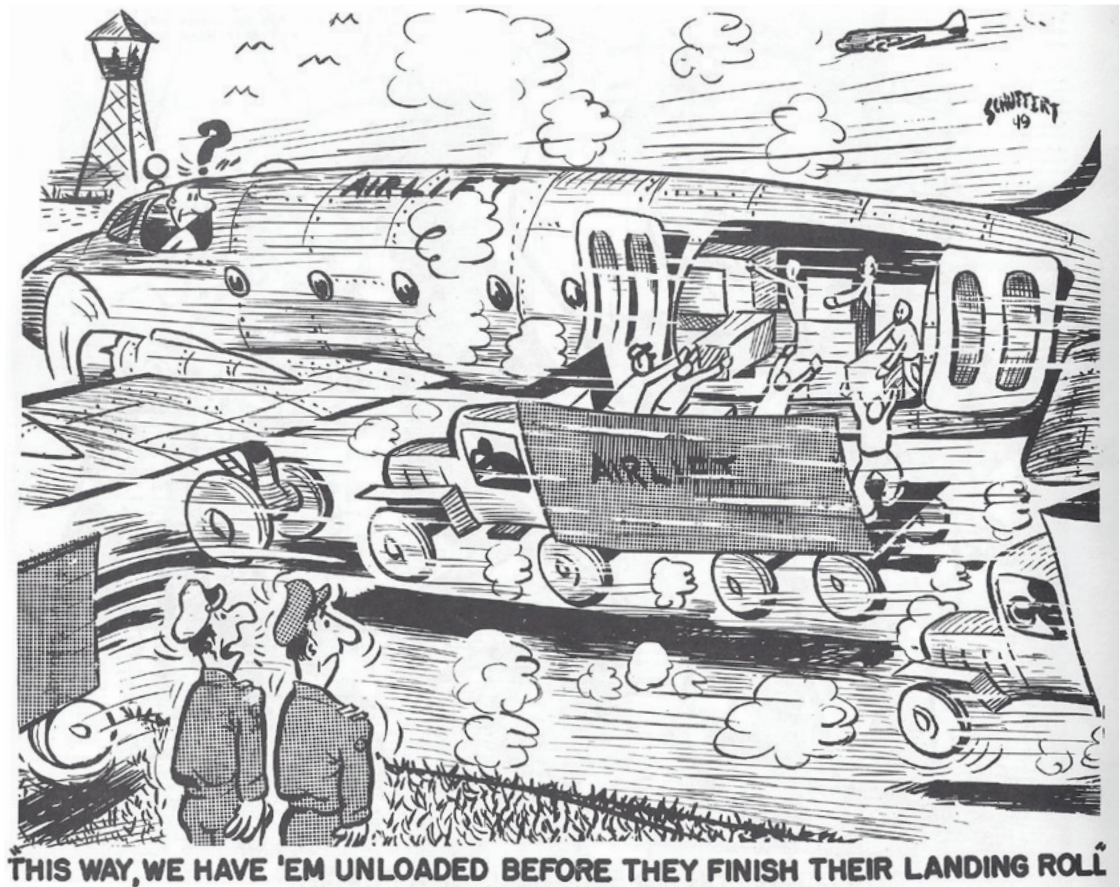
CARE package distribution station in Berlin
Dahlem in the American sector, 1948/49

Three years after the end of World War II,
Allied airplanes brought supplies to the former
capital city of the Reich.

Together, think about how
the people in the USA
reacted to this aid action.

Why did public reaction
look different in France
and Great Britain?

HOW ENEMIES BECAME FRIENDS

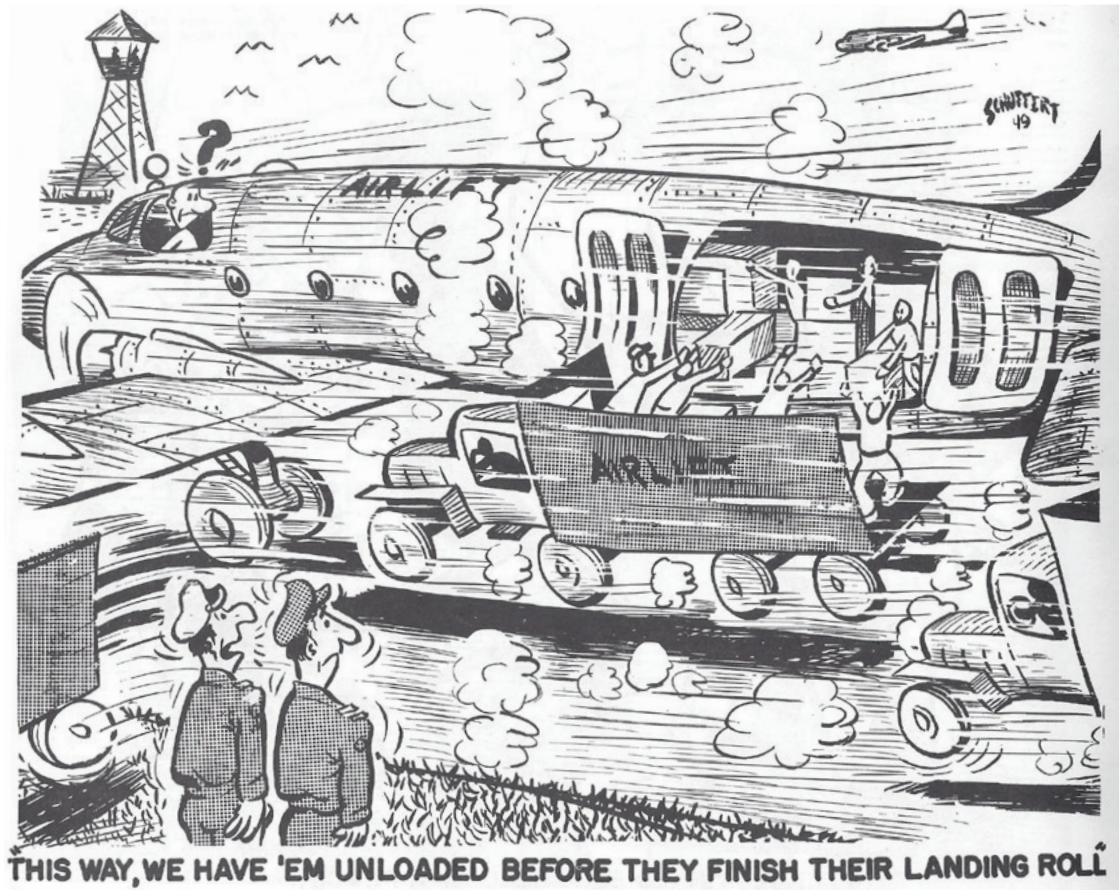


THIS WAY, WE HAVE 'EM UNLOADED BEFORE THEY FINISH THEIR LANDING ROLL



© CARE | Archive

After the lifting of the Berlin Blockade, the first trucks with CARE packages arrive in West Berlin, May 12th, 1949.



© John H. Schuffert 1948/49



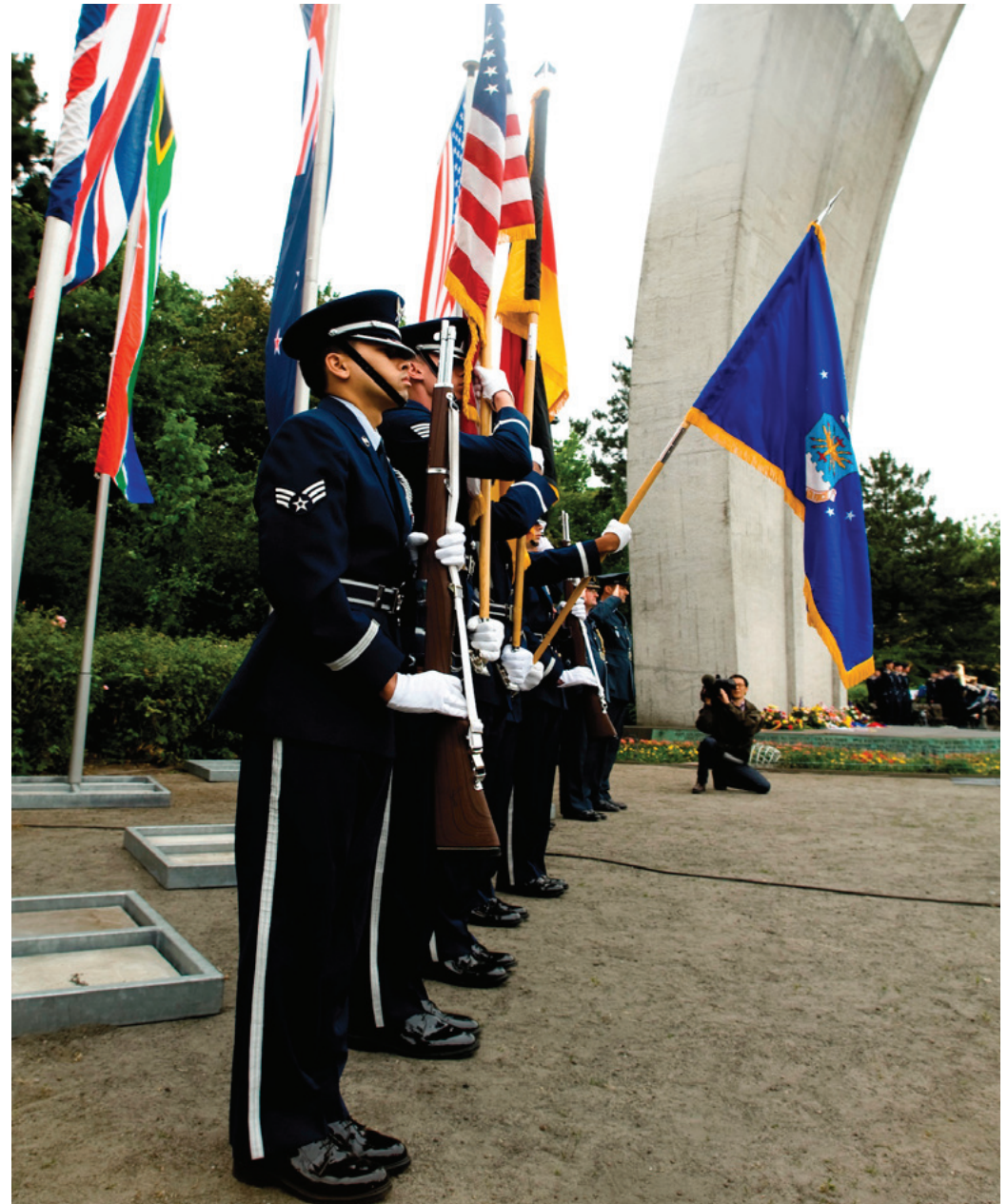
© CARE | Archive

After the lifting of the Berlin Blockade, the first trucks with CARE packages arrive in West Berlin, May 12th, 1949.

Discuss: to what extent was the Berlin Airlift a turning point in the relationships among the Western powers and the West Berliners?

REMEMBER, BUT HOW?

Commemorating the 60th anniversary
of the beginning of the Airlift
in Berlin, June 2008



REMEMBER, BUT HOW?

AIRLIFT IN A BOX




Airlift HipHop, 2016

© Stiftung Luftbrückendank | Olad Aden

Every year on May 12th, the Berlin Senate holds a memorial ceremony at the Airlift Monument and lays a wreath in commemoration of the end of the Berlin Blockade.

Together, think about why and in what form this first crisis in the Cold War in 1948/49 should be commemorated in the future.



AIRLIFT AMBASSADOR



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US pilot Gail S. Halvorsen talking to Berlin
children at the Tempelhof Airport fence, 1949



© AlliiertenMuseum|Slg. Provan



© AlliiertenMuseum|US Air Force

US pilot Gail S. Halvorsen drops chocolate parachutes
for Berlin children near Tempelhof Airport, 1949.



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More information on Gail S. Halvorsen may be found in the book “Making of ... The Men and Women of the Berlin Airlift 1948/49”.

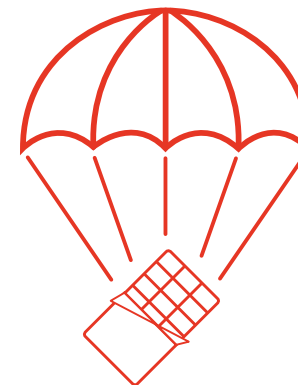


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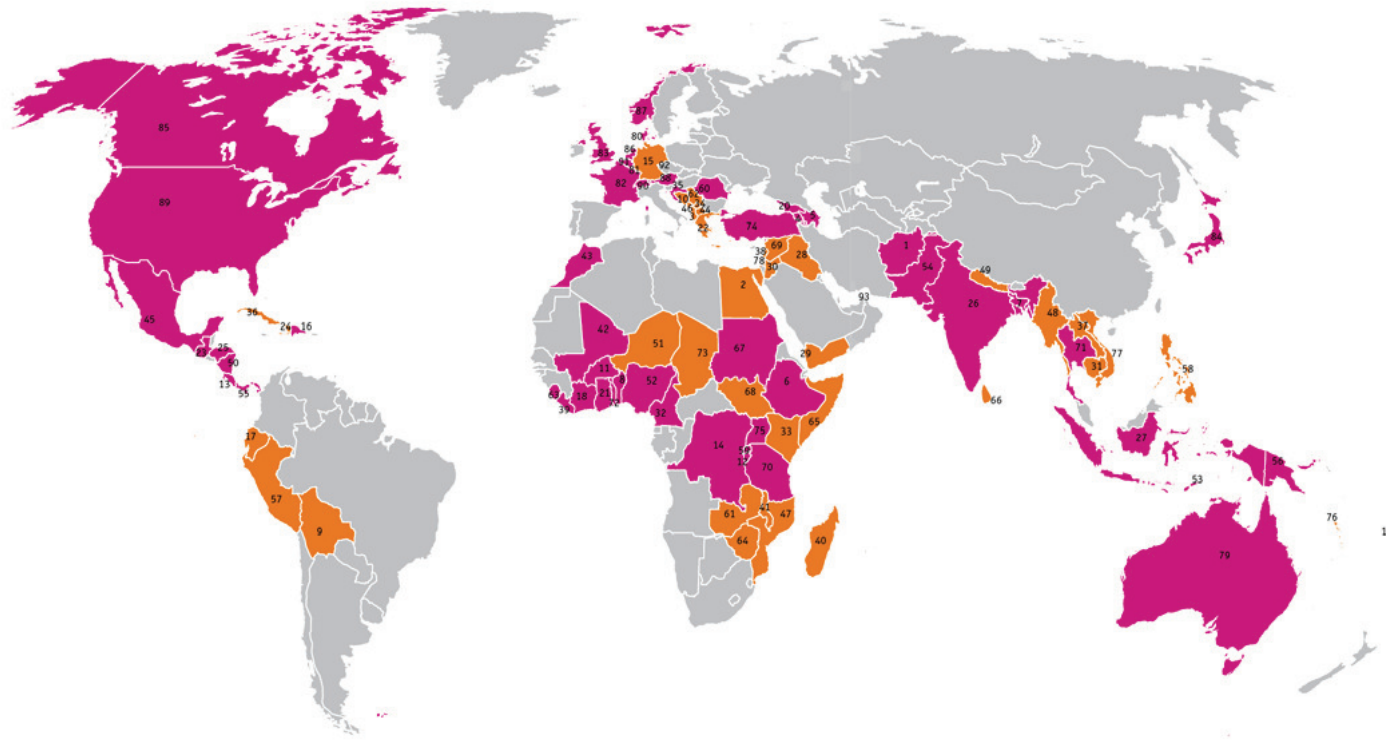
How to Make a Chocolate Parachute:

Stick the chocolate bar into the string noose and draw it tight. Tie each of the four strings to a corner of the handkerchief. And finally throw the parachute up into the air!





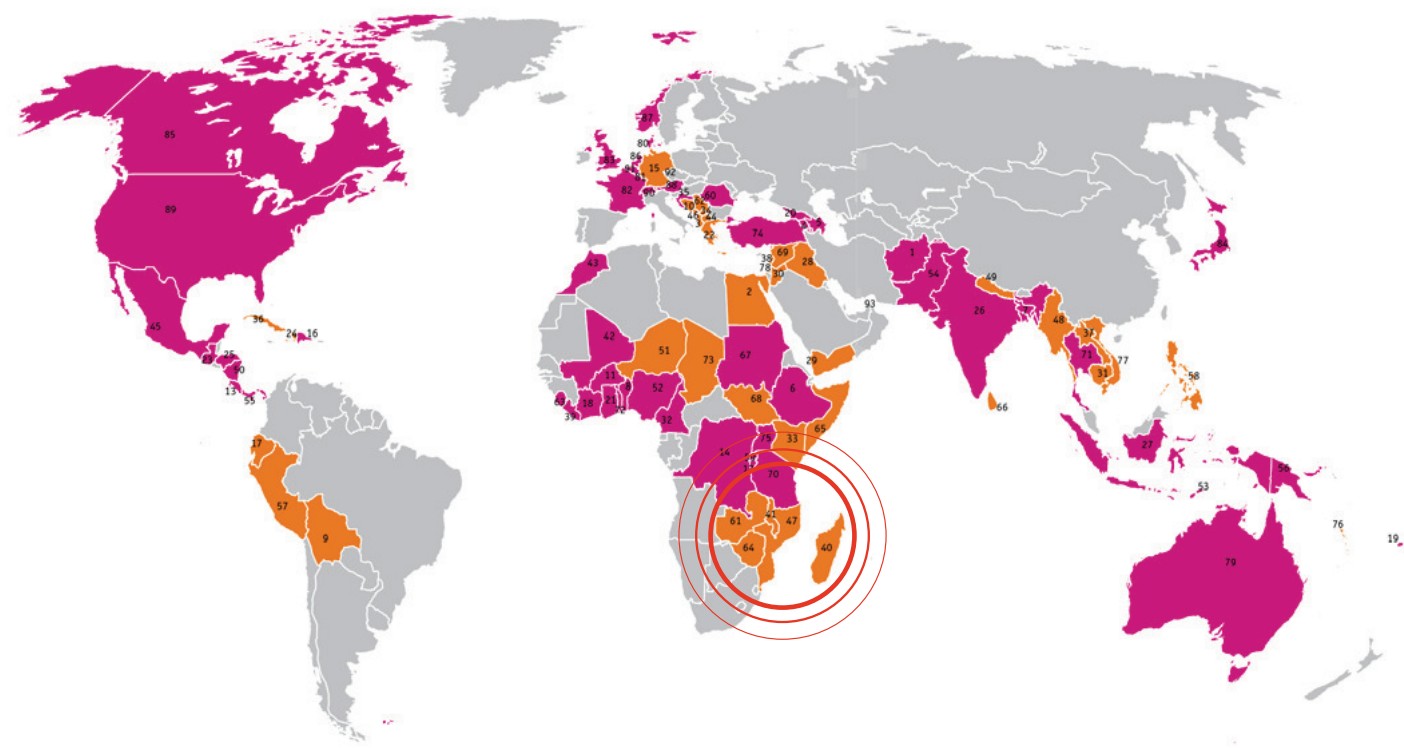
HUMANITARIAN AID TODAY



■ Projektländer CARE Deutschland-Luxemburg e.V.
■ weitere Präsenz- und Projektländer CARE International

© CARE

More than 70 years after the Berlin Airlift, CARE is one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations, active in around 90 countries against poverty and hardship.



Projektländer CARE Deutschland-Luxemburg e.V.
weitere Präsenz- und Projektländer CARE International

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On March 14th, 2019, Cyclone Idai left more than two million people homeless in Mozambique.

**Try answering the question in groups:
How can humanitarian relief operations be
organized today? What aid supplies are
needed? How can people in need be reached?**



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than two million people homeless in Mozambique.**
