

# COLD WAR

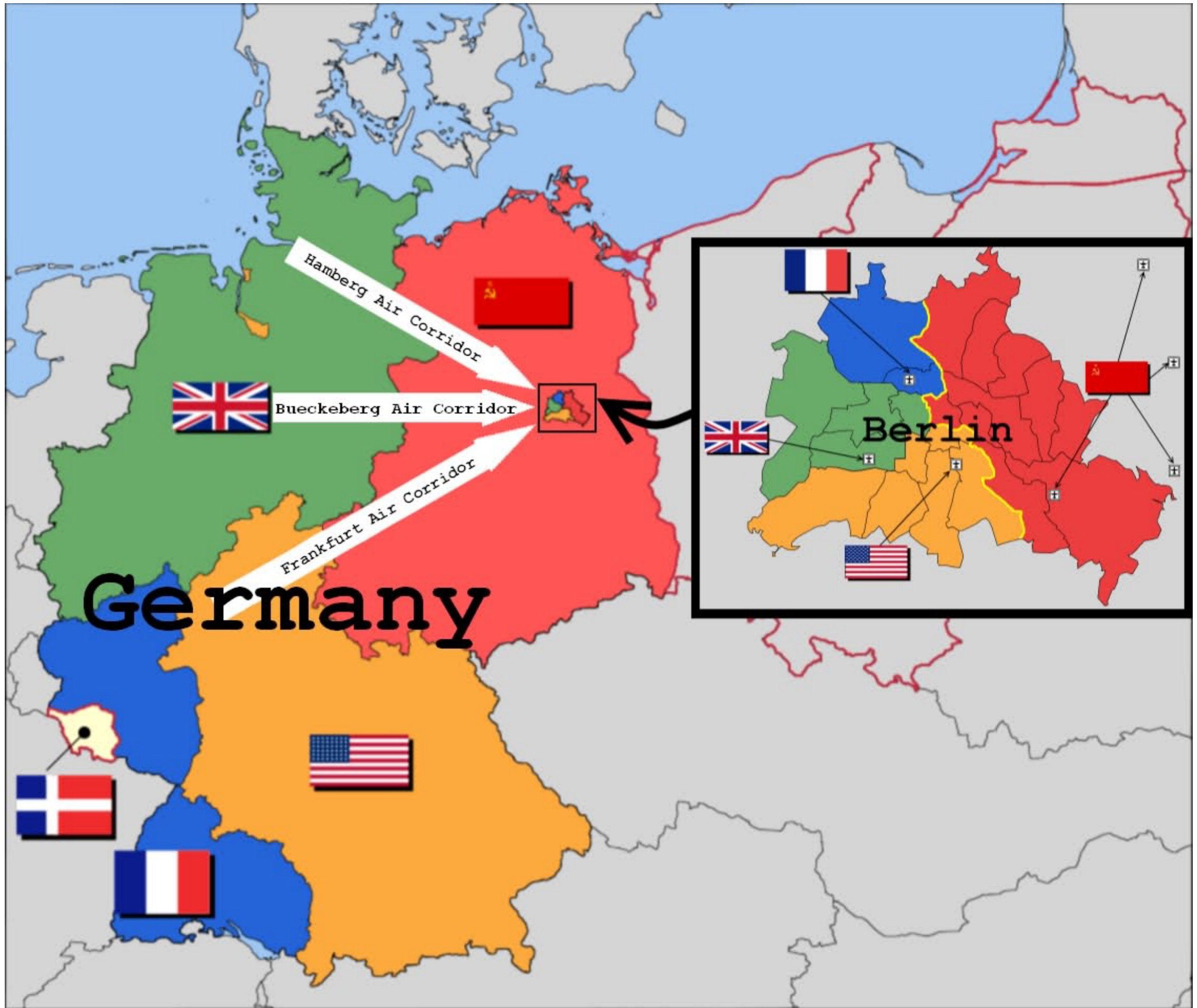
- EASTERN BLOC
- WESTERN BLOC
- IRON CURTAIN







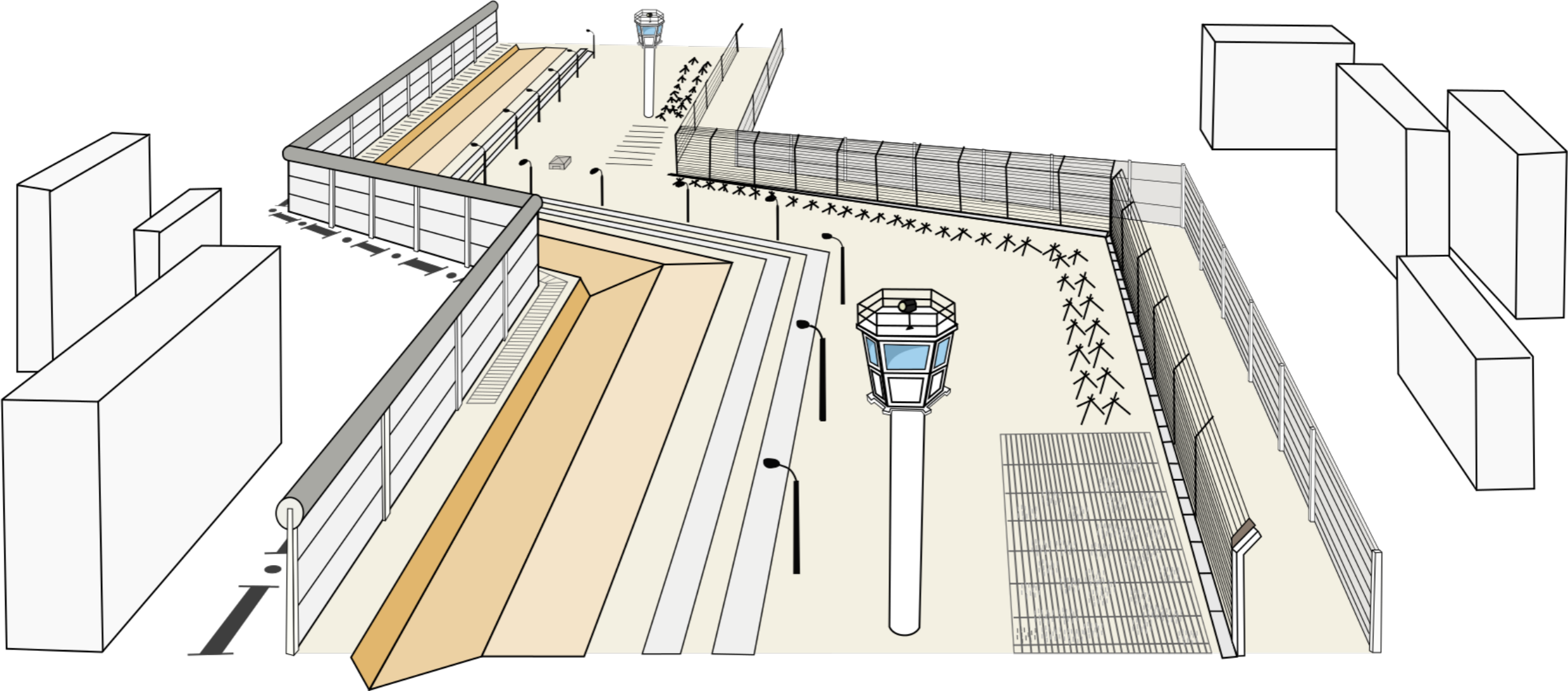
**BERLIN**

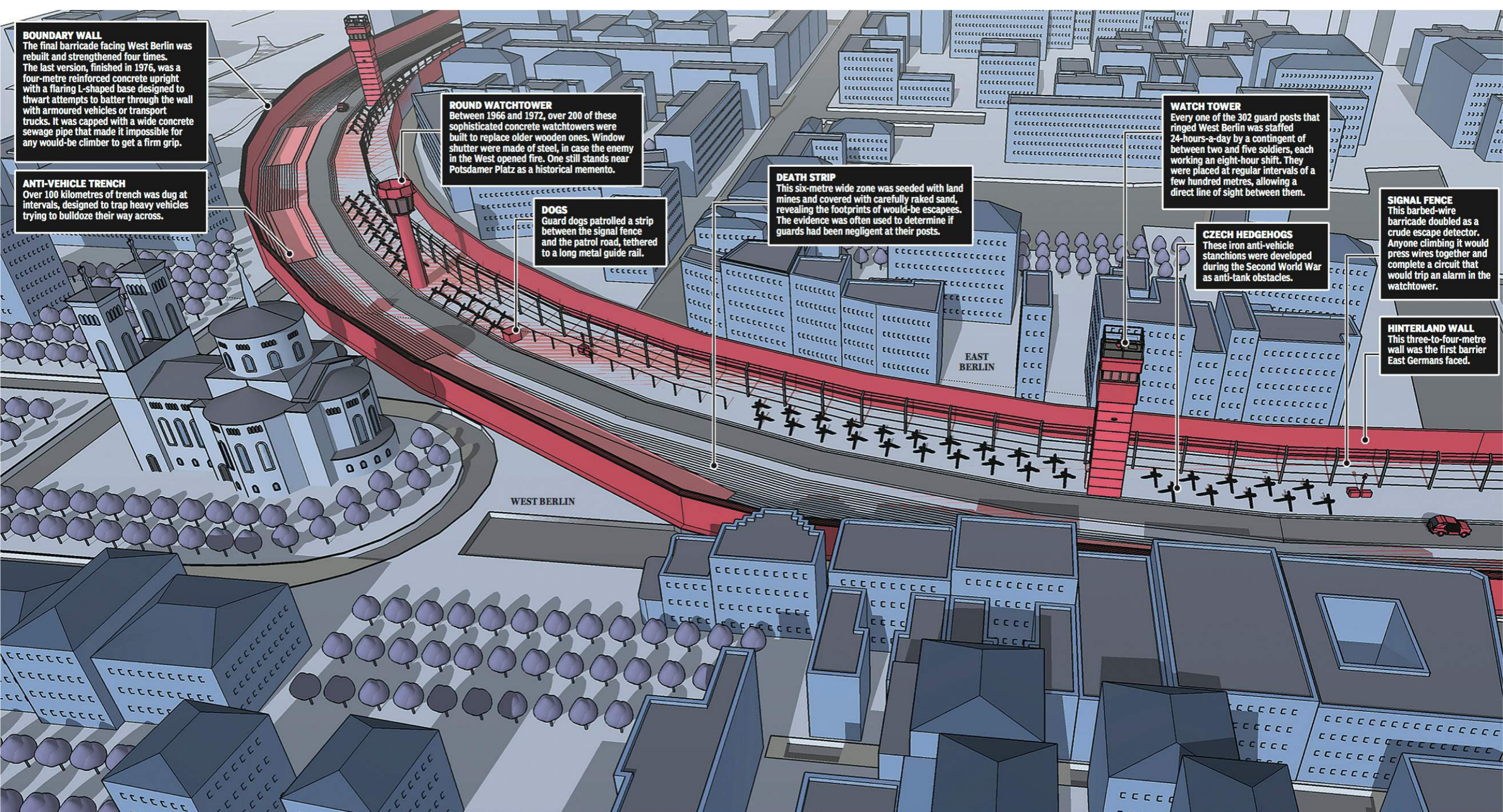




# West Berlin

# East Berlin





**BOUNDARY WALL**  
The final barricade facing West Berlin was rebuilt and strengthened four times. The last version, finished in 1976, was a four-metre reinforced concrete upright with a flaring L-shaped base designed to thwart attempts to batter through the wall with armoured vehicles or transport trucks. It was capped with a wide concrete sewage pipe that made it impossible for any would-be climber to get a firm grip.

**ANTI-VEHICLE TRENCH**  
Over 100 kilometres of trench was dug at intervals, designed to trap heavy vehicles trying to bulldoze their way across.

**ROUND WATCHTOWER**  
Between 1966 and 1972, over 200 of these sophisticated concrete watchtowers were built to replace older wooden ones. Window shutters were made of steel, in case the enemy in the West opened fire. One still stands near Potsdamer Platz as a historical memento.

**DOGS**  
Guard dogs patrolled a strip between the signal fence and the patrol road, tethered to a long metal guide rail.

**DEATH STRIP**  
This six-metre wide zone was seeded with land mines and covered with carefully raked sand, revealing the footprints of would-be escapees. The evidence was often used to determine if guards had been negligent at their posts.

**WATCH TOWER**  
Every one of the 302 guard posts that ringed West Berlin was staffed 24-hours-a-day by a contingent of between two and five soldiers, each working an eight-hour shift. They were placed at regular intervals of a few hundred metres, allowing a direct line of sight between them.

**CZECH HEDGEHOGS**  
These iron anti-vehicle stanchions were developed during the Second World War as anti-tank obstacles.

**SIGNAL FENCE**  
This barbed-wire barricade doubled as a crude escape detector. Anyone climbing it would press wires together and complete a circuit that would trip an alarm in the watchtower.

**HINTERLAND WALL**  
This three-to-four-metre wall was the first barrier East Germans faced.







