

Quick Review

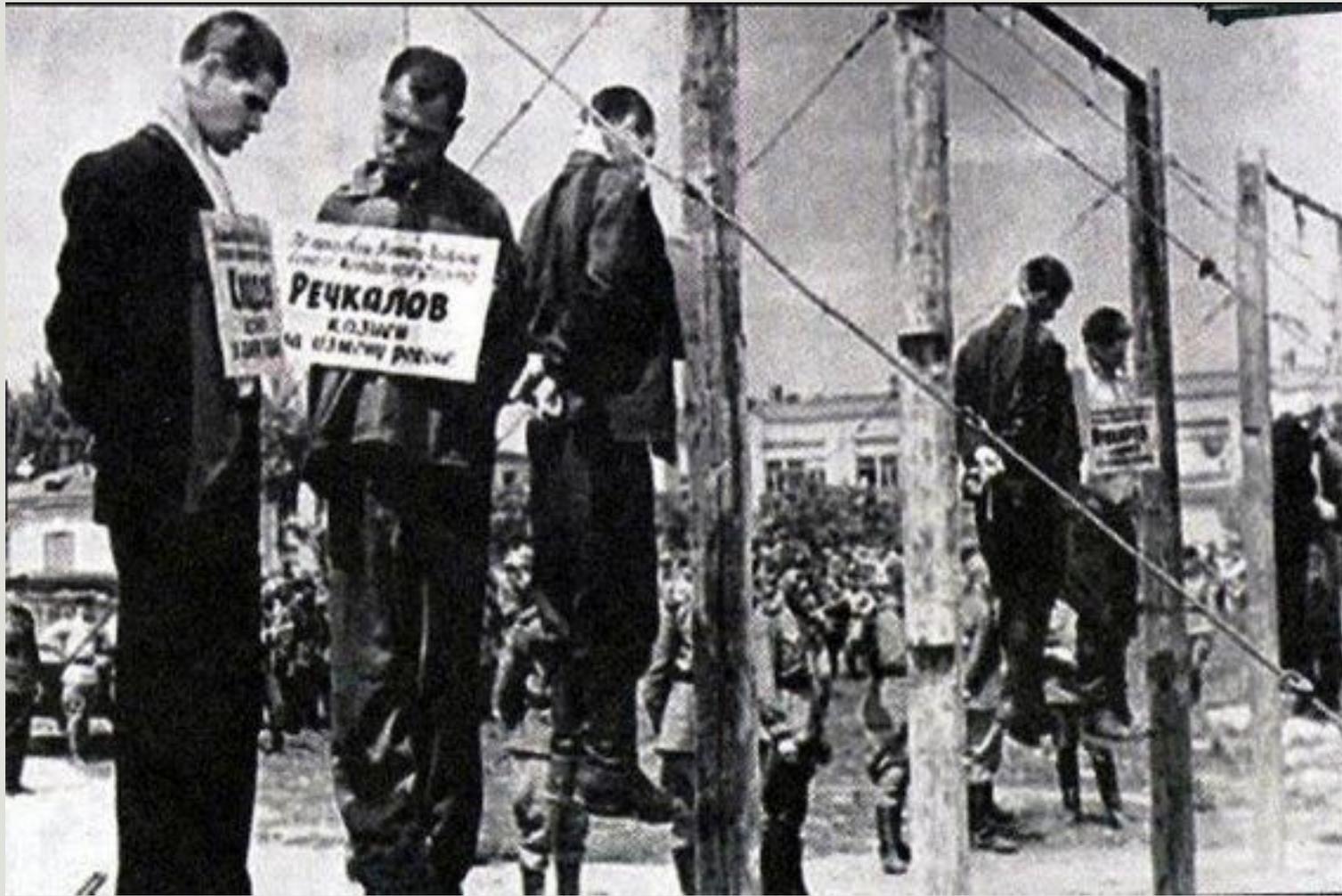
TIMELINE – RUSSIAN REVOLUTION



Life Under Lenin

- Policy of “war communism,” direct control of industry and peasants were forced to send food to the cities.
- The Cheka, secret police, arrested counter-revolutionaries.
- This turns into what is called **The Red Terror**
- Hundreds of thousands were locked up, tortured and executed. Perhaps 500,000 died.





After the Russian Revolution...

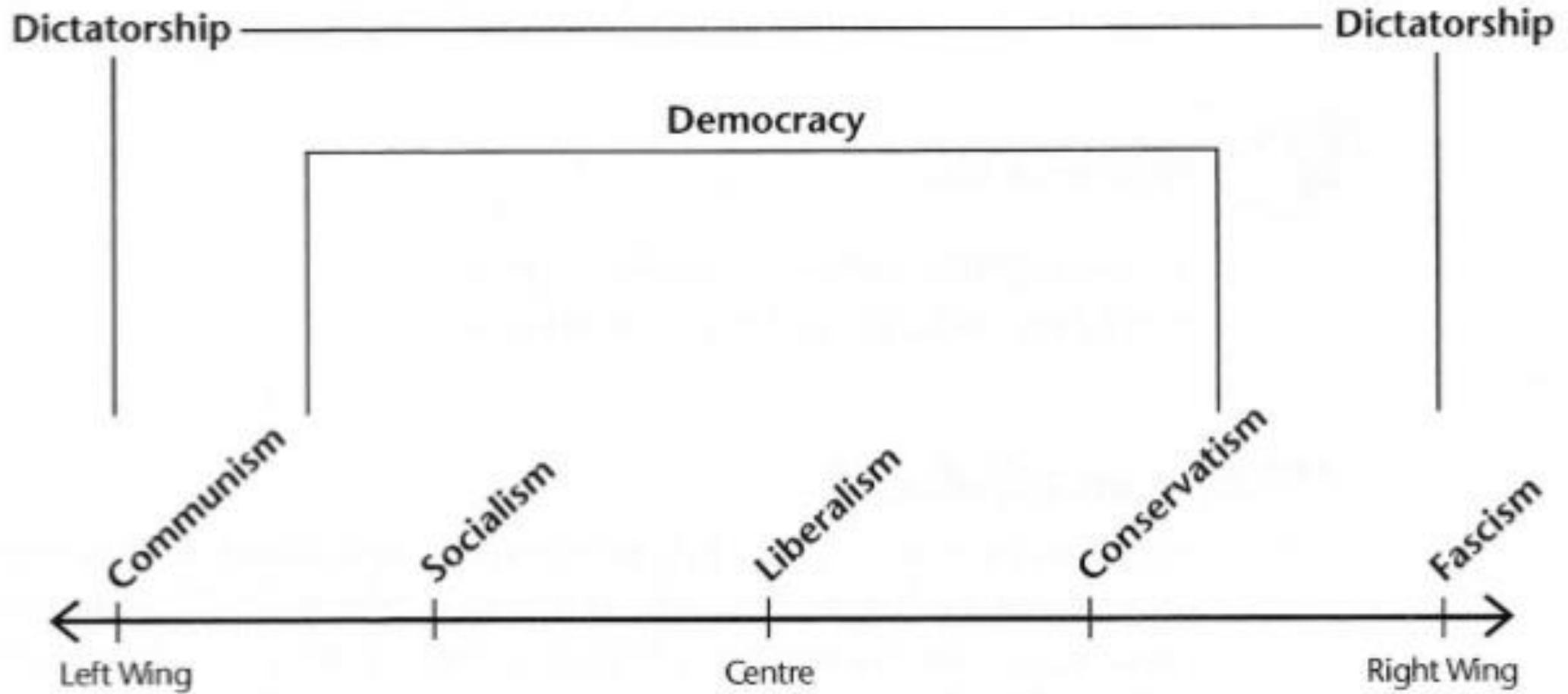
- Lenin was in control of the new Soviet Government- Creating the Soviet Union
 - Joseph Stalin oversaw the Central Committee Secretariat
- After the civil war, various communist political parties emerged- varying ideas about the new communist government
 - Lenin, Trotsky, Stalin
- In 1924, Lenin died due to a stroke? Much debate about this
- He was succeeded by fellow revolutionary, Joseph Stalin
 - But there is a bit of a power struggle

Joseph Stalin



Creation of the USSR

- Stalin assumes full power by 1927, expelling Trotsky
- Institution of **Stalinism**- the ideology and policies adopted by Stalin, based on centralization, totalitarianism, and the pursuit of communism.
- **Totalitarianism**- a system of government that is centralized and dictatorial and requires complete subservience to the state.
- Initiates first 5-year plan in 1928

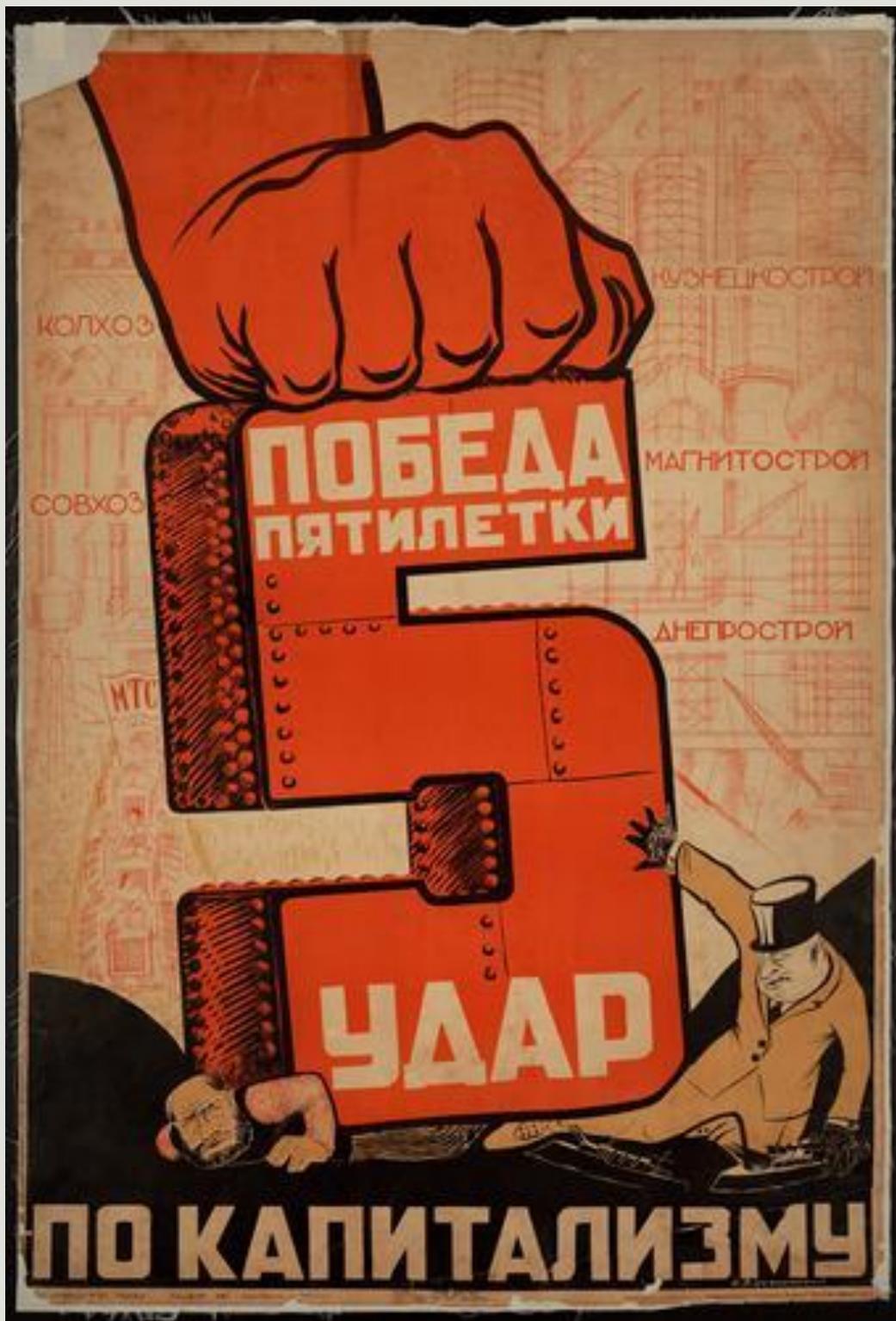


The (1st) 5 Year Plan

- Stalin “steals” Trotsky’s idea of industrialization

Goals-

- Build heavy industry, improve transportation, increase farm output
 - Government control of the economy-
 - Command economy- government makes all decisions and owns all business
- People were relocated sometimes based on old skills and profession, sometimes not; industry consolidated
 - To ensure work ridiculous quotas with strict punishments put into place



We are fifty or a hundred years behind the advanced countries. We must make good this distance in ten years. Either we do it, or they will crush us.

(Joseph Stalin)

What happened with the plan?

- Forced collectivization and dekulakization (most kulaks in fertile farms of Ukraine)

While production levels rose dramatically, it was at an appalling human cost:

- Discipline
- Secret police
- Slave labor
- Labor camps (for those who made mistakes)
- Hundreds of thousands of work related deaths
- Poor housing
- Decline in consumer goods

Who were the Kulaks?

- a peasant in Russia wealthy enough to own a farm and hire labor.
- Emerging after the emancipation of serfs in the 19th century the kulaks resisted Stalin's forced collectivization
- Many of these people lived in the area of Ukraine



Formation of the Gulags

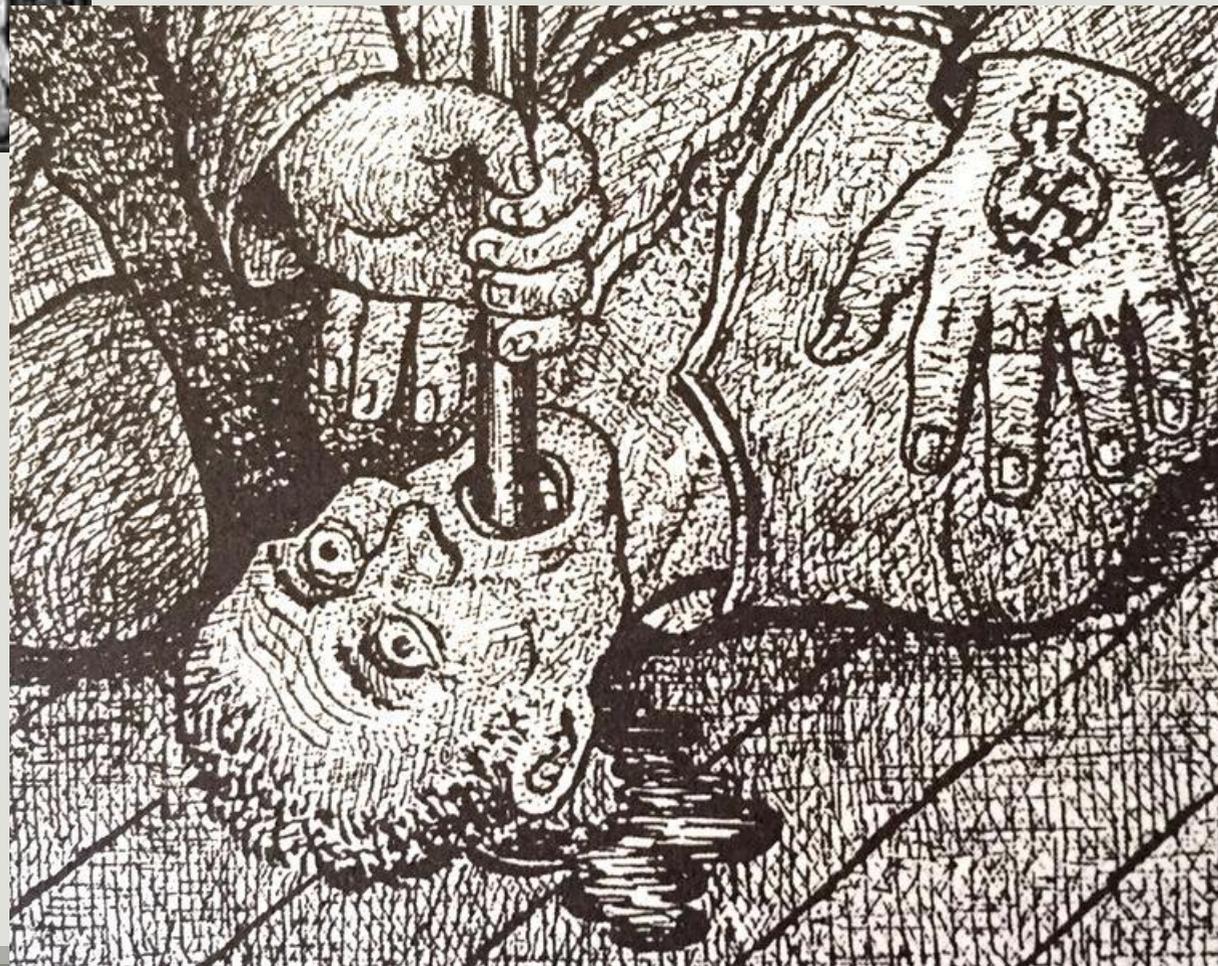
- The "Gulag" was officially established on April 25, 1930
- was the government agency in charge of the Soviet forced-labor camp system
- The emergent consensus among scholars who utilize official archival data is that of the **18 million** who were sent to the Gulag from 1930 to 1953, roughly 1.5 to 1.7 million perished there or as a result of their detention.

Formation of the Gulags

- Conditions at the Gulag were brutal: Prisoners could be required to work up to 14 hours a day, often in extreme weather.
 - Originally Kulaks- then basically any one who resisted Stalinism was sent
- Many died of starvation, disease or exhaustion—others were simply executed.
- The atrocities of the Gulag system have had a long-lasting impact that still permeates Russian society today.







Holodomor (1932-33)

- Means “killing by hunger”
- During Stalin's Plan, millions of inhabitants of Ukraine, the majority of whom were ethnic Ukrainians, died of starvation in a peacetime catastrophe unprecedented in the history of Ukraine
- Teams of Communist Party agitators forced peasants to relinquish their land, personal property, and sometimes housing to collective farms
- they deported so-called kulaks—wealthier peasants—as well as any peasants who resisted collectivization altogether.
- Collectivization led to a drop in production, the disorganization of the rural economy, and food shortages.

Holodomor

- Moscow then requires a quota round up/deportation/execution of “kulaks” on top of this
- At this point kulak means anyone the gov’t doesn’t like
- Starving begins in cities with bread lines; spreads to country
- 6-7 million die (some death tolls up to 10 million)



