

WALLERSTEIN: TWO STATEMENTS

- “THE UNITED STATES CAPITALIZED ON THE COLD WAR AMBIANCE TO LAUNCH MASSIVE ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS, FIRST IN WESTERN EUROPE AND THEN IN JAPAN (AS WELL AS SOUTH KOREA AND TAIWAN). THE RATIONALE WAS OBVIOUS: WHAT WAS THE POINT OF HAVING SUCH OVERWHELMING PRODUCTIVE SUPERIORITY IF THE REST OF THE WORLD COULD NOT MUSTER EFFECTIVE DEMAND?” P. 62
- “WHILE THE UNITED STATES WASN'T WATCHING, THE SOVIET UNION WAS COLLAPSING. YES, RONALD REAGAN HAD DUBBED THE SOVIET UNION AN 'EVIL EMPIRE' AND HAD USED THE RHETORICAL BOMBAST OF CALLING FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE BERLIN WALL, BUT THE UNITED STATES DIDN'T REALLY MEAN IT AND CERTAINLY WAS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SOVIET UNION'S DOWNFALL.” P. 65.