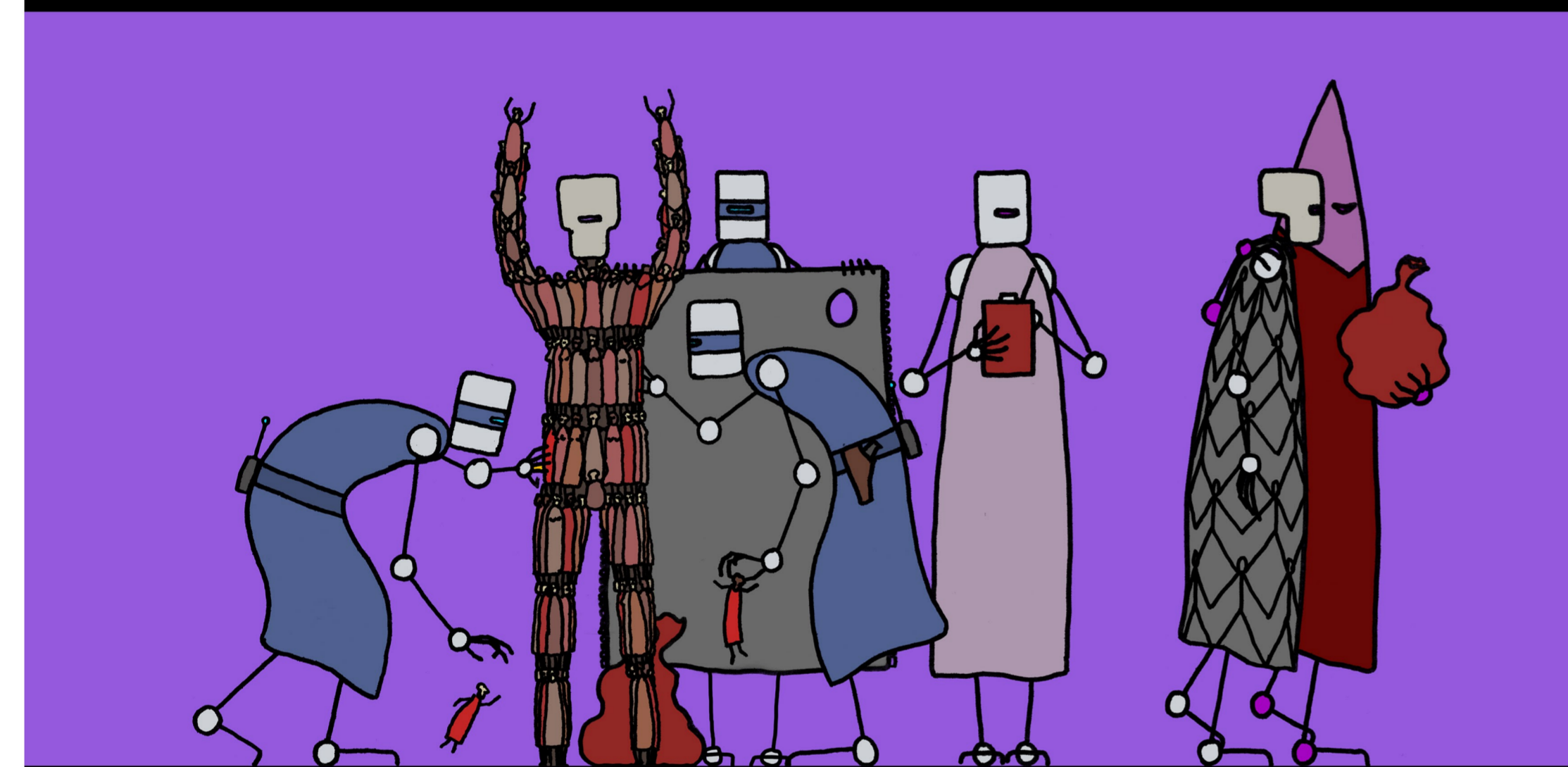


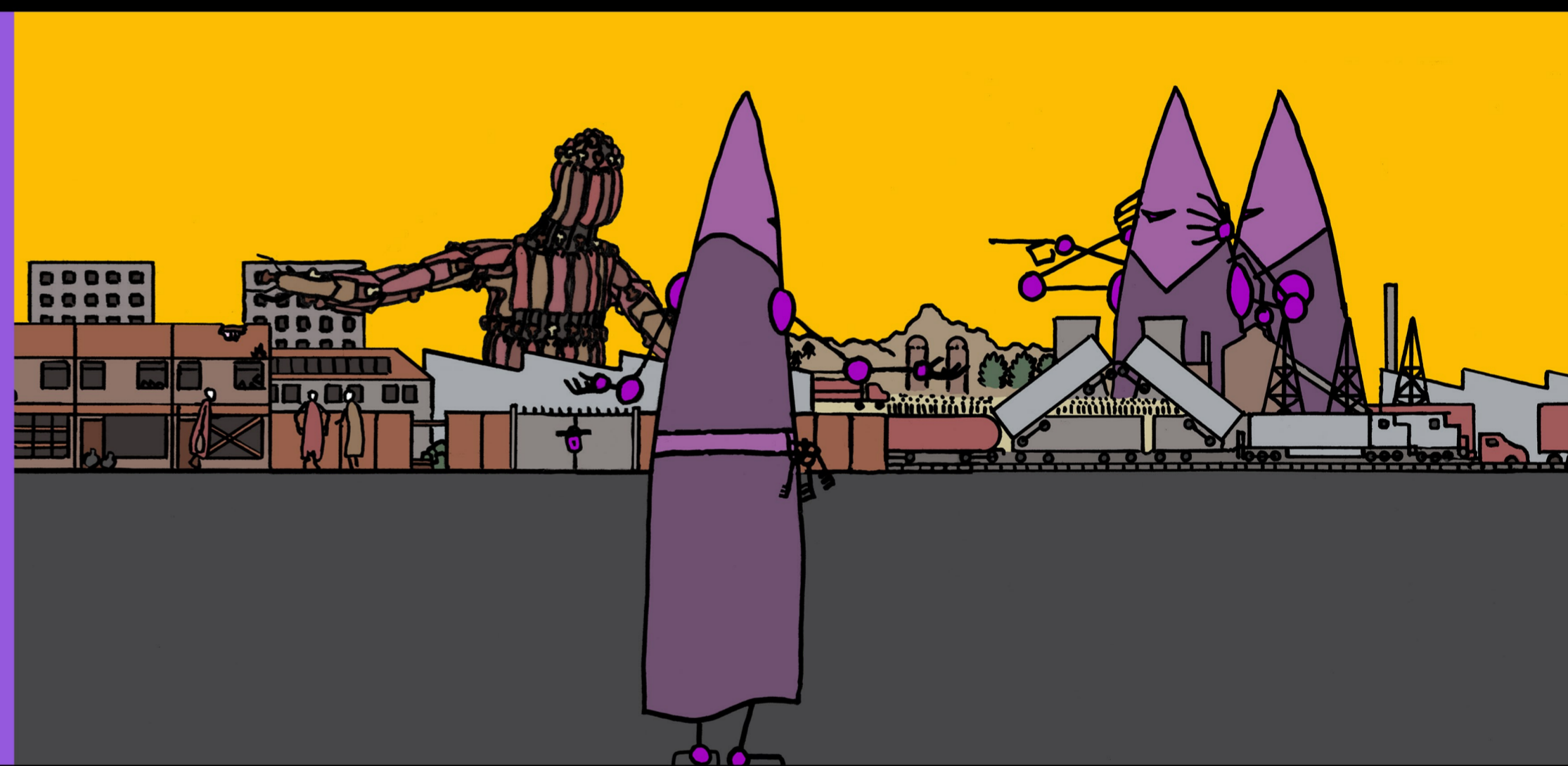
US business had grown rich supplying material for the war but afterwards the devastated countries had hardly any money to buy what they needed to rebuild.



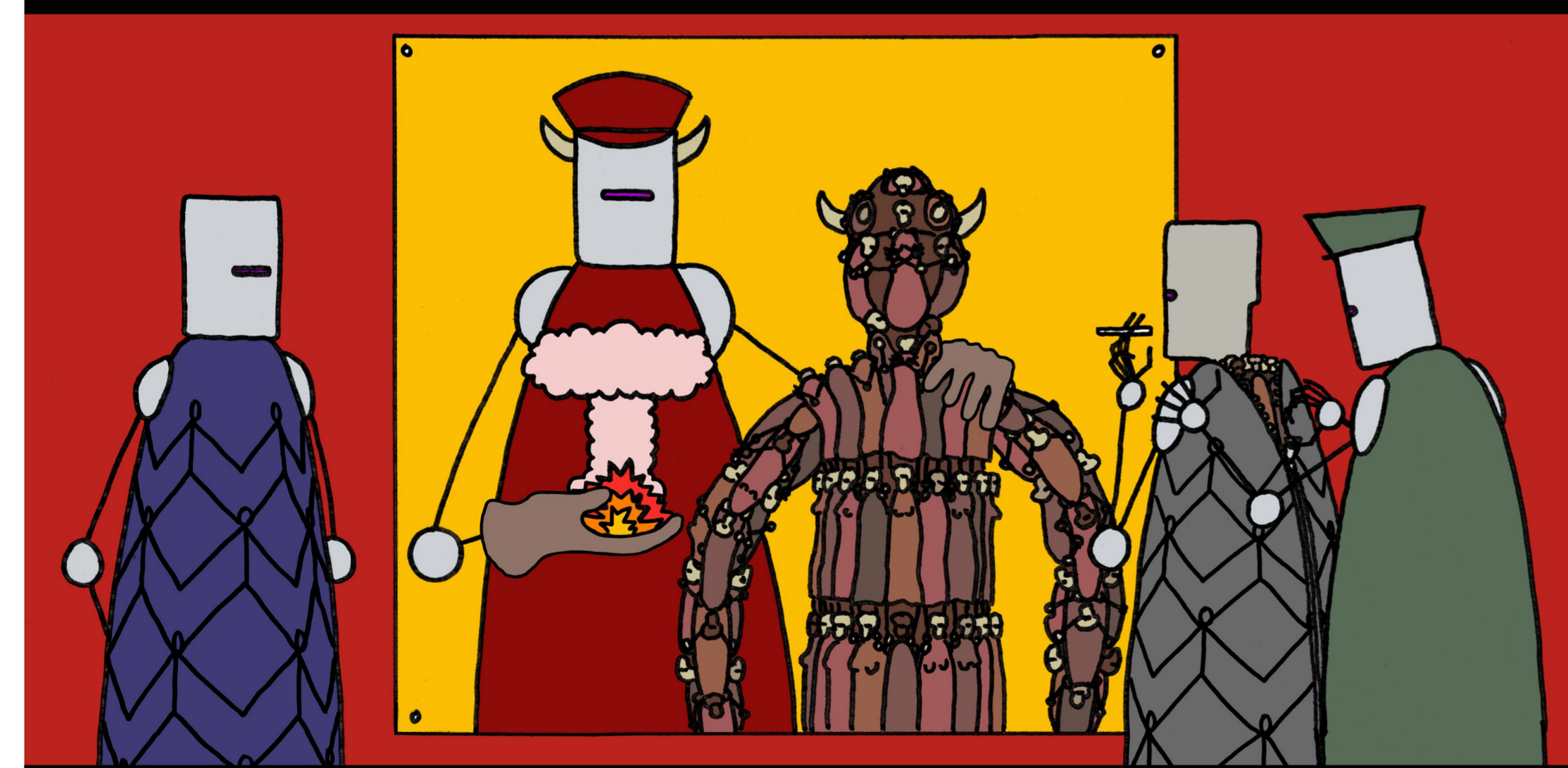
To avoid a slump at home and keen to secure markets for their products, the US gov't gave the war-torn countries a lot of money



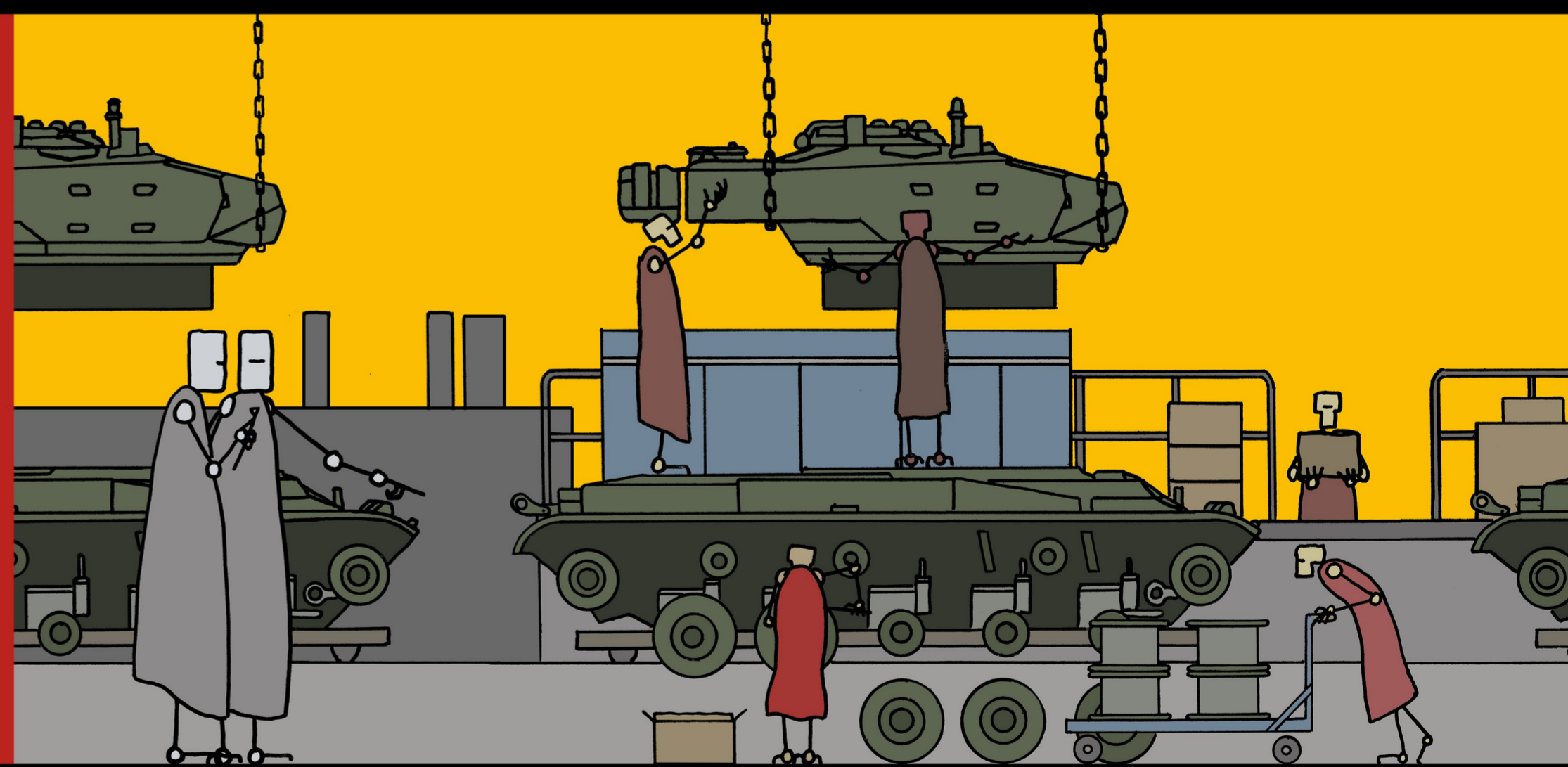
and supervised how it was spent.



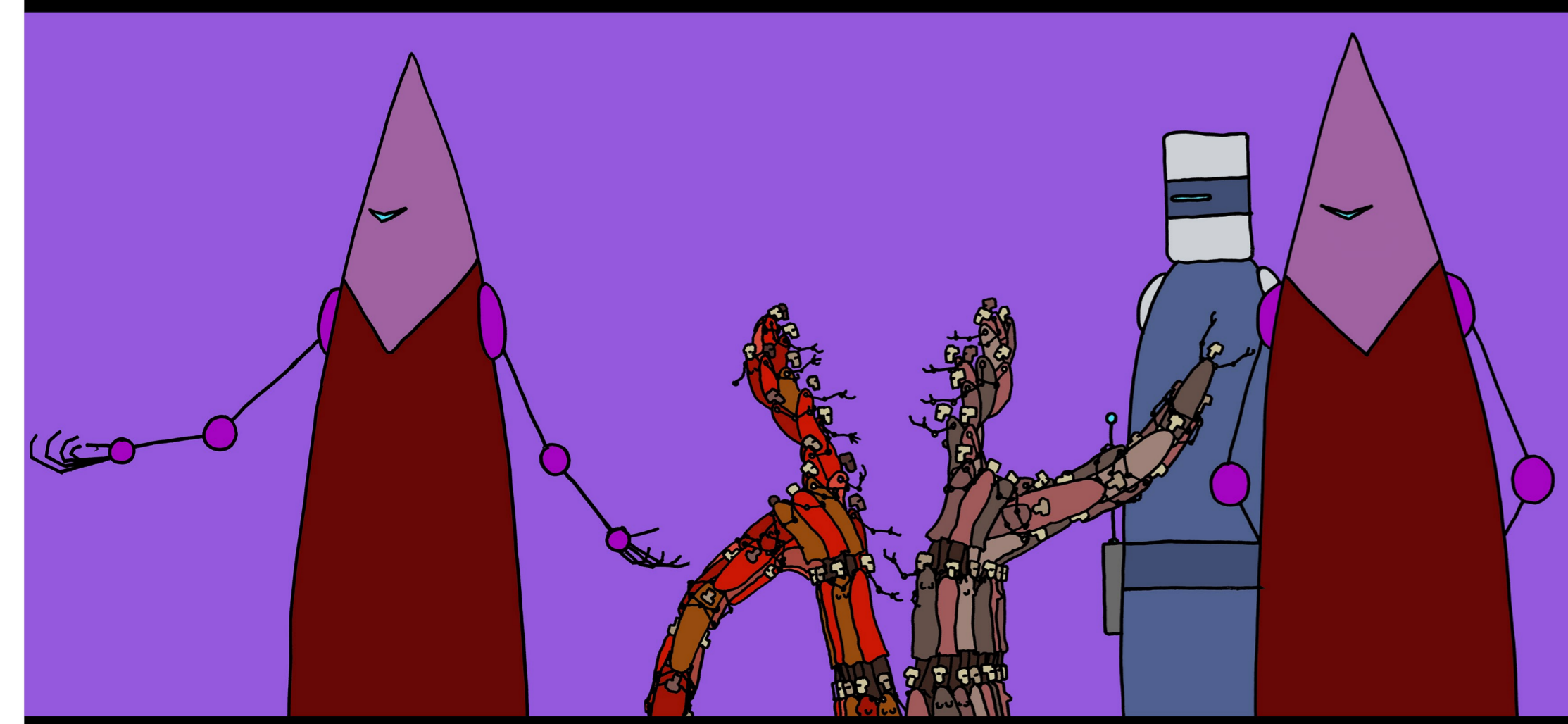
But it wasn't enough to stop unemployment and falling profits in the US.



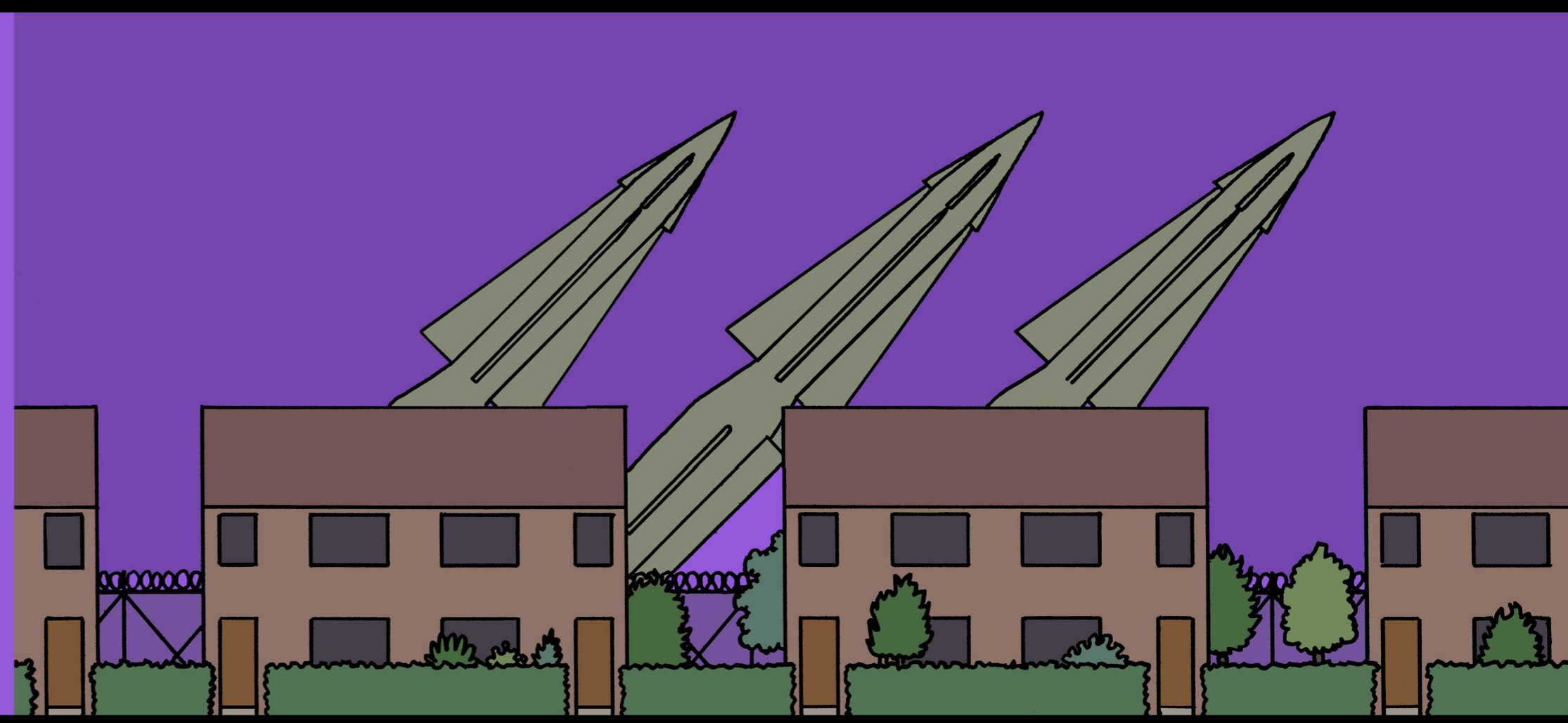
So the US gov't exaggerated the threat of the Soviet Union to justify a massive re-armament programme.



At home the policy kept most people in jobs and profits pouring to powerful industrial and financial interests



and abroad it promised US business access to European markets.



Soon Europe was safe and US companies could invest in confidence.