

MI OPEN BOOK PROJECT

# United

Reconstruction to Today

# States

# History

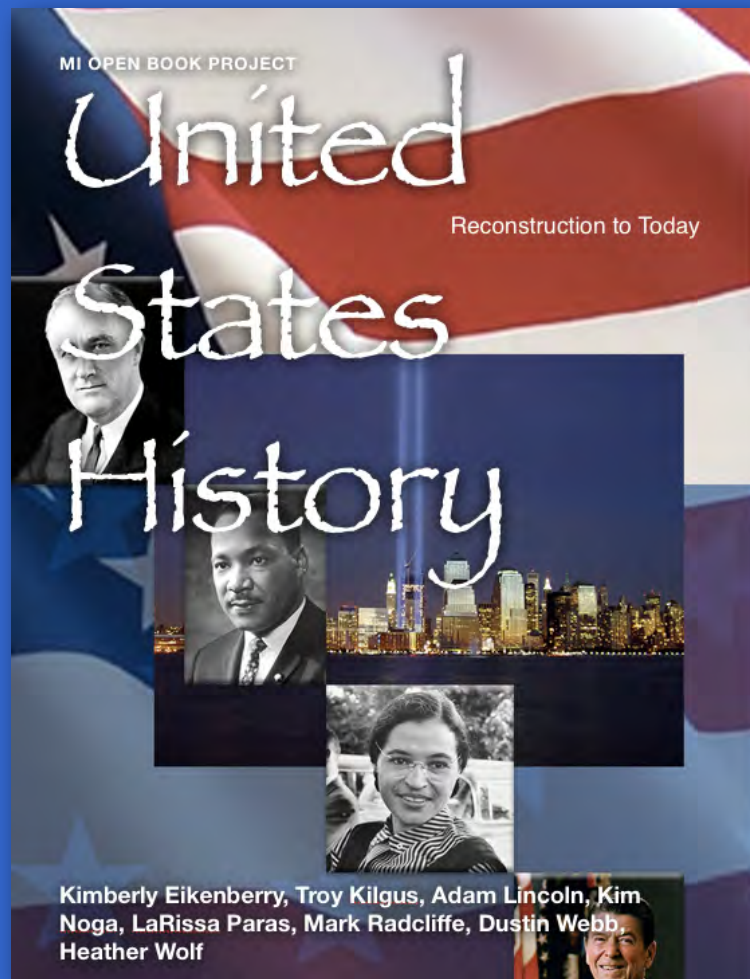


Kimberly Eikenberry, Troy Kilgus, Adam Lincoln,  
Kim Noga, LaRissa Paras, Mike Radcliffe, Dustin  
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# **MICHIGAN** **OPEN BOOK PROJECT**





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Information on the latest version and updates are available on the project homepage: <http://textbooks.wmisd.org/dashboard.html>



# MICHIGAN OPEN BOOK PROJECT

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**MICHIGAN**  
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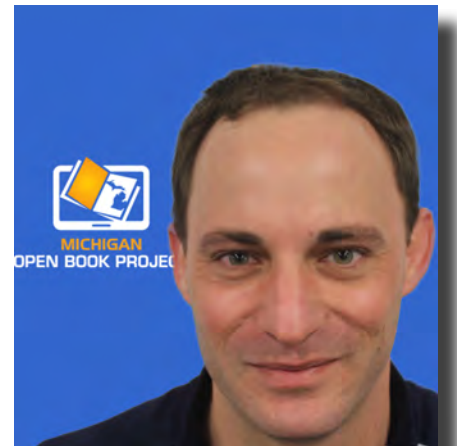


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Adam began his teaching career at Cadillac High School in Cadillac, Michigan where he taught US History, Global Studies, and AP World History. After 7 years, he moved back home to central Michigan to teach at Ithaca Public Schools. While his main charge has been teaching World History and starting the AP World History program, Adam also teaches 8th Grade History, US History, History in Popular Culture and all sorts of computer science classes. Adam coaches Model United Nations, and runs the Jumbotron at Ithaca Community Stadium during events. Adam has served as a member of the Michigan Council for the Social Studies for over a decade and has worked to unite his twin passions of Social Studies and effectively integrating technology into the classroom. Outside of school, Adam has served on the Content Advisory Committee, as a Social Studies item writer for the Department of Education, and worked for the PASST project. Adam teaches History and Social Studies methods classes at Alma College as adjunct faculty. Apart from the world of education, Adam enjoys spending time with his family especially traveling on new adventures.







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Kim has a B.A. in History/ Social Studies and an M.A. in Curriculum and Teaching, both from Michigan State University. For the past 14 years she has been employed at Ionia High School where she teaches Economics, U.S. History, and Humanitarian Studies. Her hobbies include reading and traveling the world.

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LaRissa is an alumni of Central Michigan University and the State University of New York. She is a tenured teacher in New York and now in Michigan where she works and resides with her husband and two rambunctious boys. Currently she is teaching World History and Current Issues at Greenville High School. She and her husband founded LP Inspire, LLC to encourage young people to grow into their best selves. She is also the proud creator of The Lotus Project, a successful mentoring program to help young women become empowered and rise above adversity in a positive way. In her spare time she enjoys reading, yoga, and being outdoors.



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Mike Radcliffe is a native of South Lyon, Michigan. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Colorado State University, followed by a Masters of Arts degree in American Studies from the University of Colorado. Over his 23 years of teaching students in Colorado and Michigan, he has taught Advanced Placement United States History, American Popular Culture, World History, World Geography, Sociology, and Economics. He currently serves as the department chair for the social studies department at Greenville High School, where he has taught the past 15 years. His previous textbook projects include serving as a teacher consultant for textbooks in US History and World Geography for Teachers Curriculum Institute. His interests include his wife of twenty-five years, three amazing children, mountain biking, and really bad puns.

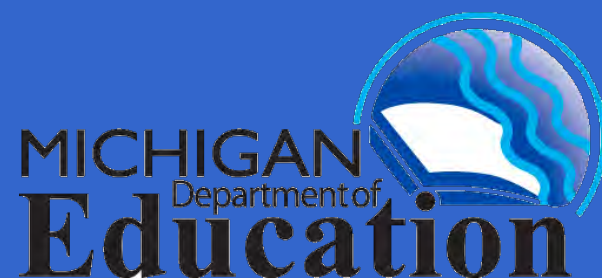


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Dustin graduated from the University of Michigan in 2009 with degrees in history and English. Since then, he has been teaching US History and directing the school play and forensics program at Lake City High School in Lake City, Michigan.

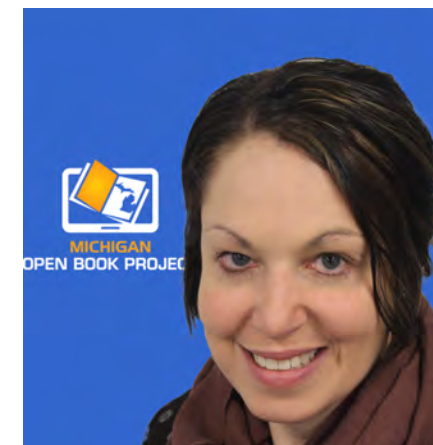
Outside of teaching, Dustin is an avid cyclist and competes in amateur mountain bike races. He is also an avid sailor and enjoys spending his summers in Northport, MI where he teaches sailing to young sailors. Dustin lives in Lake City with his wife and fur child (dog) Otis.

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Heather has taught Social Studies at Shepherd High School for 16 years. She currently teaches American History and Law, but has also taught Modern American History, Civics, Current Events, and History of American Wars in the past. Heather is a graduate of Central Michigan University, where she earned both her undergraduate degree, as well as a Master of Arts in History. She also teaches Social Studies Methods and Pre-Student Teaching courses at CMU. Heather also is the chair of the Social Studies Department at Shepherd High School and is involved in many other facets of the school and community. Heather was named 2009 High School Educator of the Year by the Michigan Council for the Social Studies. She enjoys reading, traveling and spending time with her family.



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Rebecca Bush is currently the Social Studies Consultant at the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District (OAISD), where she assists K-12 social studies teachers in developing curriculum, modeling instructional strategies in social studies literacy, and designing district-level formative and summative assessments. Additionally, as Project Director, she has written and received multiple Teaching American History grants, working with teachers throughout an eight-county radius. She has presented at various national conferences on multiple topics surrounding social studies instruction as well as innovative techniques and topics in formative and summative assessment design. Currently she is Co-Project Director of The Performance Assessments of Social Studies Thinking (PASST) Project and assists with the professional development of teacher writers for the MI Open Book Project where she serves as an editor of several of the project's texts. Rebecca currently leads the Michigan Social

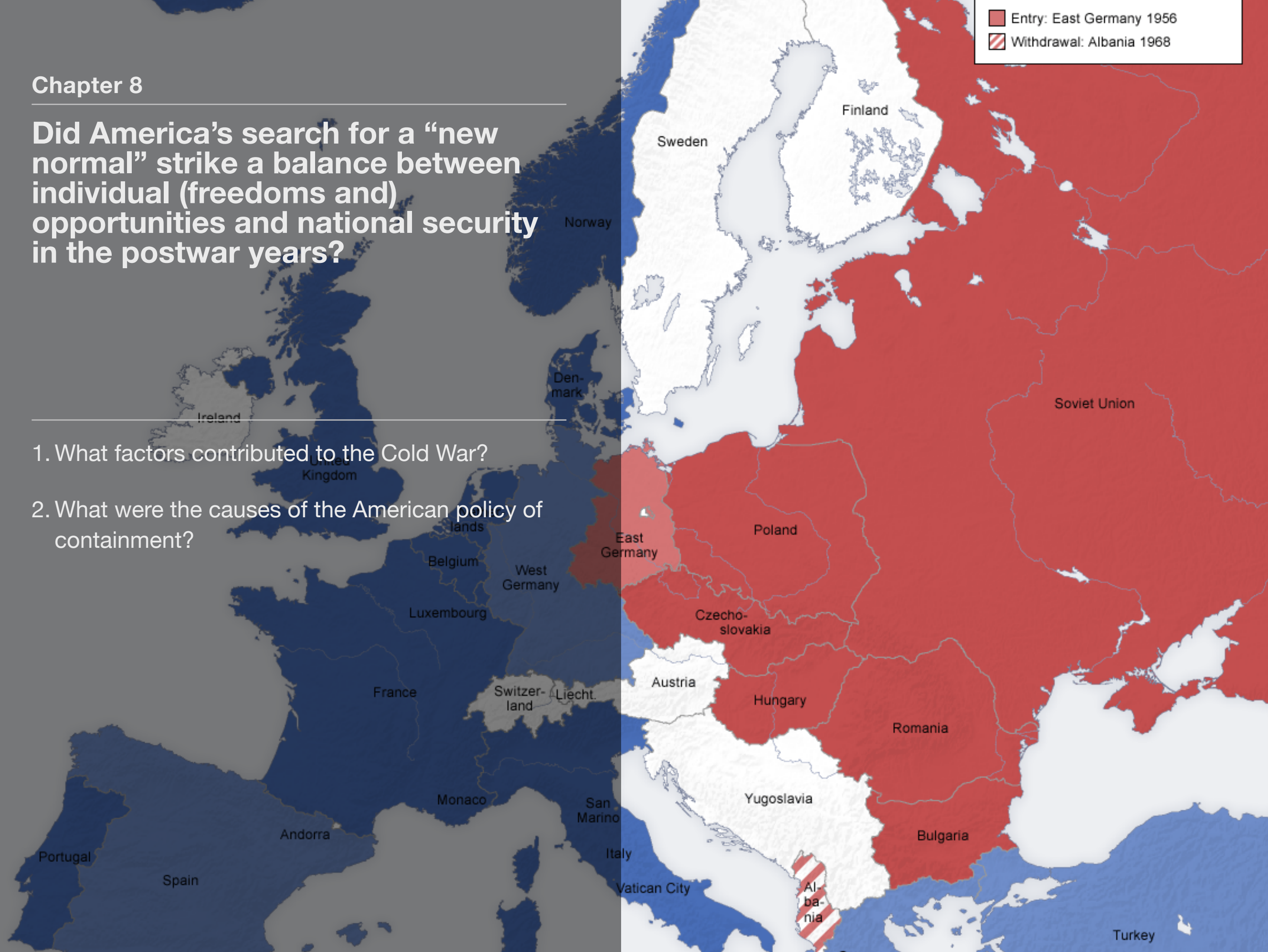




## Chapter 8

**Did America's search for a "new normal" strike a balance between individual (freedoms and) opportunities and national security in the postwar years?**

1. What factors contributed to the Cold War?
2. What were the causes of the American policy of containment?





# Origins of the Cold War

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. What factors contributed to the Cold War?
2. What were the causes of the American policy of containment?

## TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE

Baruch Plan  
Cold War  
Containment  
Harry Truman  
Iron Curtain  
Marshall Plan  
Molotov Plan  
Potsdam Conference  
Satellite Nation  
Truman Doctrine  
Yalta Conference

As Soviet and U.S. soldiers worked together to liberate Germany at the end of World War II in Europe, many on both sides hoped for continued friendship between the two countries. However, problems had been building between the two nations both before and during the war. Combined with the incompatibility of the economic and political systems that drove both countries, significant foreign policy clashes were imminent.



Soldiers from the U.S. and Soviet officers snap a photo during a friendly meeting near the Elbe River in April of 1945. Image source: [https://cdn.theatlantic.com/assets/media/img/photo/2011/10/world-war-ii-the-fall-of-nazi-germany/w32\\_45602386/main\\_900.jpg?1420519043](https://cdn.theatlantic.com/assets/media/img/photo/2011/10/world-war-ii-the-fall-of-nazi-germany/w32_45602386/main_900.jpg?1420519043)

The United States had supported anti-Communist resistance during the Russian Revolution in 1917 and refused to recognize the Soviet Union until 1933. The Soviets had also disagreed bitterly with the United States and Britain about tactics



and postwar plans during World War II. Mutual interest and a common enemy was all that had held the Allies together and, with Germany defeated, the differences between the United States and Soviet Union would soon resurface.



World Leaders at the Yalta Conference. Image source: [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/19/Yalta\\_Conference\\_1945\\_Churchill,\\_Stalin,\\_Roosevelt.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/19/Yalta_Conference_1945_Churchill,_Stalin,_Roosevelt.jpg)

## Postwar Plans

In February of 1945, Roosevelt met with Churchill and Stalin in the Soviet city of Yalta for the Yalta Conference. The goal was to work out a plan for a postwar Europe, and the nations agreed on the division of Germany into American, British, French, and Soviet occupation zones. Poland proved to be a more difficult issue to address. The Soviets had occupied the country and supported a Communist-dominated government. Stalin opposed the return of the pre-war government, believing that a government sympathetic to the Soviets would be necessary to their security needs since Poland had historically served as an invasion route in to Russia. The United States and Britain pushed for self-government and free elections in Eastern Europe, and Stalin agreed to let the Poles hold elections and choose their own type of government.

Stalin also pressed for Germany to pay the Soviet Union \$10 billion in war damages, which Churchill and Roosevelt rejected. These disputes would continue to strain American-Soviet relations.

### Interactive 8.1 Who Said it?

"The question of Poland is ... also a question of security of the state not only because we are on Poland's frontier but also because throughout history Poland has always been a corridor for attack ... It is sufficient that during the last thirty years our German enemy has passed through this corridor twice. This is because Poland was weak ... It is necessary that Poland be free, independent and powerful. It is not only a question of honor but of life and death."

"The peace of the world depends upon the lasting friendship of the three great powers, but His Majesty's Government feel we should be putting ourselves in a false position if we put ourselves in the position of trying to rule the world when our desire is to serve the world and preserve it from a renewal of the frightful horrors which have fallen upon the mass of its inhabitants."

"Never before have the major Allies been more closely united—not only in their war aims but also in their peace aims ... It ought to spell the end of the system of unilateral action, the exclusive alliances, the spheres of influence, the balances of power, and all the other expedients that have been tried for centuries—and have always failed."

Who said it? Read each quote above and drag the portrait of the leader who said it to the orange box next to it.

FDR Roosevelt Winston Churchill Joseph Stalin

Check Answer OPEN BOOK INSTRUCT

*Who Said It? Consider the goals of the three superpowers that met at Yalta and match the quote to the leader.*

One area in which the Allies would agree, however, was on the creation of a new international peacekeeping organization called the United Nations (UN). The United States had refused to join the League of Nations after World War I, and the organization had largely been a failure. This time, policymakers obtained congressional support for the UN. A charter was adopted stating that members would try to settle their differences peacefully. All member nations would receive representation in the UN's General Assembly. Representatives of eleven countries would sit on a Security Council. Permanent members of the Security Council included the United States, Soviet Union, France, Britain, and China. These nations would have veto power over proposed policies. Roosevelt would never live to see his dream of the United Nations fulfilled. Just two weeks before the UN's first meeting in April of 1945, President Roosevelt died unexpectedly. The Vice President of the United States, Harry Truman, now found himself leading the nation.

### Interactive 8.2 The United Nations



*Explore the UN Website: What issues are the United Nations working on today?*

### Division of Germany, 1945

Truman's first meeting with Stalin came outside of Berlin in 1945 at the Potsdam Conference. By this time, the Germans had been defeated and the Allies were finalizing their postwar plans for Germany. The Allies continued to debate the issues that had divided them at Yalta, and Stalin continued to demand that Germany pay reparations. During the conference, Truman received word that the United States had successfully tested its first atomic bomb. He hinted to Stalin that the U.S. had a powerful new weapon, which only fueled Stalin's distrust of the Americans. There was also distrust on the American side since the Soviet Army still occupied much of Eastern Europe, and Truman was unsure of Stalin's intentions. Although Stalin had promised free elections in Eastern Europe, he had not yet kept his promise. Elections had happened in Poland, but the Soviets had rigged them to ensure a communist win.



[http://reichert.bgsu.wikispaces.net/file/view/Germany\\_Map\\_with\\_Berlin.jpg/134450597/337x369/Germany\\_Map\\_with\\_Berlin.jpg](http://reichert.bgsu.wikispaces.net/file/view/Germany_Map_with_Berlin.jpg/134450597/337x369/Germany_Map_with_Berlin.jpg)



Tensions over Poland demonstrated the differing views of the American and Soviet leaders. Americans had fought for democracy and economic opportunity for the nations of Europe and Asia. Seeing these goals achieved would mean an economically strong and politically open world. The United States supported a system of capitalism in which private individuals and businesses would make most economic decisions. The Soviets, on the other hand, regarded capitalism as an unjust system with great inequalities between the working and upper classes. The Soviets had also lost 20 million people during the war and suffered significant destruction. They wanted to rebuild the world in a way that would offer security and protection. One way to accomplish this goal would be to create a buffer zone of friendly communist states to protect them from invasion.

Developing **satellite nations**, or nations subject to Soviet domination, would create a group of nations friendly to communist goals.

### Interactive 8.3 Comparing Economic Systems



*What are some of the differences between capitalism and communism?*

## Tensions Among Superpowers

The Postwar World. The Soviets quickly gained control over Eastern Europe in areas that had been freed from the Nazis. In many cases, the Soviets silenced anti-communist opposition to ensure the rise of communist governments. For example, in Hungary, Soviet troops remained in the country and demanded Communist control of the police. The arrest of anti-communist leaders allowed Communists to win the elections. In East Germany, Stalin established national control of all resources and installed a totalitarian government.

In February 1946, Stalin delivered a speech attacking capitalism.

He declared that peace was impossible so long as capitalism continued to exist. He predicted the ultimate triumph of communism over capitalism. A month later, Winston Churchill responded in a speech calling on Americans to help keep Stalin from closing the **iron curtain** of Communist domination. This term came to refer to the growing barrier dividing Eastern and Western Europe into two separate regions.

## The Iron Curtain

These two speeches would set the stage for the **Cold War**, the competition between the United States and the Soviet Union for power and influence in the world. This conflict would last until the collapse of the Soviet Union nearly fifty years later. The tension between these nations would be characterized by political and

economic conflict and military tensions. The rivalry stopped just short of a direct military engagement between the two nations, although both would engage in indirect combat in other nations.



Image source: [http://resourcesforhistoryteachers.wikispaces.com/file/view/cold\\_war\\_mp.jpg/30572399/395x354/cold\\_war\\_mp.jpg](http://resourcesforhistoryteachers.wikispaces.com/file/view/cold_war_mp.jpg/30572399/395x354/cold_war_mp.jpg)

“From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the Continent. Behind that lie all the capitals of ... Central and Eastern Europe ... The Communist parties, which were very small in all these Eastern States of Europe, have been raised to preeminence and power far beyond their numbers and are seeking everywhere to obtain totalitarian control ... This is certainly not the Liberated Europe we fought to build up. Nor is it one which contains the essentials of permanent peace.”

“Iron Curtain” speech, Winston Churchill, March 5, 1946

## Political Cartoon Analysis:

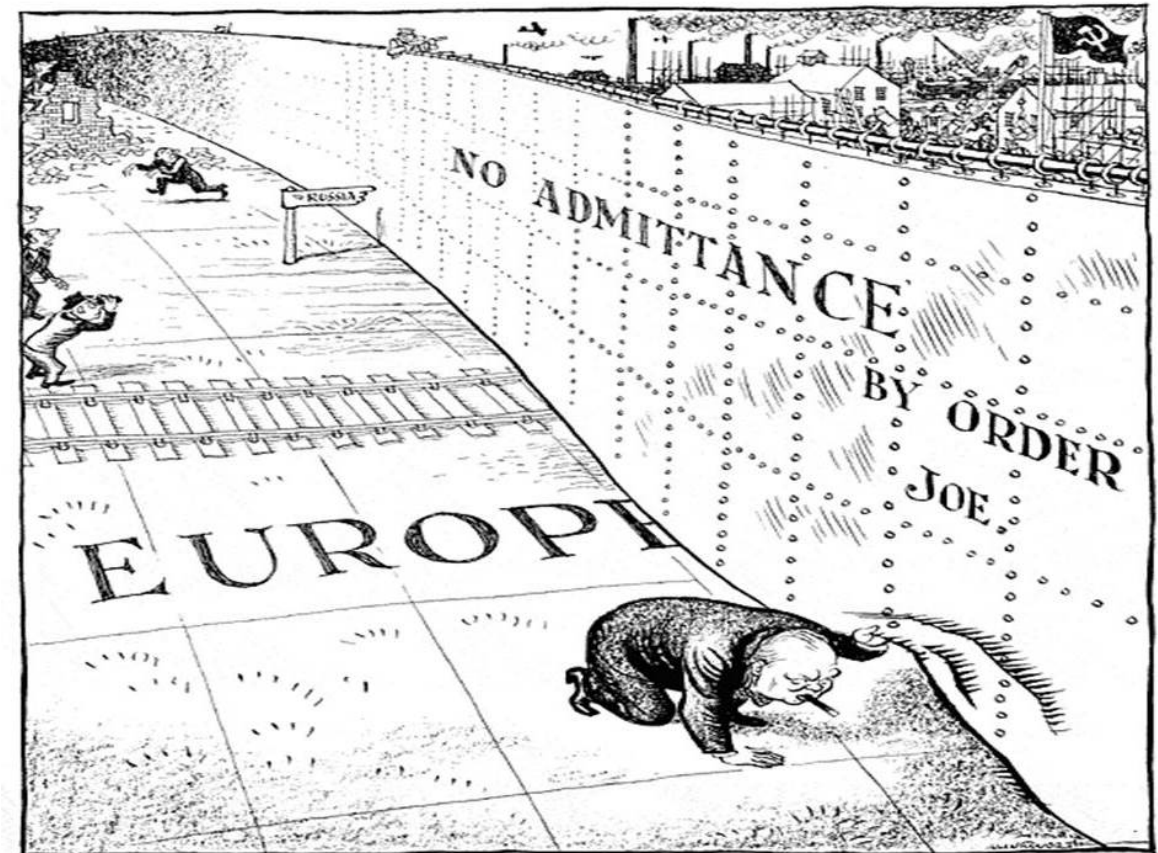


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What symbols do you see in this cartoon? What are their meanings?

Do you think the “iron curtain” is designed to keep people out or keep people in?

What message is the artist trying to communicate?



Part of the reason the conflict never developed into a “hot” war was because the threat of nuclear attacks compelled both countries to show restraint in their use of force. In the age of the atomic bomb, the effects of a superpower conflict was more frightening. However, it did fuel the race to develop nuclear weapons. The United States continued to test and improve its nuclear capabilities. Nuclear testing continued into the 1950s, and for a few years the United States was the only country with an atomic bomb. Soviet scientists, however, were working to develop their own.

Because Truman recognized the damage an atomic bomb could do, he asked the United Nations to help limit the development and use of atomic energy, or the power released from a nuclear reaction. Truman sent one of his advisors, Bernard Baruch, to the UN to explain his position to the UN Atomic Energy Commission. Baruch explained that he hoped to see controls on raw materials used in making the bomb and a ban on any future bombs. This proposal, known as the **Baruch Plan**, would allow the United States to retain its small nuclear stockpile. However, it would stop the Soviet Union from their development of an atomic weapon. This prompted strong opposition from the Soviets, who stated that talks about international controls on weapons could continue only if the U.S. destroyed their atomic weapons. The Soviet Union refused to discuss the terms of the Baruch Plan and this effort at nuclear arms control came to an end.

## Confronting the Communist Threat

In 1946, an American diplomat named George Kennan analyzed Soviet behavior and policy. He sent what became known as the “Long Telegram” to the U.S. Secretary of State, which would become the basis of American foreign policy for decades.

Kennan pointed out that the Soviets were committed to the belief that the American way of life must be destroyed if their power were to ever be secure. He indicated that the Soviets would be cautious yet persistent in their goal to defeat capitalism and expand their sphere of influence. From Kennan’s analysis, the policy of **containment** emerged. Kennan believed that Soviet expansion should be restricted, although he viewed this as more of a political strategy than a military one. By containing the Soviets within their present borders, Kennan believed that communism would eventually crumble and collapse on its own.

### The Long Telegram, 1946

“The Soviet Union cannot be easily defeated or discouraged by a single victory on the part of its opponents ... but only by intelligent long-range policies ... no less steady in their purpose ... than those of the Soviet Union itself. In these circumstances, it is clear that the main element of any United States policy toward the Soviet Union must be that of a long-term, patient but firm and vigilant containment of Russian expansive tendencies.”

George Kennan, *Sources of Soviet Conduct*, July 1947

**Document Analysis.** Read “*Sources of Soviet Conduct*” and address the following elements:

To whom is it addressed?

Reason for the source

Who is the author

Immediate impact

Time period

Subsequent impact

Concerns about Soviet expansion were not limited to Eastern Europe. Both Greece and Turkey faced communist takeovers.

When communist rebels attempted to gain control of the Greek government, civil war erupted. Britain began sending troops and money to assist the government forces. Britain also tried to assist Turkey, who was experiencing pressure from the Soviets.

The Soviet Union was interested in controlling the Dardanelles, a strait in Turkey that would give Soviet ports on the Black Sea access to the Mediterranean. Facing severe economic problems in the aftermath of World War II, Britain announced that they could no longer afford to help Greece and Turkey. In 1947, Truman addressed Congress and called on the United States to take a leadership role. In that speech, he outlined a policy that would become known as the Truman Doctrine. Truman stated, “It



[http://www.history.com/s3static/video-thumbnails/AETN-History\\_Prod/74/943/History\\_Speeches\\_1144\\_The\\_Truman\\_Doctrine\\_still\\_624x352.jpg](http://www.history.com/s3static/video-thumbnails/AETN-History_Prod/74/943/History_Speeches_1144_The_Truman_Doctrine_still_624x352.jpg)



must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation [conquest] by armed minorities or by outside pressures.” Responding to Truman’s plea, Congress dedicated \$400 million in aid for Greece and Turkey. With U.S. aid and military equipment, the Greek government was able to defeat the communist rebels. Turkey was also able to resist communist pressure and maintain control of the Dardanelles. The Truman Doctrine committed the United States to Kennan’s policy of containment, and demonstrated the American desire to limit communism to the countries in which it already existed.

The United States also hoped to create stable democracies and achieve economic recovery in Europe. By helping to restore war-torn nations, Americans hoped that they would be better able to resist communist threats.

The Marshall Plan was a recovery plan that offered generous funding to European nations, including the Soviet Union, to rebuild their economies as long as the money was spent on goods made in the United States. This policy would reinforce the Truman Doctrine in its policy of containment, and further boost the economy of the United States. The Soviet Union questioned the motives of the Marshall plan and refused, pressuring its

satellite nations to do so as well. They believed the real purpose of the plan was to create an American sphere of influence in Europe. To compete with their rival, the Soviets created the Molotov Plan which was designed to aid the economy recovery in Eastern Europe.

#### Interactive 8.4 Truman



*Listen to Truman’s Speech here!*



The Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan have often been called “two halves of the same walnut”, different in many ways but sharing the same purpose. Can you identify the similarities and differences between the two plans?

#### Interactive 8.5 Containment



*Need Help with the “Stop and Think” above? Check this resource!*

By 1949, the alliance between the Soviet Union and United States had turned into one of suspicion. Both nations held different visions for the world. Although hostilities between the nations often heated up, it never led to direct armed conflict between them. It was for that reason that the rivalry between the Soviet Union and United States became known as the Cold War. Both sides knew that if the growing hostility between them were to turn hot, it could result in another world war.



## Section 2

# The Cold War Abroad

### QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. What factors contributed to the Cold War?
2. What were the causes of the American policy of containment?

### TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE

38th Parallel  
Arms Race  
Berlin Airlift  
Demilitarized Zone  
Douglas MacArthur  
Korean War  
Mao Zedong  
NATO  
Warsaw Pact

### East and West Germany Formed

By 1948, American, French, and British leaders were confident that Stalin was not going to allow the reunification of Germany. They decided to combine their zones to create the Federal Republic of Germany, or West Germany.

The western part of Berlin, which was located within the Soviet zone, was to also become a part of West Germany.

The Soviets responded by creating the German Democratic Republic, or East Germany. Capitalist West Berlin and Communist East Berlin would become a symbol of the struggle between the Soviet Union and Western powers. On June 24, the Soviets implemented a blockade on Berlin that would stop all land travel and shipments into the city from Allied occupation zones. This became known as the Berlin Blockade, and threatened to create severe shortages of food and other supplies needed by the people of West Berlin. The Soviets hoped this this would force the Allies to either give up Berlin or their plans for a West German state.

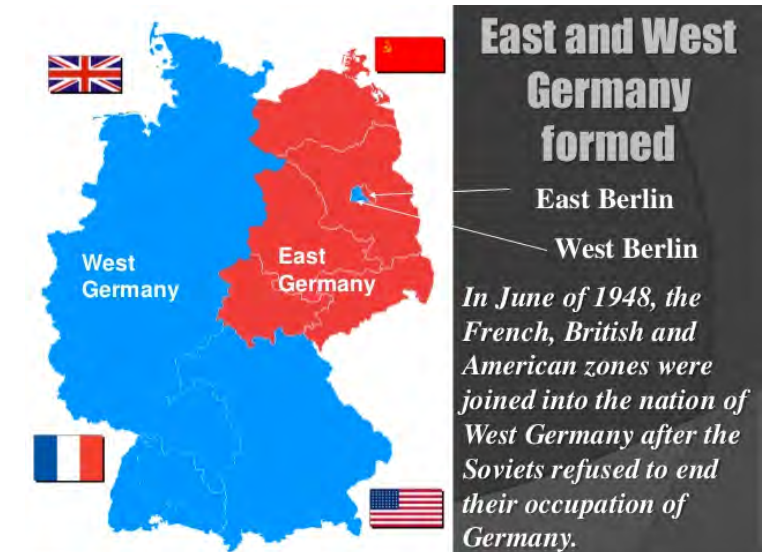
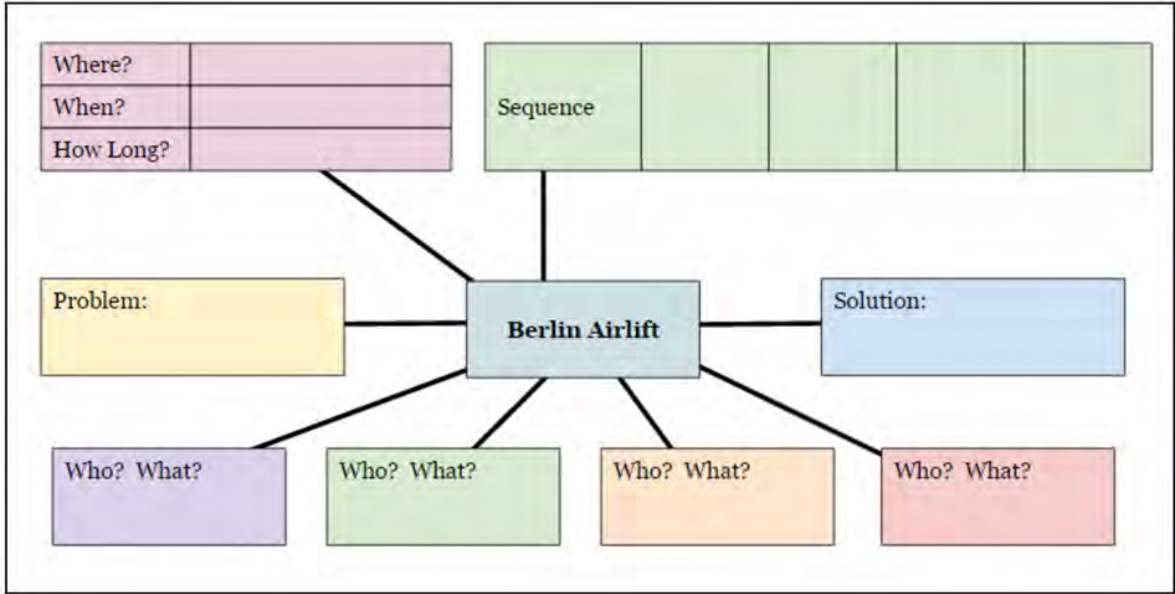


Image source: <http://image.slidesharecdn.com/the-cold-war-begins-141105153104-conversion-gate01/95/the-cold-war-begins-20-638.jpg?cb=1415201644>

Truman did not want to risk war by using the military to force open the transportation routes, but he was also not willing to lose West Berlin to the Soviets. Instead he began the **Berlin Airlift**, moving supplies into West Berlin by plane. Over the next ten months, pilots made more than 270,000 flights into West Berlin carrying nearly 2.5 million tons of supplies. The Soviets finally gave up the blockade in May of 1949, and Germany officially became two countries. Berlin also remained divided between East and West.



Digging Deeper. Complete an Episodic Summary of the Berlin Airlift using [the Office of the Historian](#). Use the model Graphic Organizer below by recreating it on a separate sheet of paper or in Google Docs.



As divisions increased in Europe, the superpowers began to form new military alliances as well. With the Soviet Union’s use of its veto power in the Security Council of the UN, it became clear to Western Europe that they would have to look for another means by which to protect itself from Soviet aggression. In April 1949, several nations joined to form the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (**NATO**). This organization included the United States, Canada, and ten Western European nations. The founders included nations such as Britain and France, with Greece, Turkey, and West Germany following a few years later.

Member nations agreed that an armed attack on one of them would be considered an attack against them all. This plan for collective security meant that they would commit to mutual military assistance, and the nations formed a standing army to defend Western Europe in the event of a Soviet invasion. The creation of NATO prompted the Soviet Union to form their own security alliance called the **Warsaw Pact**. This organization was comprised mostly by the Soviet satellite nations in Eastern Europe.

**Interactive 8.6** What is NATO?



Use this interactive map to answer questions about NATO’s activities today. Describe one of NATO’s current missions. How does it support NATO’s purpose?

Identify five troop contributing partners.

Where are three command and control stations? What are their responsibilities?

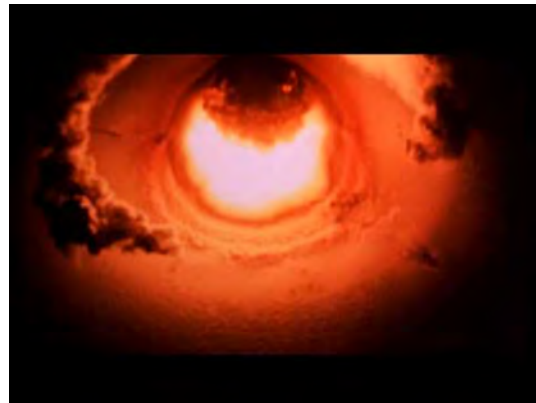


## The Cold War Heats Up

In 1949, Truman made an announcement that the Soviets had tested their first atomic bomb. His response was to forge ahead with the creation of a new weapon that would give the United States the upper hand in nuclear development. In 1950, Truman approved the development of a hydrogen bomb which would be much more destructive than the atomic bomb. The first successful test occurred in 1952, instantly vaporizing an entire island and leaving behind a crater more than a mile wide. The Soviets would follow three years later with their first hydrogen bomb, leaving both superpowers in possession of thermonuclear weapons. One American test called Castle Bravo in 1954 at Bikini Island in the Pacific contaminated Japanese fishermen some 90 miles from the blast, causing severe radiation burns.

As the United States continued to test the hydrogen bomb, it became clear that nuclear war could threaten the world with radioactive contamination. This struggle between the United States and Soviet Union to gain weapons superiority was called the **arms race**.

### Interactive 8.7 Castle Bravo



*Watch for information about Castle Bravo.*

## Hungary Tests Containment

Not long after the creation of the Warsaw Pact, upheaval in Hungary tested the policy of containment. In 1956, thousands of Hungarians revolted against the communist government and demanded a democratic political system with freedom from Soviet oppression. The leader of the rebellion, Imre Nagy, boldly declared that Hungary would withdraw from the Warsaw Pact and become a neutral country. He also appealed to Western nations to help protect them from Soviet aggression.

Soviet leaders responded quickly by sending tanks and Red Army troops. After killing thousands of protesters, the Soviets placed Soviet-backed leaders into power and put Nagy to death. The event stunned many people, including Hungarians who were shocked when American forces failed to help them. The United States, however, was



Uprising in Hungary <http://skepticism-images.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/images/jreviews/Soviet-Tanks-Budapest.jpg>

unwilling to risk war with the Soviet Union to free a satellite nation.

## China Falls to Communism

During World War II, Chinese Communists led by Mao Zedong and Nationalists led by Chiang Kai-Shek had joined forces to fight Japan. With the defeat of Japan, the two groups turned on one another once again in a civil war for control of China. The United States provided economic and military assistance to Chiang Kai-Shek even though he was viewed by many as corrupt and inefficient. Despite the aid, the Nationalists were defeated by Mao's forces. Mao declared the

creation of the People's Republic of China and the Nationalists fled to Taiwan, an island off the coast of China.

Many Americans criticized Truman for the "loss of China", fearing they would form an alliance with the Soviet Union that would threaten U.S.

interests across the globe.

Although China remained a key ally of the USSR, they pursued their own interests and rejected Soviet control. The United

States cut off all trade with China and refused to recognize the new state. The U.S. continued to refer to the Nationalists in Taiwan as the legitimate government until the 1970s. The United States also opposed China's admission to the United Nations.



Analysis: Although communism took different forms in the Soviet Union and China, the United States perspective about the need to contain and destroy it remained the same. Why do you think this is?

## Interactive 8.8 Intpretation Match



*Karl Marx developed the original theory of communism, but the Soviet Union and China each developed their own interpretations. Read **the resource** and match the interpretations below with the correct theory of communism.*



## The Korean War

Similar to China, Korea was freed from Japanese control at the end of World War II. At that time, Soviet troops occupied the Korean Peninsula north of the **38th parallel**, a latitude line that crosses the center of Korea. The United States occupied the southern part of the peninsula. The Soviets established a pro-Soviet, communist government in the north while the U.S. backed a non-communist regime in the south led by Kim Il-Sung. This arrangement would eventually erupt in the Korean War in 1950.

The war began when North Korean troops invaded the south.

Their goal was to reunite Korea under communist rule. Truman responded by ordering U.S. forces to repel the invaders and

turning to the UN for help.

The UN condemned the invasion and called on its members to help South Korea. A joint force of troops from fifteen nations was created and placed under the command of Douglas MacArthur.

MacArthur had led troops in the island-hopping campaign in the Pacific against the Japanese in

World War II, and had established a democracy in Japan during the postwar occupation period. He was a brilliant military strategist that developed a bold plan to drive the invaders from South Korea.

With Soviet tanks and airpower, the North Koreans had conquered most of South Korea in a matter of weeks. Only one port city, called Pusan, remained unconquered. MacArthur decided to first send forces to defend the city and then to attack enemy supply lines from behind by landing at Inchon. The North Korean forces found themselves caught between UN forces in the north and the south, and with their supply lines cut off, they began to flee back across the 38th parallel. UN troops pursued them northward, nearly reaching the Chinese border. As the troops approached the border with China, the Chinese warned them not to advance any further. MacArthur ignored the warning, and Chinese troops took the offensive with tens of thousands streaming over the border into North Korea. An army of North Korean and Chinese troops pushed the UN forces back to the 38th parallel where a stalemate developed.

### Interactive 8.9 Korean War



*Use the interactive website to learn more about the Korean War (Requires flash, may not work on an iPad - use a desktop for best experience)*



Image source: <https://www-tc.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/macarthur/maps/images/koreatext/4.gif>

MacArthur wanted to break the stalemate by calling for an expansion of the conflict into China. He proposed blockading China's ports and bombing their major industrial centers.

President Truman rejected this plan, fearing that a war with China would be the onset of another global war. MacArthur would not back down and publicly questioned the president's decision.

Truman fired him for insubordination. MacArthur returned home and made an emotional farewell, saying that "old soldiers never die, they just fade away." Truman maintained his limited war, which would drag on for two more years.



You will read one of the documents **on this site** and analyze it: What does this document suggest about American policy in the Korean War?



**Dueling Documents:** Partner up with a classmate who read the other document.

- Share the conclusions that you drew from the document.
- These documents are competing for the best perspective about how the United States should have handled the Korean War. Who should win the duel?
- Come to a consensus and be prepared to share which document won the duel and why. Which would have been the more effective application of the policy of containment?



Analysis: Why might historians arrive at different conclusions about the past?

The final years of the war remained a stalemate with most of the fighting occurring around the 38th parallel. In 1953, the two sides signed an armistice to end the conflict. The agreement left the peninsula divided along the 38th parallel and created a buffer zone called the **demilitarized zone (DMZ)**. No military force from either side would be allowed to enter the DMZ. The Korean War caused much frustration for Americans, who had lost 54,000 soldiers with limited results. At the end of the war, North Koreans



became increasingly isolated from the rest of the world while South Korea continued its economic and political ties to the United States. The hopes for a unified and democratic Korea faded away, and many wondered if the American government was serious about stopping the spread of communism.



What If? Imagine that the United States had followed the suggestions of Douglas MacArthur and expanded the war into China. How might the outcomes of the Korean War have been different?

# The Cold War at Home

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. What factors contributed to the Cold War?
2. What were the causes of the American policy of containment?

## TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE

Federal Employees Loyalty and Security Program  
Loyalty Review Board  
House Committee on Un-American Activities  
Blacklist  
McCarran Internal Security Act  
McCarthyism

## Fear of Communist Influence Runs Rampant

While the latest conflict abroad was seen as a stalemate, the concern by many Americans back home was an increased fear of communist aggression in the U.S. As several incidents came to light, strong anti-Communist Republicans were quick to accuse those in the Truman administration of being soft on communism. In March of 1947, President Truman issued an executive order establishing the **Federal Employees Loyalty and Security Program**. Included in this order was the establishment of the **Loyalty Review Board** whose purpose was to investigate government employees and dismiss those found to be disloyal to the U.S. government. Although “disloyalty” was never clearly defined, between 1947 and 1951, government loyalty boards investigated over 3 million employees, dismissing 212 of them as security risks. Individuals under investigation were not allowed to see the evidence against them or even to know who had accused them of being disloyal.

In addition to agencies investigating government employees, other agencies were established to investigate possible Communist influence inside and outside the government. The most well known was the **House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUAC)**, developed from a congressional committee originally created prior to WWII to search out disloyalty. HUAC first made headlines in 1947, as it began to investigate Communist influence in the movie industry.



The city of Hollywood had a substantial number of Communists, former Communists, and socialists. Combined with the production of several pro-Soviet films during the war, after 1945, some argued that subversives were promoting Soviet propaganda; HUAC wanted to get rid of Communist influences in the film industry. In September of 1947, 43 subpoenas were issued to witnesses from the Hollywood film industry. Ten witnesses deemed to be “unfriendly” decided not to cooperate and refused to answer the committee’s questions thus being sent to prison. Hollywood executives responded to the hearings by instituting a **blacklist**. Those possessing a Communist background who were blacklisted (approximately 500 actors, writers, producers, and directors) were no longer allowed to work in the film industry.

While HUAC hearings were occurring in Hollywood, Congress had decided that the Loyalty Review Board had not gone far enough to protect the nation’s security and in 1950 passed the McCarran Internal Security Act, making it illegal to plan any action that might lead to the establishment of a totalitarian dictatorship in the U.S. President Truman vetoed the bill because he felt that

the bill went too far in stripping individuals of their civil liberties. Congress enacted the law over his veto.

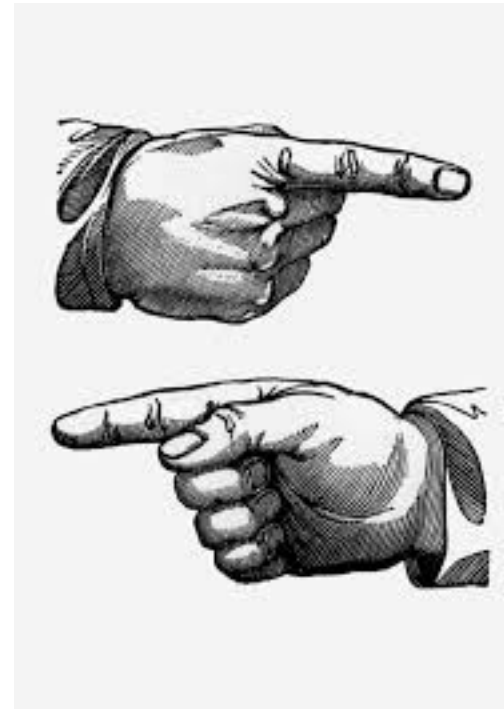
### Interactive 8.10 HUAC - The Hollywood Blacklist



*To view some actual footage from some of HUAC’s hearings, watch this short, informative video:*

### Point/Counterpoint: Thinking with a Civics Lens

As you think about the government’s role in eliminating Communist fears during this time period, consider the question in the stop and think box below.



Did Anti-Communist Measures at the Onset of the Cold War Threaten Civil Liberties and Domestic Freedoms in the United States? **This website** provides excellent arguments on both sides of the compelling question:

## Stunning Spy Cases Validate Communist Fears

The first spy case that occurred in 1948 involved a former State Department official named Alger Hiss. A former communist spy named Whittaker Chambers had accused Hiss of spying for the Soviet Union. Chambers claimed that Hiss had typed government documents on his personal typewriter which he produced on microfilm. Although too many years had passed for prosecutors to charge Hiss with espionage, he was convicted of lying about passing the documents and was sent to jail. Even though Hiss continued to claim his innocence, Soviets released



Image source: <http://cdn.quotationof.com/images/alger-hiss-3.jpg>

cables in 1990 which appeared to confirm that Hiss had been guilty of espionage.

## The Case of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg

The case of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg was even more impactful than the Hiss case--not because it involved two individuals but because of the international events that played a part in the case.

After the war had ended with the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, most American experts had predicted that it would take the Soviets three to five years to figure out how to construct an atomic bomb of their own. On September 23, 1949, Americans had learned that the Soviet Union had exploded an atomic bomb. This caused people to wonder whether or not the Soviets had stolen the secret of the bomb.

In 1950, Klaus Fuchs, a British physicist, admitted to giving information about America's atomic bomb to the Soviets. It was predicted that because of the sharing of this information that the Soviets had been able to construct their own atomic bomb about eighteen months earlier than they would have otherwise. The arrest of Fuchs in England set off a chain of arrests in the U.S.

Fuchs first implicated Harry Gold as the middleman between himself and the Soviets. Gold then implicated David Greenglass, one of Fuch's co-workers on the Manhattan Project. Greenglass then implicated his sister-in-law Ethel Rosenberg along with her husband Julius Rosenberg. By the summer of 1950, the Rosenbergs were arrested in New York City. They were both



found guilty and sentenced to death. The Rosenbergs were executed at Sing Sing prison in June of 1953 despite multiple appeals for clemency from around the world.

### **Interactive 8.11** The Rosenbergs



*To view some footage of their arrest and trial, watch this short video*

### **McCarthy Goes on a “Witch Hunt”**

Joseph McCarthy, a Republican senator from Wisconsin, felt he was going to need a winning issue in order to be re-elected in 1952. McCarthy found this winning issue by charging that Communists were taking over the government. McCarthy’s series of unsupported acquisitions in the early 1950s became known as **McCarthyism**--using unfair tactics to accuse people of disloyalty without providing evidence. At various times, McCarthy claimed to have the names of 57, 81, at one point 205 Communists in the State Department, although he never produced a single name. Additionally, McCarthy charged that the Democratic Party was

guilty of treason because leading Democrats allowed Communists to infiltrate the federal government. Some tried to challenge McCarthy but the end result was always the same--more accusations. The Republican Party did little to challenge McCarthy because they thought the American public would see Republican efforts to rid the country of communism as honorable, thus proving advantageous at the polls in the 1952 election. However, in the Senate, a few members did speak out.

### **Interactive 8.12** White Out



*After reading the excerpts from the speech, determine who said it and complete the Write Around activity that follows.*

### **Effects of McCarthyism**

As quickly as McCarthy gained power and authority in the Senate, he lost it in 1954 when he made accusations against the U.S. Army. In a nationally televised debate, McCarthy bullied witnesses, thus alienating the audience, ultimately costing him public support. The Senate condemned him for improper conduct. Three years later, Senator McCarthy died.

McCarthy wasn’t the only person who had an impact on attempts to root communism from American society. Due to the efforts of many, by 1953, it was illegal in 39 states to advocate the violent

overthrow of the government, even though the constitutionality of such legislation was in question. The result was that many were hesitant to speak out on any public issue for fear of being accused of having Communist undertones in their words.

Additionally, millions of Americans in many professions were forced to take loyalty oaths or undergo investigations. Activism in labor unions also went into decline. And from a foreign policy standpoint, anticommunist sentiment continued to drive stringent stipulations. Ultimately, because many Americans tried very hard to root out any communist tendencies, they were willing to sacrifice basic civil liberties. Despite their efforts, the Cold War continued to escalate.

# The Cold War Expands

### QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. What factors contributed to the Cold War?
2. What were the causes of the American policy of containment?

### TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE

Brinkmanship

CIA

Covert Action

Deterrence

Kitchen Debates

Nikita Khrushchev

Suez Crisis

U-2 Affair

When Republican and World War II hero Dwight Eisenhower succeeded Truman as president in 1953, Cold War policy entered a new phase. Eisenhower's Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles, believed that the containment policy was too cautious and that Americans should begin rolling communism back from where it existed. Eisenhower, however, recognized the risks of confronting the Soviets and hoped to avoid war. The threat of nuclear war carried the prospect of complete destruction, but this became a threat the United States would use to its advantage. During the 1950s, the government developed a policy called **brinkmanship**, a willingness to go to the brink or edge of war. Dulles felt that the Soviets needed to believe the United States would use its nuclear weapons if pushed too far. According to brinkmanship, the United States would have to be ready to go to war in order to maintain peace.

### The Arms Race

As the threat of nuclear warfare continued, a new strategy was developed by Dulles to reinforce brinkmanship and ensure American superiority. The policy of **deterrence** meant having a weapons arsenal so deadly that the Soviets would not dare attack the United States. After both the United States and Soviet Union successfully tested their hydrogen bombs, both continued to step up their weapons development programs. By 1960, the arms race would also lead to the development of nuclear missiles and submarines. Both the United States and



Soviet Union built ICBMs, or **intercontinental ballistic missiles**.

These missiles would be able to deliver nuclear warheads to distant countries. The combination of deterrence and brinkmanship came to be known as **Mutual Assured Destruction** (MAD), meaning that either side would respond to a nuclear attack by launching its own missiles. Fear of these devastating results would hopefully make the United States and Soviet Union more likely to step back from all-out war.

### Kitchen Debates

The sudden death of Stalin brought about the rise of a more moderate Soviet leader, Nikita Khrushchev, and the hopes of improved American-USSR relations. In 1958, the two nations set up national exhibitions in each other's countries as part of an emphasis on cultural exchange. Vice President Richard Nixon served as host for the visiting Soviet leader. As Khrushchev was led through an exhibit of American technology, he began to scoff at the display and proclaim that the Soviets would have the same gadgets within a few years. Nixon countered by stating that the Soviet leader should not be afraid of new ideas, saying "After all, you don't know

#### Interactive 8.13 Kitchen Debates



*Watch the Kitchen debates here!*

everything." Khrushchev responded to Nixon saying, "You don't know anything about communism - except the fear of it." Nixon and Khrushchev continued their debate through the kitchen of a model home, verbally sparring over which system was superior - communism or capitalism. The "kitchen debate" proved to be an example of the competitive spirit of the Cold War.



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/c2/Kitchen\\_debate.jpg/261px-Kitchen\\_debate.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/c2/Kitchen_debate.jpg/261px-Kitchen_debate.jpg)

### The U-2 Affair

Although relations seemed to be improving, by the late 1950s the United States and Soviet Union were still deeply involved in the Cold War. A key tactic for both superpowers was espionage, or the use of spies and secret agents. Both sides sought to gain information about the enemy through the use of listening devices and hidden cameras. In May of 1960, the Soviets shot down a U.S. spy plane flying over the Soviet Union (USSR). The plane was a U-2 plane, one that could fly at high altitudes and served the purpose of exploring an area to gain military information. The

plane carried a variety of spying equipment including special cameras to photograph military installations. The pilot carried a deadly poison that he could take if the enemy captured him.

After the Soviets hit the plane, the pilot parachuted to safety and was captured before he could take the poison. Nikita Khrushchev was outraged and accused the United States of spying.

President Eisenhower denied the charge. He first claimed the U-2 was just an off-course weather plane, but later confirmed that it was on an intelligence-gathering mission. Khrushchev demanded that the United States stop its flights and apologize. Although Eisenhower agreed to end the flights, he refused to apologize for defending American interests. The incident, known as the U-2 Affair, was a major setback to U.S.-Soviet relations.



After the U-2 Affair, Eisenhower refused to apologize which cooled relations between the United States and Soviet Union. Take a position on the statement above and prepare an explanation. Try to convince others who disagree with you or are undecided to come to your side.

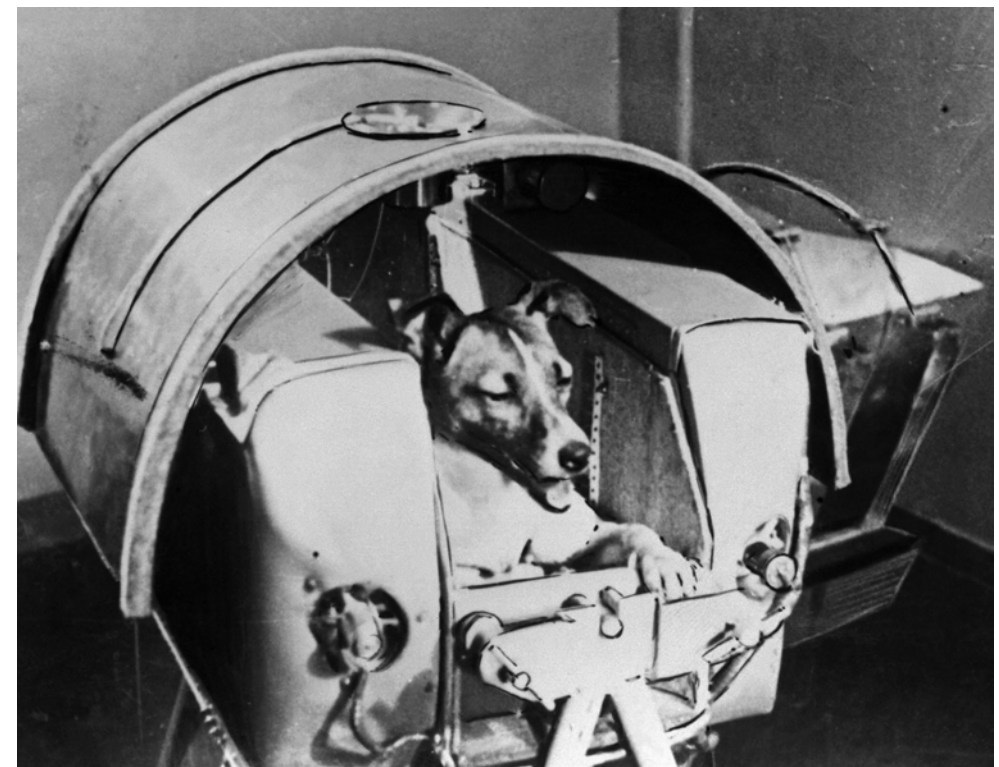
Take a Stand: Eisenhower should have apologized to the Soviet Union.

## The Space Race

Space exploration quickly became another arena for U.S. and Soviet competition. Eisenhower's advisors encouraged the development of satellites, which would be able to travel over Soviet territory without the threat of being shot down. The Soviets also recognized this new potential for reconnaissance and launched their first satellite, Sputnik, in October of 1957.

This was the first man-made object to be launched into space and came as an unpleasant surprise to most Americans. Just one month later, the Soviets made headlines again when they launched the first animal into orbit. With a new sense of urgency, the United States launched their first satellite, Explorer I, in 1958.

That same year, Eisenhower announced the creation of NASA, a federal agency devoted to exploring space.



## Central Intelligence Agency

In 1947, President Truman had asked Congress to respond to the Soviet threat by reorganizing the government's security agencies.

Congress passed the National Security Act, which created a National Security Council (NSC) and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The NSC would advise the president on security issues and oversee the CIA. The CIA would be responsible for collecting and analyzing intelligence gathered by agents in foreign countries. Throughout the 1950s, the CIA played a growing role in the Cold War. It expanded its role from intelligence collection to **covert action**, a secret political, economic, or military operation that supports foreign policy. The United States often used covert action to overthrow leftist or unfriendly governments.

In 1953 the United States helped to topple the Iranian premier, Mohammad Mossadegh. He had nationalized a British oil company, meaning that he placed the formerly private company under government control. In Operation Ajax, the CIA overthrew the democratic government and reinstated the Iranian monarch, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. The Shah maintained a 25-year dictatorship supported by the United States, ruling with a brutal police force that angered many Iranians.

The United States also used covert action in Central America. In 1954 in Guatemala, CIA agents helped to overthrow the democratically elected president, Jacobo Arbenz Guzman. The United Fruit Company was an American business with operations

in Guatemala. They opposed certain social reforms proposed by the Guatemalan government, specifically the government plan to hand over thousands of acres of company land to the nation's landless peasants. The United States ordered the CIA to support a military coup in with Arbenz was overthrown. Lands were returned to the United Fruit Company and a military government took charge.

## Foreign Aid

Nations also used foreign aid as a weapon during the Cold War.

Both the United States and Soviet Union used money and assistance to help countries and gain new allies. Some aid helped the poor by providing funds for social and economic programs, while others forms of aid were delivered in terms of military assistance. The United States would sometimes withhold aid as punishment for nations that failed to support its policies. In the 1950s, Egyptian leader Gamal Abdel Nasser began establishing trade ties with communist nations. For example, Egypt purchased tanks from Czechoslovakia against American wishes. When the United States and Britain withdrew their offer to help finance the building of the much-needed Aswan Dam on the Nile River, Nasser responded by seizing control of the Suez Canal from Britain. The Suez Canal was an important waterway that allowed for Middle East oil to efficiently reach Europe via the Mediterranean. In the Suez Crisis of 1956, the nations of France, Britain, and Israel invaded Egypt to regain control of the canal.



The Soviet Union threatened to back up Egypt with military force, causing the United States to step in and persuade all sides to withdraw in order to end the crisis.

The Cold War may have been a struggle between two superpowers, but it had global implications. As the United States and the Soviet Union competed for supremacy and allies, many nations were impacted or drawn into the conflict. Due to the threat of nuclear destruction, the hostilities never evolved into a “hot” war. The dependence on nuclear weapons as a form of foreign policy, however, had a far-reaching impact. Even Eisenhower feared that nuclear weapons might become more of a threat to security than a stabilizer. Eisenhower warned in his farewell address that “the potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist”. He feared that the “military-industrial complex” created out of need to keep Americans safe could potentially weaken or destroy the very principles and institutions it was designed to protect.

## Interactive 8.14 Analyzing Cold War Strategies



*The United States utilized a variety of strategies to contain communism and advance their interests during the Cold War. Can you match the event with the strategy?*



Which strategy was most effective? Defend your response.

## Interactive 8.15 Crash Course - the Cold War



*For a review of the Cold War click on the video above.*