

The Cold War





Questions:

1. Which European country was divided among the Allies after its defeat in World War II?
2. Which two countries emerged as the “Superpowers” after the War?
3. Discuss the objectives of the US and USSR after WW2?
4. What is a buffer zone?
5. Who coined the term, “iron curtain”?



More Questions...

6. What does the Truman Doctrine do and what did it hope to accomplish?
7. What is the theory of containment?
8. What is the Marshall Plan?
9. Which country did the US support in order to prevent a Communist takeover of the entire region?
10. Why was this war called a “Cold War”?

The Ending of World War II

■ The Yalta Conference

- February, 1945
- Attended by “Big 3”
 - Roosevelt (USA)
 - Churchill (England)
 - Stalin (USSR)
- Goal—to discuss the fate of Europe post war
- Secured the US and Soviet Union as the two major superpowers



After the War...

- Germany and Japan in ruins
- Potsdam Conference in July 1945
 - Truman, Churchill and Stalin attended
 - Divided Germany into 4 occupation zones
 - **This is where tensions between the United States and the Communist Soviet Union began**



A Divided Germany



- Germany divided among the allies in WW2:
 - France
 - Britain
 - US
 - USSR
- Notice that the capital city of Berlin is divided as well

An occupied Japan

- US occupied Japan: 1945-1952
- Rebuilt Japan's economy and worked to end Japan's militarism to create democratic government
- Emperor was just a figurehead, General MacArthur ran country
- Japan sets up new govt. and economic system



The Nuremberg Trials



- *What?*
 - *Put Nazi criminals on trial for crimes against humanity, mass murder, torture*
- *Where?*
 - *Nuremberg, Germany*
- *When?*
 - *November, 1945*

Pictures from Nuremberg



More pictures from the Trial



Tokyo war crimes trials


- International Tribunal tried more than 20 war leaders in Tokyo as well
- *Verdict?*
 - 7 sentenced to death including Hideki Tojo (pictured), the wartime premier
- Main Idea of Tribunals



The Creation of the United Nations



- Founded to promote peaceful cooperation among the nations of the world
- Delegates from 50 nations met in San Francisco to draw up a charter in April, 1945
- October 24—United Nations Day



The Cold War Begins...

- Tensions between the US and Soviet Union began at the Potsdam Conference
- Only US and USSR were left to struggle for world dominance after the once-mighty Germany, Japan and Great Britain were left in ruins
- **The term “Cold War”**
 - Political and economic divisions



Origins of the Cold War

■ Americans opposed:

- state-run economy
- One-party rule
- Suppression of religion
- Use of force to crush the opposition

■ American objectives:

- After WW2: Peace

■ Soviets Opposed:

- American imperialism
- Racial discrimination
- Treatment of workers

■ USSR objectives:

- After WW2: Protect their National Security



United States vs. Soviet Union

	US	USSR
Economy	Capitalism	Socialism
Politics	Democratic	Totalitarian
Key Values	Freedom	Equality
Society	Individual	Collective

The Buffer Zones

- Stalin suggested that the USSR needed these territories to maintain a buffer zone of “friendly nations”
- Satellite Nations—countries under Soviet control, where communism is the political philosophy



Expansion of Satellite Nations



- Stalin made probing actions in Iran and Turkey in 1945/1946
- This would have expanded communism even farther
- Americans began to fear that communism would spread throughout the world

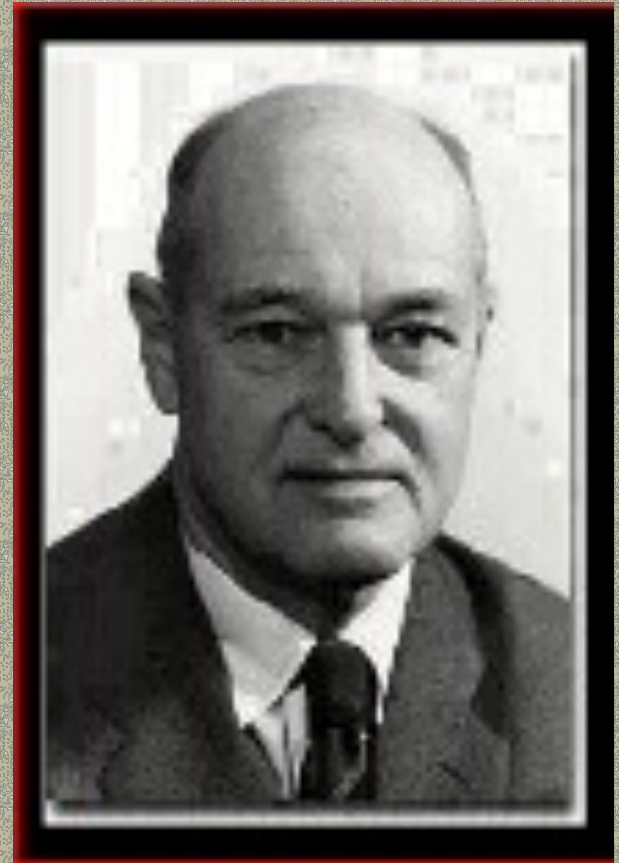
The Iron Curtain



- The term, IRON CURTAIN was coined by British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill
- He declared that a Soviet “Iron Curtain has descended across the Continent”
- “Fulton Speech”

Theory of Containment

- George Kennan and his Containment Doctrine
- This policy became the official Cold War strategy of the United States





Main Ideas:

- The Cold War was a political and economic competition between the only existing superpowers—the United States and Soviet Union
- The Origins of the Cold War lay in the US-Soviet global competition, conflicting economic and political systems, and mutual distrust

The Truman Doctrine (March 1947)

- The US was afraid that the USSR would gain control of the Dardanelles, a narrow strait linking the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea
- In agreement, Congress voted \$400 million in aid to Greece and Turkey to prevent their “fall” to communism.





The Marshall Plan (April 1948)



- Provided \$12 billion in aid to Western Europe for recovery after World War II
- Aimed to contain the spread of communism by easing the economic hardship in Europe

The Berlin Blockade

■ *When?*

- Began June 24, 1948

■ *What?*

- USSR blocked West Berlin for 10 months
- Cut off shipments of food

■ *Why?*

- Stalin was afraid the non-Soviet section would grow in strength
- There was no written statement that Stalin would guarantee free access to Berlin
- Stalin hoped to gain control of all Berlin



The Berlin Airlift (1948-49)

- ***Response to Blockade***
 - US and England had planes drop food and supplies into West Berlin
 - 2.3 million tons of supplies
 - Food, fuel, medicine, etc.
- Ended in May 1949



Creation of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)



- Berlin airlift shifted the US' s attention from economic recovery to military preparedness
- NATO formed in April 1949 as nine Western European nations joined the US, Canada, and Iceland in a military alliance
- Terms of NATO



US contributions to NATO

- General Dwight D. Eisenhower supreme commander of NATO forces
- ***The US contribution?***
 - Station troops in Europe
 - Give massive military aid to its European allies
- ***The Soviet Response?***
 - The Warsaw Pact—1955 military alliance with other Communist countries in Eastern Europe





The Cold War at Home

- Peacetime Rearmament of military
- Est. of:
 - Department of Defense
 - July 1947
 - Replaces Department of War
 - Unites leadership under Joint Chiefs of Staff
 - NSC
 - National Security Council
 - Main task: advise the president on strategic matters
 - CIA
 - Central Intelligence Agency
 - Gather information overseas
- Investigate Communists at home
 - Truman too soft?
 - Loyalty review board
 - Investigate all federal employees
 - HUAC
 - 1938: investigate anti-American propaganda
 - 1947: “Hollywood Ten”
 - Investigated Hollywood
 - Riddled with communists?
 - 10 film directors & writers
 - Refused to answer the HUAC’s questions
 - Went to jail
 - Blacklisted & denied work
 - Careers destroyed
 - Elia Kazan: Director, “On the Waterfront”

The Search for Spies

■ Alger Hiss

- Accused of being a Communist spy
- Denied charges but persistent questioning by HUAC member Richard Nixon (CA-R) revealed inconsistencies in his testimony
- 1950—convicted of perjury (lying under oath)
- 5 years in prison



The Rosenbergs

- Cold War anti-communism led to efforts to expose alleged Communists in the United States, creating a climate of fear and suspicion.
- Julius and Ethel Rosenberg
 - Julius sold atomic bomb secrets to USSR
 - Both executed June, 1953

