

Ch 18 Cold War Conflicts

Sec 1 Origins of the Cold War

Former Allies Clash – U.S. & Soviet Union

1. Incompatible Economic Systems
 - a. Communism – state controlled all property and economic activity
 - b. Capitalism – private citizens controlled almost all property and economic activity
2. Incompatible Political Systems
 - a. American Democracy – people elect a president and a congress from competing political parties
 - b. Soviet Communism – Communist Party establishes a totalitarian gov't in which no opposing parties exist
3. U.S. didn't approve of Stalin signing a nonaggression pact with Hitler
4. Stalin had wanted the Allies to start a western front earlier than 1944
5. Stalin was furious to find the U.S. had kept its development of an atomic bomb secret from the Soviets

Truman Becomes President

1. Was unprepared for the responsibilities of national and world leadership
2. In 82 days as vice-president, he met with Roosevelt twice

3. Roosevelt left Truman uninformed about military matters, peace negotiations, and the development of the atomic bomb

Potsdam Conference – held in Potsdam, Germany in July 1945

1. Meeting of the Big Three: Truman, Churchill (who'd be replaced by Clement Altee), and Stalin
2. Stalin refused to allow free and open elections in Poland and other Eastern European nations
 - a. Allowed for the establishment of pro-Soviet governments

Soviets Tighten Grip on Eastern Europe

1. Soviets had suffered more than 20 million deaths and extensive damage during WWII
2. Satellite Nations – countries dependent upon and dominated by the Soviet Union
 - a. Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Poland
3. Stalin believed WWII was inevitable so he used the industrial base of these nations to produce weapons rather than consumer goods

Containment – an effort to block the Soviet's attempts to spread their influence by creating alliances and supporting weaker countries

Cold War – state of hostility short of direct military confrontation that developed between the U.S. and the Soviet Union

1. Dominates U.S. foreign policy until the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991
2. Truman Doctrine – announced in 1947, policy of providing economic and military aid to free nations threatened by internal or external opponents
 - a. 1947-1950 – U.S. sent \$400 million in aid to Turkey and Greece

Marshall Plan

1. Western Europe was in economic chaos
2. Marshall Plan – program proposed by Sec of State George Marshall in 1947
 - a. U.S. would supply economic aid to European nations to help them rebuild after WWII
 - b. Plan was quickly approved by Congress in 1948 after the Soviets invaded Czechoslovakia
 - c. Plan was very successful, by 1952, Western Europe was flourishing and Communist parties had lost their appeal

Superpowers Struggle over Germany

1. Soviet Union wanted to keep Germany weak and divided

2. Other three nations believed Europe would be more stable if German industry were productive and German people were not fighting for unity
 - a. 1948 – decide to recombine the three western zones into one nation
3. Soviet Union retaliated by holding West Berlin hostage
 - a. All highway, water, and rail traffic into the western zones of Berlin was cutoff
4. Berlin Airlift – 327 day operation in which U.S. and British planes flew food and supplies into West Berlin
5. 1949 – Soviet Union lifted the Berlin blockade
6. West Germany (Federal Republic of Germany) – established in 1949, capital city: Bonn
7. East Germany (German Democratic Republic) – also established in 1949, capital city: East Berlin

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) – formed in April 1949 due to fear of Soviet aggression

1. Defensive military alliance formed by 10 Western European nations, the U.S., and Canada
2. European Nations: Belgium, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, and Portugal
3. An attack on one nation served as an attack on all nations

4. For the first time in history, the U.S. entered into a military alliance during peacetime

Sec 2 The Cold War Heats Up

Civil War in China – war was interrupted as both sides joined together to fight the Japanese in 1937

1. Civil war was reignited in 1944 after the Japanese left
 1. Mao Zedong – leader of the Chinese Communists
 2. Chiang Kai-shek – leader of the Chinese Nationalists
 - a. Political and economic policies undermined the Nationalists’ support in the Chinese countryside
 3. Communists won the support of the peasants by redistributing land and reducing rents
 4. U.S., while backing the Nationals, failed to reach a peace settlement between the two
 5. Chiang and his follower were forced to flee to Taiwan in May 1949
 6. Americans are shocked to learn of the failure of containment, as a result American fear of communism spread like wildfire

Koreans go to War

1. 38th Parallel – bisects Korea at 38 degrees north latitude
2. Japanese troops to the north of the 38th parallel surrendered to the Soviets

3. Japanese troops south of the parallel surrendered to the U.S.
4. South Korea (Republic of Korea) – democratic gov't established by U.S., capital city: Seoul
5. North Korea (Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Communist gov't established by Soviets, capital city: Pyongyang
6. June 25, 1950 – North Korea invades South Korea

Korean War – 1950 – 1953

1. Truman wasn't about to let another Asian nation fall to communism
2. June 27, 1950, UN Security Council adopts an American resolution calling on member nations to help South Korea
 - a. 16 nations send troops to help, 90% come from U.S.
 - b. UN and S. Korean forces were placed under the command of General Douglas MacArthur
3. Initial N. Korean advancement captured Seoul and pushed UN forces to Pusan
4. MacArthur's Counterattack – utilizing fresh troops, tanks, and artillery, he trapped the N. Korean forces, forcing $\frac{1}{2}$ to surrender while the other $\frac{1}{2}$ fled to the 38th parallel
5. What happens now?
 - a. If UN forces cross the parallel, the war shifts from a defensive one to an offensive one

- b. Allies had agreed at Potsdam that Korea would be unified
- 6. UN General Assembly recommends that MacArthur cross the parallel and reunite Korea
- 7. Chinese communist leaders threaten a counterattack if UN forces approach the Chinese border
- 8. Nov 25, 1950 – 300,000 Chinese forces cross the border and drive UN forces south, taking Seoul for the 2nd time
- 9. For 2 years neither side is able to make important advances
- 10. To end the stalemate, MacArthur asks to invade China and to use atomic bombs on China
 - a. Truman shoots down MacArthur's plan in order to avoid WWIII
- 11. March 1951 – UN forces recapture Seoul and push the Chinese and N. Koreans across the parallel
- 12. April 11, 1951, Joint Chiefs of Staff vote unanimously to remove MacArthur from command, igniting a controversy
- 13. June 23, 1951 – Soviet Union suggests a cease-fire
- 14. Two main points were agreed upon quickly:
 - a. Cease fire line would be the existing battle line
 - b. Establishment of a demilitarized zone between the opposing sides at the 38th parallel
- 15. July 1953 – an armistice is finally signed after a year of debating prisoner exchanges

Outcomes of Korean War

1. Communism was pushed back, but Korea remained two separate nations
2. 54,000 Americans died
3. War cost: \$20-22 billion dollars
4. Republican Dwight D. Eisenhower breaks the string of Democratic victories in the Election of 1952

Sec 3 The Cold War at Home

Fear of Communist Influence

1. At the height of WWII, about 80,000 Americans claimed membership to the Communist Party
2. 1945 – Two State Dept. workers and one naval intelligence officer stole classified documents and passed them to a pro-communist magazine
3. An unknown spy had been giving the Soviet Union secret info about the atomic bomb

Loyalty Review Board – established in 1947, investigated government employees and dismissed those who were found to be disloyal

1. Individuals who were investigated weren't allowed to see the evidence against them or even to know who had accused them of being disloyal

House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUAC) - congressional committee that investigated Communist influence inside and outside the U.S. gov't

1. 1947 – Focused on the Communist influence on the movie industry
2. Hollywood Ten – 10 witnesses from the film industry who refused to cooperate with the HUAC's investigation
 - a. Were sent to prison as a result
3. Blacklist – list of people whom they in effect condemned for having a Communist background
 - a. 500 people had their careers ruined

Spy Cases Stun the Nation

1. Alger Hiss – former State Dept. official
 - a. In 1948 Whittaker Chambers, a former Communist spy, accused Hiss of spying for the Soviet Union
 - b. Hiss was convicted of perjury and was sentenced to jail
 - c. Richard Nixon – young, conservative Republican who gained considerable fame for pursuing charges against Hiss
2. Sept. 23, 1949 – Soviet Union explodes an atomic bomb
3. Ethel and Julius Rosenberg – minor activist in the American Communist Party

- a. Klaus Fuchs – 1950, British physicist who admitted to giving the Soviet Union info about U.S.'s atomic bomb, speeding Soviet production
- b. Fuchs implicated the Rosenbergs
- c. Rosenbergs were found guilty and sentenced to death
 - i. Became the 1st U.S. civilians to be put to death for espionage

McCarthy's Witch Hunt

1. Senator Joseph McCarthy – Republican from WI, became the most famous anti-Communist activist
2. McCarthy was a poor legislator and needing to win reelection he charged that Communists were taking over the gov't
3. McCarthyism – unsubstantiated attacks made by McCarthy and others on people suspected of being communists
4. Only made his accusations in the Senate where he was immune from slander lawsuits
5. 1954 – McCarthy made accusations against the U.S. Army resulting in a nationally televised Senate investigation
 - a. McCarthy lost public support because of his bullying of witnesses and died 3 years later, a broken man and an alcoholic

6. Americans tried so hard to root out communism that they were sometimes willing to compromise their own freedom

Sec 4 Two Nations Live on the Edge

Race for the H-bomb

1. The Soviet Union's explosion of an atomic bomb took the nuclear advantage away from the U.S.
2. Politicians and military leaders pressed for the development of an even more powerful weapon
3. H-bomb – hydrogen bomb, thermonuclear weapon more powerful than the atomic bomb
 - a. Jan 31, 1951 Truman authorizes work on the H-bomb
 - b. Nov 1, 1952 – U.S. explodes the 1st thermonuclear device
 - c. Aug 1953 – Soviets explode their own thermonuclear weapon

Brinkmanship – practice of threatening an enemy with massive military retaliation for any aggression

1. Policy was proposed by John Foster Dulles, Eisenhower's Sec of State
2. U.S. trimmed down its army and navy but increased its air force and produced massive numbers of nuclear weapons

3. Soviets responded by producing large amounts of nuclear weapons as well

Cold War Spreads Around the World

1. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) – Eisenhower relied heavily on this recently formed organization to spy and gather info abroad
 - a. CIA began to carry out secret operations to weaken or overthrow governments unfriendly to the U.S. (Iran & Guatemala)
2. Warsaw Pact – military alliance formed in 1955 by the Soviet Union and its Eastern European satellites
 - a. Soviets had grown fearful b/c in 1955 West Germany was allowed to rearm and to join NATO
3. Crisis in the Middle East – 1955, U.S. and Great Britain agree to help Egypt finance construction of a dam on the Nile
 - a. Leader of Egypt began to strengthen ties with Communist countries so U.S. and Great Britain backed out of their agreement
 - b. Egyptian forces seize control of the Suez Canal
 - c. Great Britain, France, and Israel invade Egypt, Soviets threaten to use missiles against France and Great Britain
 - d. UN imposes a cease fire and everyone backs off
4. Soviet Aggression in Hungary

- a. Nikita Khrushchev – replaced Stalin in 1953 as head of the Communist Party
 - b. Hungary, with Khrushchev’s backing, was able to force out its repressive leaders in 1956
 - c. After the Soviet army had left the country, Hungarians demanded more liberties
 - d. Soviet Union sent tanks into Hungary killing 30,000
5. Eisenhower Doctrine – issued in 1957, U.S. would defend the Middle East against attack by any Communist country

Cold War Takes to the Skies

1. By 1957 U.S. had developed ICBMs (Intercontinental Ballistic Missile) capable of traveling 1,500 to 3,000 miles
 - a. Soviets had ICBMs capable of traveling further
2. Sputnik – launched by the Soviets in Oct 1957, 1st artificial unmanned satellite
 - a. Made many Americans feel inferior and vulnerable to nuclear attack
 - b. Jan 31, 1958 – U.S. launches its first satellite
3. U-2 Planes – high altitude spy planes that used an infrared camera to take detailed photos of the Soviet Union
4. U-2 Incident – May 1 , 1958, Francis Gary Powers and his U-2 were shot down in the Soviet Union right

as Eisenhower was going to call off U-2 flights and meet with Khrushchev to improve relations

- a. Khrushchev met with Eisenhower, denounced the U.S. and then left, ruining Eisenhower's effectiveness as a peacemaker
- b. After 17 month in a Soviet prison, Powers was returned to the U.S.