

COLD WAR VOCABULARY

Cold War - a state of tension between nations without actual fighting - between the US and Soviet Union 1945 – 1991.

Communism - an economic system where the government owns the means of production.

Capitalism (FREE-ENTERPRISE SYSTEM) - citizens can own their own businesses with hope of making a profit

United Nations - international peacekeeping organization developed after WWII. Member nations agreed to bring disputes to the UN for peaceful settlement.

Satellite States – Eastern European nations controlled by the Soviet Union during the Cold War as a buffer to a united Germany. Ex: Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, and Albania.

Truman Doctrine - \$400 million in military aid was given to Turkey and Greece so they would not be taken over by communist rebels, during periods of civil wars. Example of containment.

Marshall Plan - \$12 billion given to Western European countries to rebuild after WWII. Now they would not have to turn to the Soviet Union for help and become communist. Example of containment.

Containment - stop communism from spreading; contain communism to the areas where it exists. US foreign policy started by President Truman.

NATO - North Atlantic Treaty Organization. US formed a military alliance with friendly nations – mostly in Western Europe- member nations pledged to defend one another if they were attacked.

Warsaw Pact - a military alliance of eastern European nations formed by the Soviet Union in 1955

Berlin Blockade (Soviet Blockade) - In 1948 Stalin closed all roads, railways, and river routes from West Germany to West Berlin.

Berlin Airlift - United States used airplanes to bring food, fuel, medicine, and other supplies into West Berlin for a year until Stalin lifted the blockade. Example of containment.

Domino Theory - President Eisenhower's belief that once one country falls to communism the surrounding nations would also fall. Justification for involvement in Asia.

Superpower – a country with enough military, political, and economic power to influence other countries.

Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) aka Star Wars - the development of weapons that could shoot down Soviet missiles from space under Reagan administration during the 1980s. Did not actually happen.

détente - period in the 1970's of reduced hostility/easing of tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union, started by Nixon.

SALT Treaty 1970 - Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. US & USSR signed a treaty limiting the number of nuclear warheads & missiles they built. Example of détente.

Vietcong - a group of communist guerillas (fighters who use hit-and-run tactics) that supported the North but live in the South

Gulf of Tonkin Resolution 1964 - the U.S. would take all measures necessary to stop Soviet aggression in North Vietnam—a blank check from Congress to Pres Johnson, which led to an insurgence of US troops sent to Vietnam.

Paris Peace Accords - agreement made by North Vietnam, South Vietnam, and the United States to end the Vietnam War.

War Powers Act 1973 - required the President to get approval from Congress before sending troops to an armed struggle, so Congress could regain war power after Gulf of Tonkin resolution. This was vetoed by Nixon!



Joseph Stalin - Communist dictator of the Soviet Union.



Harry S. Truman - President from 1945-1953, Democratic Party, made decision to drop the atom bomb in WWII; enacted the Berlin Airlift and the Truman Doctrine.

Nikita Khrushchev - 1953 became the leader of the USSR when Stalin died. He was responsible for building the Berlin Wall and was leader during the Cuban Missile Crisis.



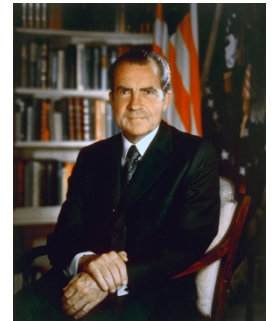
Dwight D. Eisenhower – President from 1953-1961, he oversaw the cease-fire of the Korean War, made nuclear weapons a higher defense priority, & launched the Space Race.



John F. Kennedy - President from 1961 until his assassination in 1963. Events during his administration include the Bay of Pigs Invasion, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the building of the Berlin Wall & the Space Race.



Richard Nixon – President from 1969-1974, he followed a foreign policy marked by détente with the Soviet Union and by the opening of diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China.



Mikhail Gorbachev - leader of the Soviet Union from 1985 - 1991. He believed major steps were needed to improve the economy and worked with President Reagan to improve relations with the US.

Ronald Reagan – President from 1981-1989, his second term was marked by the ending of the Cold War. He publicly portrayed the USSR as an "evil empire" and supported anti-Communist movements worldwide, and famously said, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall" (referring to the Berlin Wall).



COLD WAR BEGINS - 1945

Causes of the Cold War:

- By the end of WWII, Soviets occupied much of EASTERN Europe. The Soviets promised at the YALTA AGREEMENT, they would hold FREE ELECTIONS in these countries, but broke their promise.
- The U.S. and Great Britain did not trust the SOVIET UNION.
- In 1946 Winston Churchill warned that “An IRON CURTAIN has descended across the [European] Continent”. He believed there would be a permanent division between SATELLITE NATIONS Soviet -controlled countries and the rest of the WORLD.

American response:

- U.S. promised to help nations under threat of communist rule
 - TRUMAN DOCTRINE - plan to aid Greece & Turkey and provide economic aid to help countries fight communism.
 - MARSHALL PLAN - US gave “friendly aid” to help European countries rebuild after being devastated by WW2.

After WWII, Germany was divided.

- USSR occupied EAST GERMANY
- The U.S., France, and Britain occupied WEST GERMANY and made it a DEMOCRACY.
- The city of Berlin, located in East Germany, was also divided.
 - The USSR occupied EAST Berlin.
 - The U.S., France, and Britain occupied WEST Berlin.

In 1948 the USSR established the BERLIN BLOCKADE.

It stopped all goods coming into West Berlin from West Germany.

The U.S. response was the BERLIN AIRLIFT.

- The U.S. flew supplies into West Berlin. ****note: THERE WAS NO WALL YET!!!****

In 1949 (NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION OR NATO) was set up.

The US wanted to CONTAIN communism or keep it from spreading.

In 1955 the Soviet Union created its own military alliance in response to the U.S. called the WARSAW PACT. This group included the Soviet Union and its EASTERN European satellite nations.

COLD WAR IN ASIA

CHINA: In 1949 MAO ZEDONG'S communist rebels defeated Chiang Kai Shek and the Nationalist Party and founded the PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC of CHINA.



Chiang Kai Shek

Mao Zedong



KOREAN WAR: 1950 – 1953

After WWII, Korea was divided at the 38th parallel:

North Korea – communist – backed by CHINA & USSR

South Korea – democracy – backed by US

June 1950, NORTH KOREA crossed the 38th PARALLEL (latitude line) dividing the two Koreas and invaded SOUTH KOREA.

President Truman turned to the United Nations – INTERNATIONAL PEACE KEEPING ORGANIZATION (Member nations agreed to bring CONFLICTS before the UN for peaceful settlement)

UN set up a force led by the US to push N. Korea out of S. Korea. General MacArthur was successful in pushing the N. Koreans to CHINA. Then hundreds of thousands of Chinese troops crossed the border to help the N. Koreans and pushed the UN forces below the 38th parallel.

MacArthur called for air strikes and ground attacks on China. PRESIDENT TRUMAN said no because he was afraid of another WORLD WAR.

*****Truman fired MacArthur!! MacArthur was seen as a war hero and welcomed home with a parade.**

Peace talks began in July 1951. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER was elected President of the U.S., and he pushed to speed up the process.

A CEASE-FIRE was signed July 1953.

RESULTS:

- N. Korea stayed communist; S. Korea stayed a democracy.
- The U.S. showed the USSR that it wouldn't allow communism to spread

PRESENT DAY:

- N. Korea is communist; S. Korea is a democracy.

COLD WAR FEARS

Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin stirred up Cold War fears, charging that many Americans in the U.S. gov't. were COMMUNISTS. For 4 years he charged different people with being communist; (most were not communist). This method of making accusations without proof became known as McCARTHYISM.

1.) How did Senator Joseph McCarthy bring the Red Scare back to the US?

McCarthy accused people of being communists, with no proof, few people challenged his accusations due to being afraid of being "soft on communism." Many americans wanted an explanation as to why communism was spreading in eastern europe. He ruined many people's lives.

2.) Who were Julius and Ethel Rosenberg? What were they accused of? What happened to them?

Julius & Ethel Rosenberg were suspected spies and accused of passing secret weapons information to the USSR. They were executed for treason.

The Cold War was marked by COMPETITION (TENSIONS) between the U.S. and USSR:

1.) ARMS RACE

- which country could have the best weapons & military

2.) SPACE RACE - which country could succeed in space SPUTNIK - 1st Soviet satellite in space

President Eisenhower believed in the DOMINO THEORY or the belief that once one country became communist, all the surrounding countries would also become communist. He used the CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OR (CIA) to help the U.S. carry out covert actions against communism.

1.) What was the Space Race?

COMPETITION BETWEEN THE US & USSR TO SEE WHO COULD SUCCEED IN SPACE.

2.) Why was Sputnik so significant?

SPUTNIK WAS THE 1st SATELLITE IN SPACE. IT WAS SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE THE SOVIETS WERE WINNING THE SPACE RACE.

COLD WAR CONTINUES...

- Under President KENNEDY there were three MAJOR Cold War crises.

CRISIS #1: FAILED BAY OF PIGS INVASION

In 1960 – revolutionary leader FIDEL CASTRO set up a communist dictatorship in CUBA. In response Kennedy approved a plan to have Cuban EXILES (persons who are forced to leave their country), invade at the Bay Of Pigs, in Cuba. This attempt to overthrow the government was NOT successful.

CRISIS #2: BUILDING OF THE BERLIN WALL

In 1961 – Due to thousands of EAST Germans leaving their country for the prosperity & freedom of WEST Berlin. The leader of the Soviet Union NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV demanded the removal of all foreign troops from WEST Berlin. On August 13, 1961 workers built the BERLIN WALL, which became a barrier that separated EAST & WEST Berlin.

CRISIS #3: CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

In 1962 - The U.S. discovered that the SOVIETS were placing nuclear MISSILES in CUBA. Due to the close proximity to the US any MISSILE launched would hit the U.S. in MINUTES. President KENNEDY demanded Khrushchev remove the missiles and sent U.S. Naval ships to BLOCKADE (prevent Soviet ships from entering). This became known as the CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS.

What was decided by Kennedy & Khrushchev after this crisis?

Khrushchev agreed to remove the missiles from Cuba, Kennedy agreed to remove missiles from Italy & Turkey. The leaders set up a hotline so they could talk to each other at a moment's notice.

What does the caption, “Let's Get a Lock For This Thing” mean?

Keeping relations calm to prevent a nuclear war from breaking out between the two countries.



Source: Herblock, *Washington Post*, November 1, 1962 (adapted)