

The Cold War Era

Lesson 1 Roots of the Cold War

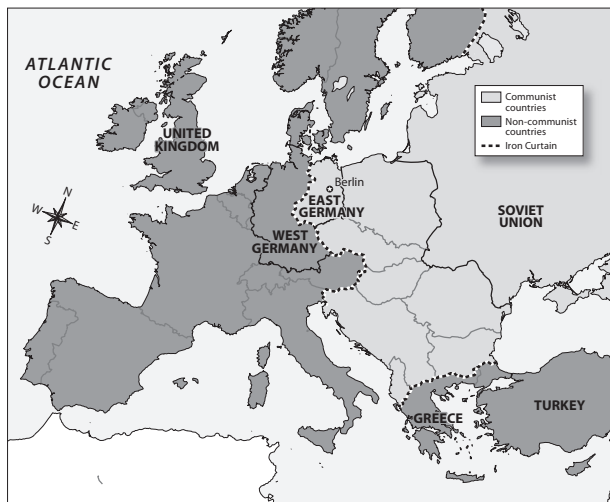
ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What are the consequences when cultures interact?

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. *What plans were created for the organization of the postwar world?*
2. *How did Western Allies resist Soviet attempts to halt the plans for uniting West Germany?*
3. *How did the United States and the Soviet Union become rivals and influence the world?*
4. *How did the Cold War heighten American fears of communism?*

Where in the world?



Terms to Know

iron curtain political division in Europe between communist countries and democracies.

containment stopping communism

airlift deliver supplies by airplane

cold war conflict in which two enemies fight in other ways besides combat

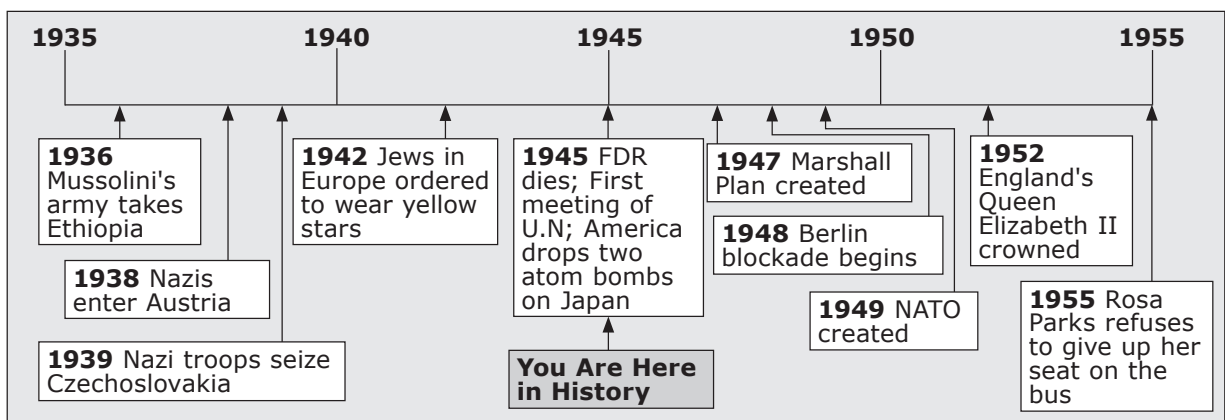
perjury the crime of lying when you have promised to tell the truth

subversion attempt to overthrow a government

espionage spying

censure to criticize in an official way

When did it happen?



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Wartime Relationships

Before the end of World War II, leaders from major Allied countries met to talk about the future. They wanted to talk about what should happen to Europe after the war. The leaders had different ideas about what should happen.

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Leader	Country
Franklin D. Roosevelt	United States
Winston Churchill	Great Britain
Joseph Stalin	Soviet Union

The U.S. president was Franklin Roosevelt. The prime minister of Great Britain was Winston Churchill. They wanted to stop the Soviet Union from getting too strong in Eastern Europe. The Soviet leader was Joseph Stalin. He wanted to control Eastern Europe. The leaders agreed to split Germany up. They split it into four zones. The United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and France each took one zone. Stalin agreed to hold free elections in Eastern Europe. He also offered to help plan a new international organization.

President Roosevelt died suddenly in April 1945. Vice President Harry S. Truman became president. Truman helped set up an international organization called the United Nations, or U.N. Fifty nations met for the first time in June 1945. They hoped the U.N. could help prevent wars.

Stalin kept Soviet soldiers in Eastern Europe. He set up communist governments there. Winston Churchill saw that Eastern Europe was cut off from Western Europe. Churchill called this division an **"iron curtain."** President Truman thought it was important to practice **containment**, in other words, to stop communism from spreading. Truman made a plan to hold back the Soviet Union.

Truman soon used his plan. Communists were trying to take over the Greek government. There was also trouble in Turkey. The Soviet Union was pushing Turkey to give it important navy bases. President Truman asked Congress for money to help Greece and Turkey. This became known as the Truman Doctrine. The Truman Doctrine said the United States would fight the spread of communism anywhere in the world.

After World War II, Western Europe had many problems. Homes and buildings had been destroyed. People did not

 **Mark the Text**

1. Circle the countries that controlled the four zones in Germany.

FOLDABLES

 **Describing**

2. Place a one-tab Foldable over the columns *Leader* and *Country*. Write the title *Different Ideas* on the anchor tab. On the front, draw three arrows from the anchor tab. Write three things about the Big Three leaders' ideas.

 **Critical Thinking**

3. What do you think Churchill meant by the term *iron curtain*?

 **Reading Check**

4. What did the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan work toward?

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Reading Check

5. Why was the Soviet Union against reuniting Germany?

Mark the Text

6. Underline the definition of the word *airlift*.

Mark the Text

7. Underline four countries that became independent or won their freedom during the Cold War.

have jobs. They were hungry. People wanted anything that would make their lives better, even communism. The United States gave help. From 1948 to 1951, the U.S. sent \$13 billion worth of food, supplies, machinery, and aid to Western Europe. This program was called the Marshall Plan. The United States hoped the aid would keep Western Europe from becoming communist.

Crisis in Berlin

Germany was divided into four zones. The three western zones were controlled by the United States, Great Britain, and France. The eastern zone was held by the Soviet Union. Berlin was Germany's capital. It, too, was divided into four zones. Berlin was deep within the Soviet zone.

Truman wanted to reunite the different parts of Germany. Stalin did not want to. He thought this would be a danger to the Soviet Union. The United States, Great Britain, and France said they would unite their three zones. This included their parts of the city of Berlin.

Stalin tried to block this. He put soldiers outside of West Berlin to stop supplies from coming into the city. He thought the Western countries would change their minds.

President Truman wanted to stick to his plan, yet he didn't want to risk war by taking military action. The United States and Great Britain organized an **airlift**. This means they used airplanes to drop in food, fuel, and other supplies. They bypassed the Soviet soldiers.

The Cold War Deepens

Berlin was an early problem in the Cold War. A **cold war** is a war in which the two sides try to frighten each other with their words and weapons, but they do not fight.

Democracies in the West worked together. In 1949, the United States, Canada, and 10 other countries formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or NATO. Each country agreed to help another if it was attacked. In response, the Soviet Union created the Warsaw Pact. This included the communist governments in Eastern Europe.

Other parts of the world saw changes. Many countries that had been colonies won their freedom. These included the Philippines, India, Burma, and Pakistan. The U.N. also created the state of Israel. In China, communist forces took over the government. Their leader was Mao Zedong. The United States was afraid that communism was growing

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even stronger. It seemed that Asia was a strong ally of the Soviet Union.

A New Red Scare

During the Cold War Americans feared communist **subversion**. Subversion is an effort to overthrow a government. Americans worried that communists were sneaking into the government.

There were stories in the news about **espionage**, or spying. In 1948 Whittaker Chambers said Alger Hiss had given him secret U.S. documents which Chambers had passed on to the Soviet Union. Hiss was sent to jail for **perjury**, or lying in court. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were members of the Communist Party in America. They were accused of giving the Soviet Union secrets about America's atomic bomb. They were put to death.

Senator Joseph McCarthy from Wisconsin hunted for communists in American government. He accused many people of being communists. Often, he did not have any proof. People who were accused lost their jobs. At first, people believed McCarthy. Many people were afraid he could accuse them of being spies. McCarthy's hearings were on television. He accused respected Army officials of being spies. People began to see that McCarthy was wrong. They saw him as a bully. The word **McCarthyism** is used to describe a serious accusation without evidence. Congress **censured**, or publicly criticized, Senator McCarthy.

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Check for Understanding

Explain the purpose of the United Nations.

What did the Truman Doctrine hope to accomplish?

Reading Check

8. What concerns did the West have about China?

Reading Check

9. What claim did McCarthy make against the Army?

FOLDABLES®

10. Cover Check for Understanding with a three-tab Venn diagram Foldable. Write *The Beginning of the Cold War* on the anchor tab. Label the first tab *Democratic Countries*, the middle tab *The Cold War*, and the last tab *Communist Countries*. List facts to show how countries were involved in the Cold War. Use the Foldable to help answer Check for Understanding.