

Restructuring the Postwar World

Section 1

Cold War: Superpowers Face Off

Terms and Names

United Nations World organization formed to prevent war

iron curtain Division between Eastern and Western Europe during the Cold War

containment Policy aimed at preventing the spread of communism

Truman Doctrine Policy of giving aid to countries threatened by communism

Marshall Plan Plan to give aid to European countries to help them recover

Cold War State of tension and mistrust between the United States and the Soviet Union

NATO Military alliance including the United States, Canada, and Western Europe

Warsaw Pact Military alliance between the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe

brinkmanship Willingness on the part of the superpower to go to the edge of war

Before You Read

In the last section, you learned about the end of the Second World War.

In this section, you will learn about the international tensions that followed the war.

As You Read

Use a time line to organize early Cold War events.

ALLIES BECOME ENEMIES

(Pages 965–966)

What caused the Cold War?

The United States and the Soviet Union were allies during World War II. In February 1945, they agreed to divide Germany into separate zones. Each zone was occupied by the soldiers of one of the Allies. The Allies also helped form the **United Nations (UN)** in 1945. The UN pledged to prevent war.

The United States and the Soviet Union had important differences after the war. The United States suffered few casualties and was the richest nation in the world.

The Soviet Union suffered enormous loss of life and damage to its cities.

There were also striking political differences. The United States wanted to encourage democracy. The Soviet Union wanted to set up Communist governments. These differences caused tensions between the two countries.

1. How did U.S. goals and Soviet goals differ after World War II?

EASTERN EUROPE'S IRON CURTAIN (Page 967)

How did the Soviet Union gain control of Eastern Europe?

At the end of World War II, Soviet forces occupied lands along its western border. After the war, Stalin made sure Communist governments were in place in these lands: Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Poland, and Yugoslavia. This divided Europe between East and West. Winston Churchill called this division the "**iron curtain**."

2. What countries were separated from the West by the iron curtain?
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UNITED STATES TRIES TO CONTAIN SOVIETS (Pages 967–969)

HOW did the United States respond to communism?

Truman began a policy of **containment**—blocking the Soviets from spreading communism. Under the **Truman Doctrine**, the United States helped nations that were threatened by communism. The United States also adopted the **Marshall Plan** in 1947. This plan gave food and other aid to European countries to help them recover.

In 1948, the Soviets and Americans clashed over Germany. France, Britain, and the United States agreed to pull their troops out of Germany. They let the three zones that they occupied unite. But the Soviets refused to leave their zone. Then they cut off all highway and train traffic into Berlin, which was deep within the Soviet zone. The United States and Britain responded with the Berlin airlift. They flew supplies into the city for 11 months. Finally, the Soviets lifted the blockade.

3. What was the Berlin airlift?
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COLD WAR DIVIDES THE WORLD (Pages 969–971)

Why did tensions between the superpowers increase?

The struggle between the United States and the Soviet Union was called the **Cold War**. Many countries supported one superpower or the other.

The United States, Canada, and several countries in Western Europe formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (**NATO**). NATO was a military alliance. Each nation promised to defend any other member that was attacked. The Soviets and the countries of Eastern Europe made a similar agreement. It was called the **Warsaw Pact**.

In 1949, the Soviet Union announced that it had developed an atomic bomb. Three years later, both superpowers had an even more deadly weapon—the hydrogen bomb. Soon both nations were involved in an arms race. They produced more and more nuclear weapons and developed new ways to deliver them. Both sides were willing to go to the brink, or edge, of war. This became known as **brinkmanship**.

In 1957, the Soviet Union launched *Sputnik*, the world's first human-made satellite. Americans felt that the Soviets were far ahead in science and technology. The United States then began spending huge amounts of money to improve science education.

The U-2 incident brought more tension. The United States sent planes, called U-2 planes, to spy over Soviet territory. One was shot down in 1960.

4. What are three developments or events that increased tensions during the Cold War?
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Section 2

Communists Take Power in China

Terms and Names

Mao Zedong Communist leader who defeated the Nationalists and led the People's Republic of China

Jiang Jieshi Nationalist leader who set up a new government in Taiwan

commune Large farm setup in China in which many families work the land and live together

Red Guards Young Chinese students who carried out the Cultural Revolution

Cultural Revolution Uprising in China between 1966 and 1976 that aimed to establish a society of peasants and workers in which all were equal

Before You Read

In the last section, you read about tensions between the superpowers.

In this section, you will read about civil war and the rise of communism in China.

As You Read

Use a chart to identify the causes and effects of the Communist Revolution in China.

COMMUNISTS VS. NATIONALISTS

(Pages 972–973)

Who fought the civil war?

Nationalists and Communists fought for control of China in the 1930s. During World War II, they joined forces to fight against the Japanese. The Communists, led by **Mao Zedong**, organized an army of peasants in northwestern China. From there they fought the Japanese in the northeast.

The Nationalists, led by **Jiang Jieshi**, controlled southwestern China. The Nationalists were protected from the Japanese by mountains. The United States

sent the Nationalists large amounts of money and supplies, but corrupt officers took much of it. The Nationalists built a large army, but they only fought a few battles against the Japanese.

After the Japanese surrendered, the Communists and Nationalists resumed their civil war. The war lasted from 1946 to 1949. The Communists won because their troops were well trained in guerrilla war. They also enjoyed the backing of the peasants to whom they had promised land. In 1949, Jiang Jieshi and other Nationalist leaders fled to the island of Taiwan.

1. What two groups fought the civil war, and who led them?

THE TWO CHINAS AFFECT THE COLD WAR (Pages 973–974)

How did the two Chinas participate in the Cold War?

The United States helped the Nationalists set up a new government. The Nationalists called their land the Republic of China. Meanwhile, the Soviets helped Mao Zedong and his government, the People's Republic of China.

The Chinese and the Soviets promised to help defend each other if either country were attacked. The United States responded by trying to halt Soviet expansion in Asia. Communist China also tried to expand its power. The Chinese invaded Mongolia, Tibet, and India.

2. How did the superpowers take sides with the two Chinas?

THE COMMUNISTS TRANSFORM CHINA (Pages 974–975)

How did Mao change China?

Mao set out to rebuild China. He seized land and gave it to the peasants. But he also forced the peasants—in groups of 200 to 300 households—to join collective farms, or **communes**. On these farms, the land belonged to the group. Mao also took control of China's industries. Under Mao's plan, production of industrial products went up.

With this success, Mao launched the "Great Leap Forward." He wanted to make the communes larger and more productive. The plan failed. People did not like strong government control. The government did not plan effectively. Between 1958 and 1961, famine killed millions.

In 1966, Mao tried to revive the revolution. He encouraged young people to revive the revolution. Students formed groups called **Red Guards**. This was the beginning of the **Cultural Revolution**. The Red Guards struck at teachers, scientists, and artists. They shut down schools and sent intellectuals to the country to work on farms. They killed thousands of people who resisted. China was in chaos. Factories shut down and farm production dropped. Eventually, Mao put an end to the Cultural Revolution.

3. What are three changes Mao made?

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Section 3

Wars in Korea and Vietnam

Terms and Names

38th parallel Line that separated North Korea and South Korea

Douglas MacArthur Leader of United Nations forces during the Korean War

Ho Chi Minh Vietnamese nationalist who drove the French out of Vietnam and who led North Vietnam

domino theory Theory that nations were like a row of dominoes: if one fell to communism, the others would fall, too

Vietcong Communist rebels in South Vietnam who were supported by North Vietnam.

Ngo Dinh Diem Leader of the anti-Communist government of South Vietnam

Vietnamization Nixon's plan for gradually withdrawing U.S. troops from Vietnam and replacing them with South Vietnamese troops

Khmer Rouge Communist rebels who set up a brutal government in Cambodia

Before You Read

In the last section, you read about the civil war in China.

In this section, you will read about wars in Korea and Vietnam.

As You Read

Use a diagram to compare and contrast the Korean and Vietnam wars.

WAR IN KOREA (Pages 976–978)

How was Korea divided?

When World War II ended, Korea became a divided nation. North of the **38th parallel**, a line that crosses Korea at 38 degrees north latitude, the Japanese surrendered to the Soviets. South of that line, the Japanese surrendered to the Allies.

As in Germany, two nations developed. The Soviet Union supported a Communist government in North Korea. The United States supported a non-Communist government in South Korea. On June 25, 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea. President Truman fought this move with help from the UN. The United States and other countries sent troops to assist South

Korea. At first, the North Korean army captured almost all of South Korea.

Then the UN army made a bold counter attack. The attack was led by General **Douglas MacArthur**. In 1953, the two Koreas agreed to a cease-fire. The earlier boundary splitting North and South Korea remained the same.

North Korea had a Communist government. It had a large, strong army and tight government control, but it also had many economic problems. For more than 30 years, dictators ruled South Korea. But its economy grew, in part because it received U.S. aid. Free elections were held in South Korea after a new constitution was adopted in 1987.

Section 3, *continued*

1. How did the Korean War change the way Korea was divided?

**WAR BREAKS OUT IN VIETNAM;
THE UNITED STATES GET
INVOLVED; POSTWAR
SOUTHEAST ASIA (Pages 978–981)**
**How did the United States get
involved in Vietnam?**

A nationalist named **Ho Chi Minh** drove the French out of Vietnam. This worried the United States because Ho had turned to the Communists for help. Many Americans thought if one country became Communist, others would also, like a row of dominoes. This idea is known as the **domino theory**. A peace conference split Vietnam in two, with Ho taking charge of North Vietnam. The country had a Communist government. Communist rebels—the **Vietcong**—stayed active in the South.

The non-Communist government of the South had been set up by the United States and France. Its leader was **Ngo Dinh Diem**. When his government was threatened by Communists, the United States began to send troops. When they

could not win the war on the ground, they tried bombing. Many people in the United States came to oppose the war.

In the late 1960s, President Richard Nixon began a plan called **Vietnamization**. This plan called for a gradual pullout of U.S. troops. At the same time, the South Vietnamese increased their combat role. The last American troops left in 1973. Two years later, North Vietnam overran the South and made Vietnam one country again. Today, Vietnam remains Communist but is looking for other nations to invest in its economy.

Fighting in Vietnam spilled over into Vietnam's neighbor, Cambodia. Rebels there were known as the **Khmer Rouge**. They set up a brutal Communist government. The Khmer Rouge killed 2 million people. In 1978, the Vietnamese invaded the country. They overthrew the Khmer Rouge. Vietnam withdrew in 1989. In 1993, Cambodia held free elections for the first time.

2. What happened in Vietnam after the United States withdrew?

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Section 4

The Cold War Divides the World

Terms and Names

Third World Developing nations in Africa, Asia, and Latin America

nonaligned nations Countries that did not take sides with either the United States or the Soviet Union

Fidel Castro Communist leader of Cuba

Anastasio Somoza Nicaraguan dictator

Daniel Ortega Leader of Communist rebels in Nicaragua

Ayatollah Ruholla Khomeini Muslim leader who overthrew the Shah of Iran

Before You Read

In the last section, you read about wars in Korea and Vietnam.

In this section, you will learn about Cold War struggles in other parts of the world.

As You Read

Use a chart to list main points about Third World confrontations.

FIGHTING FOR THE THIRD WORLD

(Pages 982–983)

How were developing nations affected by the Cold War?

After World War II, the world's nations were grouped into three "worlds." The First World included the United States and its allies. The Second World consisted of Communist nations led by the Soviet Union. The **Third World** was composed of developing nations in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Many Third World nations had serious problems. These problems were often due to a long history of colonialism. Some Third World nations faced political unrest that threatened the peace. Other problems included poverty and a lack of education and technology. Some of these countries

tried to stay neutral in the Cold War. They met to form what they called a "third force." It consisted of **nonaligned nations**, or countries that did not take sides between the Soviets and Americans. Others actively sought American or Soviet aid.

1. What problems did Third World nations face?

CONFRONTATIONS IN LATIN AMERICA (Pages 984–985)

What happened in Latin America?

In Cuba, the United States supported a dictator in the 1950s. In 1959, a young lawyer, **Fidel Castro**, led a successful revolt. Castro received aid from the Soviet Union. In 1962, the Soviets and Americans almost went to war over nuclear missiles that the Soviets placed in Cuba. The Soviets finally pulled the missiles out. Over time, the Cuban economy became more dependent on Soviet aid. When the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, this aid stopped. It was a serious blow to Cuba's economy.

The United States had also backed a dictator, **Anastasio Somoza**, in Nicaragua. Somoza's government fell to Communist rebels in 1979. The rebels were led by **Daniel Ortega**. When the new government began helping leftist rebels in nearby El Salvador, the United States struck back. It began to support Nicaraguan rebels that wanted to overthrow the Communists. The civil war in Nicaragua lasted more than a decade. Finally, the different sides agreed to hold free elections.

2. Where did Communists gain power in Latin America?

CONFRONTATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST (Pages 986–987)

What happened in Iran and Afghanistan?

The Middle East often saw conflict between those who wanted a more modern, Western-style society and those who wanted to follow traditional Islam. Such a struggle took place in Iran. In the 1950s, a group tried to take control of the government from Iran's ruler, **Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi**. The United States helped the Shah defeat them.

Over time, the Shah tried to weaken the influence of Islam in Iran. A Muslim leader, the **Ayatollah Ruholla Khomeini**, led a successful revolt. In 1979, the Shah was forced to leave the country. Khomeini made Islamic law the law of the land. He followed a foreign policy that was strongly against the United States. He also led his country in a long war against its neighbor, Iraq.

The Soviets gained influence in Afghanistan after 1950. In the 1970s, Islamic rebels threatened the country's Communist government. The Soviets sent in troops to support the government. The United States felt its Middle East oil supplies were in danger and supported the rebels. In 1989, after a costly occupation, Soviet troops left Afghanistan.

3. How did Khomeini change Iran?

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Section 5

The Cold War Thaws

Terms and Names

Nikita Khrushchev Leader of the Soviet Union after Stalin

Leonid Brezhnev Soviet leader after Khrushchev

John F. Kennedy President of the United States from 1961 to 1963

Lyndon Johnson President of the United States from 1963 to 1969

détente Policy to decrease tensions between the superpowers

Richard M. Nixon President of the United States from 1969 to 1974

SALT Talks to limit nuclear arms in the United States and the Soviet Union

Ronald Reagan President of the United States from 1981 to 1989

Before You Read

In the last section, you read about Cold War struggles around the world.

In this section, you will read about the major events of the Cold War from the 1950s to the 1980s.

As You Read

Use an outline to organize main ideas and details about the Cold War thaw.

SOVIET POLICY IN EASTERN EUROPE AND CHINA (Page 988)

How did the Soviets keep control over Eastern Europe?

Nikita Khrushchev became the Soviet leader after Stalin died in 1953. Khrushchev began a process of "destalinization." This meant getting rid of Stalin's memory. Khrushchev also believed that the Soviet Union should have "peaceful competition" with the capitalist nations.

In Eastern Europe, many people still resented Soviet rule. Eastern Europeans took part in protest movements against Soviet control. In 1956, protesters and the army overthrew the Communist

government of Hungary. Khrushchev sent Soviet tanks to put the Communists back in power. In 1964, Leonid Brezhnev replaced Khrushchev. When Czechoslovakians began to reform their Communist government in 1968, Brezhnev sent in tanks to stop them.

The Soviets did not have the same control over their larger neighbor, China. Although the Soviet Union and China enjoyed friendly relations at first, they gradually grew apart. The split became so wide that the Soviet Union and China sometimes fought along their border. The two nations now have a peaceful relationship.

Section 5, *continued*

1. In what two European countries did the Soviets put down revolts against Soviet control?

FROM BRINKMANSHIP TO DÉTENTE; THE COLLAPSE OF DÉTENTE (Pages 990–991)

Did tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union change?

Tensions between the Soviets and the United States had been very high during the presidency of **John F. Kennedy**. They remained high during the presidency of **Lyndon Johnson**. The war in Vietnam helped keep relations tense.

In the early 1970s, the United States began to follow a policy called **détente** under President **Richard M. Nixon**. Détente was a policy of lowering tensions between the superpowers. Nixon made visits to both Communist China and the Soviet Union. In 1972, he and Brezhnev

held meetings called the Strategic Arms Limitations Talks (**SALT**). They signed a treaty to limit the number of nuclear missiles each country could have.

The United States retreated from détente when the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979. In 1981, **Ronald Reagan**, a fierce anti-Communist, became president. He proposed a costly anti-missile defense system to protect America against Soviet missiles. It was never put into effect. But it remained a symbol of U.S. anti-Communist feelings.

The Soviets grew angry over American support for the rebels fighting against the Communists in Nicaragua. Tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union increased until 1985 when a new leader came to power in the Soviet Union.

2. Name two actions or events that got in the way of détente.
