**Beginnings of Cold War**

1. The Cold War
   1. U.S.-Soviet Relations to 1945
      1. Allies in World War II
      2. Postwar Cooperation – the U.N
      3. Satellite States in Eastern Europe
      4. Occupation Zones in Germany
   2. Nuclear Age
      1. The world would now live with the threat of nuclear war.
      2. Arms race between Soviet Union and U.S. who could build the most nuclear weapons.
      3. U.S. would use nuclear weapons as a “deterrent”
   3. Decision at Yalta
      1. Yalta Conference shaped the post WWII world. The lasting effect was: “You cannot trust the words of a dictator”.
      2. Key Decisions
         1. Created a United Nations
         2. Germany and Berlin divided into 4 zones controlled by the Allies
         3. Eastern European countries allowed “free elections”
         4. Stalin signed agreements but Eastern Europe would stay under Soviet control.
   4. Cold War
      1. Uneasy peace between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.
      2. Competition for world dominance and global power.
      3. Fought on political and economic fronts rather than on military battlefields-
      4. Even though the threat of war was always present.
      5. Defined America’s foreign policy from 1946 to 1989.
      6. It affected domestic politics and how Americans viewed the world and themselves.
      7. Constant state of military preparedness and arms race

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| Soviet Union | United States |
| Stalin argued that capitalism and communism could never coexist.  Communism   * No freedom of religion * State-run economy * Socialism * One-party system * Collective good * No private ownership * Crush opposition * Dictatorship | Churchill responded that an “Iron Curtain had descended across the Continent.”   * Americans * Freedom of Religion * Free enterprise * Laissez faire economy * Capitalism * Two-party system * Individual freedoms * Freedom of Speech * Democracy/Republic |

1. Cold War in Europe
   1. Containment Policy
      1. Developed by State Department assistant, George Keenan, NSC-68
      2. Argued Soviet Union was trying to: defeat capitalism & expand Soviet sphere of influence.
      3. US would stand firm, restrict and halt Soviet and Communist expansion.
         1. Help countries threatened by Communism with financial and economic assistance, propaganda, politically and militarily.
      4. Adopted by President Truman in 1946.
      5. Opposite of Appeasement
   2. The Truman Doctrine
      1. 1947, first use of “containment”
      2. $$$$$ to Greece and Turkey of $400 million to stop the spread of communism.
   3. The Marshall Plan
      1. President Truman’s plan (containment) to aid $$$ and rebuild a war torn Europe
      2. Marshall Plan offered financial aid of $13 billion.
      3. U.S. benefited by forming trade relationships with Europe.
      4. Left a legacy of European friendship and trans-Atlantic cooperation
      5. Helped to limit communist appeals in Western Europe in the aftermath of WWII
      6. Effects
         1. 1948, $13-16 billion to help rebuild Europe after WWII.
         2. Food, animal feed, fertilizer, fuel, raw materials and production equipment were among some of the goods shared
         3. Provided a 33.5% increase in GNP in Western Europe between 1948-52.
         4. European economy had a steep increase in production.
      7. Reaction
         1. Stalin Counters the Marshall Plan
         2. Soviet Union offered a similar plan----Molotov Plan.
         3. No countries of Western Europe took $$$.
         4. Marshall Plan considered a threat to Stalin because US offered money to war torn Europe as a way to promote democracy.
   4. The Berlin Airlift
      1. In response to the Marshall Plan, Stalin cut off all transportation lines into West Berlin.
      2. Trying to force the US, British and French out of Berlin.
      3. Berlin was located in the Soviet sector after WWII.
      4. US refused to back down and preceded to airlift supplies to the starving West Berliners.
      5. U.S. flew supplies to feed the people of West Berlin for 11 months/24-7
      6. Stalin backed down & pulled troops
      7. Germany/Berlin remain divided until 1989.
      8. The U.S. also won a propaganda war.
      9. Made democracy and capitalism look better to the world than communism.
   5. Foreign Alliances
      1. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (1949)
         1. A military alliance for defending all members from outside attack.
         2. General Eisenhower was NATO's first supreme commander and Truman also stationed US troops in Western Germany as a deterrent against Soviet invasion.
      2. Warsaw Pact (1955)
         1. Communist/Soviet Union version of NATO
   6. National Security Act (1947)
      1. Department of Defense
      2. National Security Council (NSC)
         1. Advise the president on security matters
      3. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
         1. Coordinate the government’s foreign fact-gathering
      4. “Voice of America”
         1. Radio broadcast, in 1948 promoting democracy.
      5. Congress resurrected the military draft (Selective Service System)
2. Cold War in Asia
   1. China
      1. 1949, the Year of Shock
      2. Mao Tse Tung defeats Chang Kai Shek in the Chinese Civil War.
      3. China became a communistic country.
      4. Chang Kai Shak exiled to Taiwan.
      5. Mao Tse Tung becomes the Communistic leader of China.
      6. US believed there was a communistic plot to rule the world
   2. Korean War (1950-1953)
      1. Invasion
         1. North Korea invades South Korea.
         2. North Korea was a communist nation and South Korea was a democracy.
         3. First war of “containment” policy to stop communism
         4. “Police Action” not a declared war
      2. Counter Attack
         1. President Truman leads United Nations.
         2. General Douglas MacArthur commands US and UN troops.
         3. Called “forgotten war”.
      3. Truman vs. MacArthur
         1. Truman fires General MacArthur when he advises Truman he would use nuclear weapons against the Chinese
      4. Armistice
3. Cold War at Home
   1. Red Scare
      1. Red Scare was Americans response to the fear of Communism
   2. House Committee for Un-American Activities (HUAC)
      1. 1947 investigations led to prison sentences for contempt known as the Hollywood Ten.
      2. Blacklisted
         1. list of persons who are under suspicion, disfavor, or censure, or who are not to be hired, served, or otherwise accepted.
      3. 1938–75, Congress investigated Americans suspected as communists
      4. Witnesses who refused to answer were cited for contempt of Congress.
      5. Playwright Arthur Miller based his play *The Crucible,* set during the Salem Witch Trials, in relation to the Red Scare
   3. McCarthyism
      1. Senator Joseph McCarthy accused 205 US Govt. officials of being Communist.
         1. Destroy or assassinate one’s character without proof.
         2. Became a witch hunt that led to Americans pledging a “loyalty oath” to the US
      2. Army-McCarthy hearings
         1. Congressional hearings called by Senator Joseph McCarthy's to accuse members of the Army of communist ties.
         2. On TV, McCarthy finally went too far for public approval.
         3. The hearings exposed the Senator's extremism and led to his eventual disgrace.
   4. Espionage Cases
      1. Alger Hiss Case
         1. In 1948, Whittaker Chambers made accusations of Soviet espionage against former State Dept. official Alger Hiss
         2. Hiss found guilty of spying & sentenced to 10 years in prison
         3. Richard Nixon, California Congressmen, was part of HUAC investigating Alger Hiss.
      2. Rosenbergs
         1. Soviets detonate their first atomic bomb in 1949 (Year of Shock))
         2. The question is raised, where did they get the technology the bomb?
         3. Ethel and Julius Rosenberg would be accused of giving away atomic bomb secrets.
         4. Charged with espionage they would be found guilty and executed in 1953.
4. Foreign Policy
   1. Korean War
      1. Stalemate by 1953 and President Eisenhower negotiated an end to war
      2. Korean Peninsula divided at 38th parallel allowing communism to be contained.
      3. Korea remains divided today
   2. Brinksmanship
      1. Push Communist nations to the brink of war, they will back down to U.S. nuclear superiority
      2. Shaped by John Foster Dulles
   3. Massive Retaliation
      1. Focus on nuclear weapons, air power
      2. H-Bomb in 1953
      3. Criticized as “mutual extinction”
   4. Stalin’s Death (1953)
      1. Nikitia Khruschev
         1. New Soviet leader after Stalin’s death in 1953 to 1965.
         2. Not as harsh as Stalin
      2. Believed US and Soviet Union could “peacefully co-exist” with one another but the Soviet Union had to be as strong militarily as the US.
   5. CIA-Iran Overthrow
      1. when the Iranian government did not comply with the massive Western companies controlling the oil in Iran,
      2. the CIA devised a rebellion to put Mohammed Reza Pahlevi, a young dictator-like figure, into power as the new shah of Iran.
      3. This ultimately led to Iranian bitterness towards America, leading to their revenge decades later.
   6. CIA overthrows leftist government in Guatemala (June 1954)
   7. The Suez Crisis: 1956-1957
      1. International crisis launched when Egyptian President Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal, previously owned mostly by French and British stockholders.
      2. This crisis failed without aid from the United States and marked an important turning point in the post-colonial Middle East and highlighted the rising importance of oil in world affairs
   8. The Hungarian Uprising: 1956
      1. Soviets had promised free elections.
      2. This could lead to the end of communist rule in Hungary.
      3. A series of demonstrations in Hungary against the Soviet Union in which Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev violently suppressed this pro-Western uprising, highlighting the limitations of American's power in Eastern Europe
      4. Americans do nothing when given the chance to rollback communism.
   9. Eisenhower Doctrine (January 1957)
      1. Pledged U.S. military and economic aid to Middle Eastern nations threatened by communist aggression.
   10. VP Nixon attacked in Venezuela (May 13, 1958)
   11. U-2 Spy Incident (1960)
       1. On May 1, 1960, a U.S. U-2 high altitude reconnaissance aircraft was shot down over central Russia, forcing its pilot, Gary Powers, to bail out at 15,000 feet.
       2. On May 5, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev announced the capture of the U.S. spy, and vowed that he would be put on trial.
       3. After initial denials, U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower admitted on May 7 that the unarmed reconnaissance aircraft was indeed on a spy mission.
       4. In response, Khrushchev cancelled a long-awaited summit meeting in Paris, and in August, Powers sentenced to ten years in a Soviet prison for his confessed espionage.
       5. However, a year-and-a-half later, on February 10, 1962, the Soviets released him in exchange for Rudolph Abel, a Soviet spy caught and convicted in the United States five years earlier.
       6. Led to the Berlin Wall being built and the Cold War “heating up again”
5. Technology
   1. Sputnik I (1957)
      1. The Russians have beaten America in space—they have the technological edge!
   2. Facts on Sputnik
      1. Launched Oct. 4, 1957
      2. Stayed in orbit 92 days, until Jan. 4, 1958
   3. Effects on the United States
      1. Americans fear a Soviet attack with missile technology
      2. Americans resolved to regain technological superiority over the Soviet Union
      3. In July 1958, President Eisenhower created NASA or National Aeronautics and Space and Administration
      4. 1958 --> National Defense Education Act
         1. Authorized $887 million in loans to needy college students and in grants for the improvement of teaching the sciences and languages
      5. Atomic Anxieties:
         1. “Duck-and-Cover Generation”
   4. Atomic Testing:
      1. Between July 16, 1945 and Sept. 23, 1992, the United States conducted 1,054 official nuclear tests, most of them at the Nevada Test Site.
      2. Americans built underground bomb shelters and cities had underground fallout shelters.

**Conformity**

1. Post-War America
   1. Serviceman’s Readjustment Act of 1944 or “GI Bill of Rights”
      1. Help veterans adjust to civilian life and gain higher education if they couldn’t afford one
      2. Restore lost educational opportunities because of military service.
      3. Enhance nation through a more highly educated and productive work force
      4. This was a correction of our mistake after WWI.
      5. GI Bill provided 6 benefits
         1. education and training
         2. Loans for a home, farm, or business
         3. unemployment pay of $20 a week for 52 weeks
         4. job-finding assistance
      6. Of the 15,440,000 veterans, some 7.8 million were trained.
         1. 2,230,000 in college
         2. 3,480,000 in other schools
         3. 1,400,000 in on-job training
         4. 690,000 in farm training
      7. Total cost of the World War II education program was $14.5 billion.
   2. Suburban Growth
      1. Levittown, L. I.: “The American Dream”
         1. $7,990 or $60/month with no down payment.
      2. By 1960 🡪 1/3 of the U. S. population in the suburbs.
      3. The Typical TV Suburban Families
         1. The Donna Reed Show (1958-1966)
         2. Leave It to Beaver (1957-1963)
         3. Father Knows Best (1954-1958)
         4. The Ozzie & Harriet Show (1952-1966)
   3. Baby Boom
      1. During Great Depression, birthrate and population decreased.
      2. Post WWII, both increase
      3. Number of annual births exceeded 2 per 100 women.
   4. Rise of the Sunbelt
      1. The Sunbelt states included from Florida to California
      2. Warm weather, low taxes, and job opportunities prompted families to move to these areas.
2. Post War Politics
   1. 22nd Amendment
      1. Presidents could only serve 2 terms, ratified in 1951
   2. Taft-Hartley Act (1947)
      1. Republican-promoted, anti-union legislation that weakened many of labor's New Deal gains by banning the closed shop and other strategies that helped unions organize.
      2. It also required union leaders to take a non-communist oath, which purged the union movement of many of its most committed and active organizers.
   3. Election of 1948
      1. Truman (Democrat) vs. Dewey (Republican).
      2. Strom Thurmond ran as Dixiecrat, Southern Democrats
         1. This caused a split in the Democratic party.
         2. Conservative southern Democrats who objected to Truman's push for civil-rights.
         3. States' Rights Democratic Party was a segregationist, populist, socially conservative splinter party of the Democratic Party determined to keep the South the same.
      3. Virtually every prediction (with or without public opinion polls) indicated that incumbent President Harry S. Truman would be defeated by Republican Thomas Dewey.
   4. Civil Rights
      1. African American WWII veterans returned to Jim Crow and discrimination.
      2. Integrated the military
      3. Integrated the federal government.
      4. Jackie Robinson broke the “colored barrier” and played major league baseball with the Brooklyn Dodgers……1947 to 1956
   5. The Fair Deal
      1. Truman’s “Fair Deal” domestic program
         1. called for improved housing
         2. full employment
         3. a higher minimum wage
         4. better farm price supports
         5. New Tennessee Valley Administrations
         6. extension of Social Security.
3. Domestic Policy
   1. Interstate Highway Act of 1956
      1. 42,000 miles of interstate highways linking major cities
      2. Largest public works project in American history with a cost of $32 billion
      3. Improves national defense
      4. Good for jobs, trucking
      5. Bad for the poor, public transportation
   2. The Culture of the Car
      1. America became a more homogeneous nation because of the automobile.
      2. Car registrations:
         1. 1945 🡪 25,000,000
         2. 1960 🡪 60,000,000
      3. 2-family cars doubles from 1951-1958
      4. 1955 🡪 Disneyland opened in Southern California.
         1. 40% of the guests came from outside California, most by car.
4. 1950s Culture
   1. Consumerism
      1. Consumer-driven mass economy
      2. Americans were caught up in the “economic boom” that took place after WWII
      3. Americans were becoming a consumer society
         1. .Buying whatever new product that came out that would make their lives comfortable.
      4. “Keeping up with the Joneses”
      5. Drive-ins — speed and convenience, McDonalds
   2. Television
      1. 1946 --> 7,000 TV sets in the U. S.
      2. 1950 --> 50,000,000 TV sets in the U. S.
      3. 1961 --> 55,000,000 TV sets in the U.S.
      4. 3 national networks, bland sit-coms, westerns, quiz shows, sports,
      5. Mass Audience
         1. TV celebrated traditional American values:
         2. Superman-----Truth, Justice, and the American way!
         3. Family Shows --> glossy view of mostly middle-class suburban life.
   3. Advertising
      1. All media, aggressive
      2. Shopping centers, credit cards
      3. Change from “mom & pop” to franchises (more conformity from city to city)
   4. Paperback books
      1. Reading Increase despite television—1 million copies a day
      2. Benjamin Spock’s *Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care*.
   5. Records
      1. Mass-marketed, inexpensive LP’s or 45’s
      2. Rock and Roll music becomes popular with teenagers
         1. Elvis "The King" Presley
         2. Chuck Berry
   6. Rise of the Teenage Culture
      1. In the 1950s --> the word “teenager” entered the American language.
      2. 1956 --> 13 million teens with $7 billion to spend a year.
      3. Behavioral Rules of the 1950s
         * Obey Authority.
         * Control Your Emotions.
         * Don’t Make Waves
         * Fit in with the Group.
         * Don’t Even Think About Sex!
   7. Progress Through Science
      1. 1951 -- First IBM Mainframe Computer
      2. 1952 -- Hydrogen Bomb Test
      3. 1953 -- DNA Structure Discovered
      4. 1954 -- Salk Vaccine Tested for polio
      5. 1957 -- First Commercial U. S. Nuclear Power Plant
      6. 1958 -- NASA Created (National Aeronautical Space Administration)
      7. 1959 -- Press Conference of the First 7 American Astronauts
   8. Corporate America
      1. More white-collar jobs than blue-collar
      2. Teamwork, conformity, strict dress codes
      3. 1947-1957 --> factory workers decreased by 4.3%, eliminating 1.5 million blue-collar jobs.
      4. By 1956 --> more white-collar than blue-collar jobs in the U. S
      5. 1956 --> Sloan Wilson’s *The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit*
   9. Big unions merge (AFL & CIO)
      1. more conservative—industrial jobs making middle-class income
   10. Suburbs, new cars, new schools, family vacations
   11. Well-Defined Gender Roles
       1. The ideal 1950’s man was the provider, protector, and the boss of the house. -- Life magazine, 1955
       2. 1956 --> William H. Whyte, Jr. --> The Organization Man \* a middle-class, white suburban male is the ideal.
       3. Role of Women
          1. Mass media reinforced traditional roles
          2. Lower wages in the workplace
   12. Religion
       1. After WWII, organized religion expands, becomes more tolerant
       2. 1000s of new churches, synagogues
       3. Less interest in doctrine, more in socialization, identity
       4. Church membership:
          1. 1940 --> 64,000,000
          2. 1960 --> 114,000,000
       5. Television Preachers
          1. Catholic Bishop Fulton J. Sheen --> “Life is Worth Living”
          2. Reverend Billy Graham --> ecumenical message; warned against the evils of Communism.
       6. Hollywood: apex of the biblical epics.
          1. The Ten Commandments (1956)
          2. Ben Hur (1959)

**Critics**

1. Social Critics
   1. Wanted increased social spending
   2. Struggle against conformity
      1. The “Beatnik” Generation:
         1. Against traditional values of the Great Depressions and WWII generation
         2. Would influence the “counter-culture” of the 1960’s
            1. Jack Kerouac --> On The Road
            2. Allen Ginsberg --> poem, “Howl”
   3. Struggle against anti-communism
      1. Arthur Miller
         1. *The Crucible*
            1. Salem Witch Hunts as allegory for Communist witch hunts
2. Changing Sexual Behavior:
   1. Alfred Kinsey
      1. 1948 --> Sexual Behavior in the Human Male
      2. 1953 --> Sexual Behavior in the Human Female
         1. premarital sex was common.
         2. extramarital affairs were frequent among married couples.
      3. “Kinsey’s results are an assault on the family as a basic unit of society, a negation of moral law, and a celebration of licentiousness.”-- Life magazine, early 1950s
3. Civil Rights
   1. Background
      1. Post WWI & WWII movement to urban areas
      2. African Americans influencing party politics by the 1950s
      3. Conflicting feelings about Cold War message of freedom and democracy
   2. Civil Rights Acts of 1957 & 1960
      1. First since Reconstruction
   3. Montgomery (Alabama) Bus Boycott
      1. December 1955, Rosa Parks, a 42 yr. old Black woman was ordered by a Montgomery bus driver to give up her seat to white passengers.
      2. Refused, arrested and fined $10 for sitting in the white section.
      3. Blacks refused to ride buses until the law was changed.
      4. Begins the Civil Rights Era as a national movement to bring about equality for Black Americans.
      5. Led by Martin Luther King, Jr.
      6. Montgomery City Government ended segregation.
   4. *Brown vs. Board of Education, Topeka, Kansas*
      1. May 1954, Supreme Court overturned *Plessy v. Ferguson* and the "separate but equal" doctrine.
      2. Segregation of children in public schools on the basis of race was unconstitutional and discrimination.
      3. States ordered to integrate their schools.
   5. Little Rock Nine
      1. Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas was the first high school in the South to integrate.
      2. 1958, President Eisenhower sent Federal troops to accompany the nine black students attending an all white high school.
4. White Backlash
   1. White Citizen’s Council
      1. Located in many Southern towns in reaction to integration efforts by Civil Rights leaders
      2. Members of the PTA, Junior League, Chamber of Commerce
   2. Ku Klux Klan
      1. Continued lynchings and intimidation of African Americans
      2. Emmitt Till, a young African-American brutally murdered in Mississippi.