

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## The Cold War Begins

### Section 1



#### MAIN IDEA

At the end of World War II, tensions between the Soviet Union and the United States deepened, leading to an era known as the Cold War.

## Key Terms and People

**Cold War** era of high tension and bitter rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union

**Iron Curtain** phrase coined by Winston Churchill to describe the division in Europe caused by communism

**containment** policy that called for resisting the spread of Soviet power and influence

**George F. Kennan** American expert on the Soviet Union who worked for containment

**Truman Doctrine** policy to support free nations economically to prevent the spread of communism

**Marshall Plan** massive American economic aid program to help Western Europe rebuild

**Berlin Airlift** British and American airplanes supply deliveries by air to West Berlin in response to Soviet blockade

**NATO** North Atlantic Treaty Organization; military alliance of 12 nations for common defense against the Soviets

## Section Summary

### THE ROOTS OF THE COLD WAR

The **Cold War** was an era of high tension and bitter competition between the United States and the Soviet Union. Americans were against communism. However, they fought with the Soviet Union to defeat Hitler. During World War II, Stalin pushed for an early invasion of Europe. He became angry when this was delayed. The American development of the atomic bomb also fueled Soviet distrust. The Soviets began to develop an atomic bomb of their own.

**What made Stalin angry at the other Allies during World War II?**

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### THE IRON CURTAIN DESCENDS

At the Yalta and Potsdam conferences, Stalin had promised to hold free elections in Eastern European nations. He did not do so. Stalin wanted to have a buffer zone between Western Europe and the Soviet Union. In the nations of Eastern Europe, the Soviets jailed or killed the opponents of communism. They rigged elections. Thus they were able to put

**What promise about Eastern European nations did Stalin break?**

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Communist governments in place. Churchill likened the division of Europe to an **Iron Curtain**.

#### THE UNITED STATES RESPONDS

The American government adopted the policy of **containment**. This policy was created by American statesman **George F. Kennan**. He believed that the United States should resist Soviet attempts to expand their influence. The **Truman Doctrine** called for providing economic aid to help free nations resist communism. The United States also began the **Marshall Plan**. This was a massive program of aid to Western Europe. It enabled the Europeans to rebuild. As a result, Western Europe was able to feed its people. It could also buy products from the United States. The Marshall Plan helped the United States build strong political support in Western Europe.

**Underline the names of the two policies the United States used in response to the increase in Soviet power.**

**How did the Marshall Plan help both Europe and the United States?**

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#### THE CRISIS IN BERLIN

Germany was divided into four zones of occupation. The British, French, and Americans occupied West Germany. The Soviets occupied East Germany. The city of Berlin, in East Germany, was also divided into four zones. In 1948 the Soviets declared that they would block all rail, road, or river traffic into West Berlin. The only way left to supply the city was by air. Supplies were flown in by the British and Americans. The **Berlin Airlift** continued for almost a year.

The conflict with the Soviet Union worried many Western Europeans. Five nations joined in a system of common defense. Then the United States and six other nations joined the original five. They formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (**NATO**). The nations of NATO pledged to defend each other against a Soviet attack.

**Why was NATO formed?**

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#### CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

**Critical Thinking: Design** What if your city or town was blockaded as Berlin was? Make a list of all the things you can think of that would have to be brought in by air.

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### Section 2



#### MAIN IDEA

Following the end of World War II, U.S. military forces—and the rest of the country—faced the challenge of returning to life during peacetime.

## Key Terms and People

**GI Bill** law aimed at helping veterans make a smooth entry into civilian life

**baby boom** dramatic rise in the birthrate after World War II

**Fair Deal** Truman's plan for the United States in the tradition of the New Deal

**Universal Declaration of Human Rights** UN document specifying basic human rights all people should have

**World Bank** postwar organization aimed at helping poor countries build their economies

**International Monetary Fund** postwar organization formed to encourage economic policies that promoted international trade

**General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade** international organization to promote trade

## Section Summary

### LIFE IN AMERICA AFTER WORLD WAR II

Some people worried that the American economy would be in trouble when the war ended. Suddenly there was no need for factories to produce war materials. Also, most men and women in the armed forces would be returning to civilian life. In 1944 President Roosevelt signed the **GI Bill**. This bill aimed at helping veterans make a smooth change to being civilians. The bill provided money for veterans who wanted education. It gave them loans to buy homes, farms, or businesses. It also helped veterans find work and provided unemployment benefits for those who could not. During the war, the government had controlled what factories could produce. When the war ended, people had money to spend on consumer items. Also, there was a large increase in the birthrate after World War II. This was called the **baby boom**. Demand for consumer goods rose sharply. The economy shifted from providing tools of war to products of peace.

After the war, the power of labor unions was reduced by law. Truman opposed this unsuccessfully. He had more success on behalf of minorities. Truman

**Underline the reasons why the American economy might have had trouble after World War II.**

**What did the GI Bill do for veterans?**

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ended segregation in the armed forces by executive order. Both African Americans and Hispanics began to make gains after the war.

#### POLITICS IN POSTWAR AMERICA

Harry Truman faced huge challenges when he became president. He had to lead the Allies through the end of the war. He had to guide the nation back to peace. He faced much criticism. Most people thought he would lose the election of 1948. He surprised many by winning. He then put forward his **Fair Deal**. It included a number of programs in the tradition of the New Deal. Congress defeated most of his proposals. Meanwhile, problems arose in Korea.

**How did Congress treat the Fair Deal?**

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#### TRYING TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD

After two world wars, many people wanted to prevent another war. Representatives of 50 nations formed the United Nations, or UN. Member nations agreed to live in peace and to unite to provide security. The UN Commission on Human Rights published the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**. This document set high goals for all member nations. It said that all human beings were born free and equal. It called for an end to slavery and torture. It also demanded a variety of civil rights including the right to assembly and the right to access to courts.

Poor financial relationships between countries had helped cause the Great Depression. Representatives of the world powers formed the **World Bank** and the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**. The World Bank aimed to help poor countries build their economies. It provided grants and loans. The IMF encouraged economic policies that promoted international trade. The **General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)** also promoted trade. It aimed to reduce tariffs and other trade barriers.

**Underline what the Universal Declaration of Human Rights said.**

**Circle the names of the three organizations that were formed to help countries have better financial relationships.**

#### CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

**Critical Thinking: Analyze** Write two paragraphs explaining what happened to the American economy following the war. What factors affected the postwar economy?

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#### MAIN IDEA

The start of the Cold War and events at home helped trigger a second Red Scare in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

## Key Terms and People

**Chiang Kai-shek** leader of the Chinese Nationalists

**Mao Zedong** leader of the Chinese Communists

**House Un-American Activities Committee** Congressional committee to investigate radical groups in the United States; also known as HUAC

**Hollywood Ten** group of writers and directors who were jailed for refusing to answer questions before HUAC

**Alger Hiss** government official accused of being part of a plot to place Communists inside the U.S. government

**Joseph McCarthy** senator from Wisconsin who became known as the nation's top Communist fighter

**McCarthyism** Joseph McCarthy's tactics of spreading fear and making baseless charges

## Section Summary

### GROWING FEAR OF COMMUNISM

After the war Americans were worried about the spread of communism in Europe. Then the Soviet Union developed an atomic bomb. Soon afterwards, the United States learned that Communists had gained nearly full control of China. The Nationalist government led by **Chiang Kai-shek** retreated from mainland China to the island of Taiwan. Chiang had been loyal to the Allies during World War II. He and the United States claimed that the Nationalist government was the one true government of all China. **Mao Zedong** led the Chinese Communists. China became the People's Republic of China.

**Underline the name of the country that developed the atomic bomb after World War II.**

**Circle the name of the island to which the Nationalist Chinese retreated.**

### FIGHTING THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM AT HOME

Anti-Communist feeling was strong in the United States. The House of Representatives had formed a **House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC)** in the 1930s. This committee was to investigate all

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radical groups. However, it soon came to focus on the threat of communism.

In 1947 the committee wanted to investigate possible Communist influence in the entertainment industry. Ten writers and directors were called before the committee. They refused to answer questions about their beliefs or the beliefs of others. Known as the **Hollywood Ten**, these people were jailed for their refusal. After that, many people provided names of friends and colleagues to the committee. Those who refused were blacklisted. This meant their names were on a list and Hollywood employers would not hire anyone on the list. In 1948 President Truman used the Smith Act to convict some leaders of the Communist Party in the United States. They were convicted for their thoughts, not their actions. Then Congress passed the McCarran Act over Truman's veto. This act made it illegal for Communists and other radicals to enter the United States.

Spy cases helped fuel the fear of communism. **Alger Hiss** was a government official accused of plotting to put Communists in the government. He served several years in prison. Ethel and Julius Rosenberg were convicted of spying and executed.

#### SENATOR JOSEPH MCCARTHY

**Joseph McCarthy** was a senator from Wisconsin. He came to national attention by pretending to have lists of Communists in the government. Americans believed him even though he never showed the lists. McCarthy attacked many people as Communists without evidence. He used fake photographs to defeat one of Truman's strongest supporters. His tactic of spreading fear and making baseless charges was called **McCarthyism**. McCarthyism spread to government, universities, labor unions, and private businesses. People could lose their jobs simply for having radical ideas. Thousands of people were fired for political reasons.

#### CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

**Critical Thinking: Contrast** Write two paragraphs contrasting McCarthyism and the Communist hunts of the 1940s and 1950s with our treatment of suspected terrorists today. Note the similarities and differences between today and the 1940s and 1950s.

**Why were the members of the Hollywood Ten jailed?**

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**Underline the two spy cases that frightened Americans.**

**How did McCarthy come to national attention?**

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## The Cold War Begins

### Section 4



#### MAIN IDEA

Cold War tensions finally erupted in a shooting war in 1950. The United States confronted a difficult challenge defending freedom halfway around the world.

## Key Terms and People

**38th parallel** dividing line between North Korea and South Korea

**Kim Il Sung** first leader of North Korea

**Syngman Rhee** first president of South Korea

**police action** term used to refer to the UN effort in Korea, where war was never officially declared

**Inchon** port city in Korea; site of an important battle

**Panmunjom** Korean town that was the site of peace negotiations

## Section Summary

### KOREA BEFORE THE WAR

Japan controlled the Korean peninsula until World War II ended. The Allies agreed that Korea should be free after the war. Temporarily, however, they divided the peninsula in half. The division was made at the **38th parallel**. This was the line at 38° north latitude. The Soviet Union would control Korea north of that line. The Americans would have control south of it. Communist **Kim Il Sung** was the first leader of North Korea. South Korea's president, **Syngman Rhee**, had dictatorial control. Both leaders wanted to reunite Korea, but they had different ideas about how to do it. Efforts toward reunification led to war.

Who controlled Korea during World War II?

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### THE START OF THE KOREAN WAR

On June 25, 1950, North Korean troops invaded South Korea. They were armed with Soviet weapons and tanks. The attack surprised most leaders in the United States. Truman believed that South Korea had to be defended. The United States had to take a stand against Communist aggression. Not to do so might lead to another world war. The North Koreans quickly pushed to the capital city of Seoul and took it. Truman asked the UN to approve the use of force. The UN Security Council agreed because the Soviet

What country armed the North Korean troops?

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representative was absent. Instead of officially declaring war, the fighting was called a **police action**. The United States and 15 other nations sent ground troops to fight. The commander of the United Nations force was American General Douglas MacArthur.

Circle the name of the American leader of the UN forces.

### KEY BATTLES OF THE KOREAN WAR

The North Koreans pushed the UN forces to the southern tip of South Korea. UN forces were told to hold the port city of Pusan at all costs. They held the city and the Communist attack became stalled. This gave time for more UN troops and supplies to arrive. MacArthur's plan was to land behind North Korean lines at the port city of **Inchon**. His daring plan was successful. The UN forces quickly moved out from Inchon to recapture Seoul. The UN forces drove the North Koreans out of South Korea.

Why was MacArthur's plan daring?

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MacArthur wanted to take North Korea. However, a large Chinese army came into North Korea. The UN forces had to retreat. MacArthur thought that the UN had to attack China and possibly use atomic bombs. But he was wrong. A force led by Lieutenant General Matthew Ridgway stopped the Chinese and pushed them back to the 38th parallel. MacArthur still demanded an invasion of China. Truman had to fire MacArthur because he would not obey presidential orders.

### FIGHTING ENDS IN KOREA

Peace talks began in 1951 in the Korean town of **Panmunjom**. They dragged on for two years, until after Eisenhower became president in 1953. Over 36,000 American soldiers had died. Almost 60,000 UN troops from other countries had died. Communist forces had 2 million casualties. As many as 3 million Korean civilians were killed or injured.

Circle the numbers of all the casualties of the war. In total, how many people were hurt or killed?

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### CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

**Critical Thinking: Evaluate** Was Truman right to fire MacArthur? Write two paragraphs explaining your position.