



# The Superpower

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1945-1980



# Learning Objectives

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- Explain the continuities and changes in Cold War policies from 1945 to 1980.
- United States policymakers engaged in a cold war with the authoritarian Soviet Union, seeking to limit the growth of Communist military power and ideological influence, create a free-market global economy, and build an international security system.
- As postwar tensions dissolved the wartime alliance between Western democracies and the Soviet Union, the United States developed a foreign policy based on collective security, international aid, and economic institutions that bolstered non-Communist nations.
- Concerned by expansionist Communist ideology and Soviet repression, the United States sought to contain communism through a variety of measures, including major military engagements in Korea.
- The Cold War fluctuated between periods of direct and indirect military confrontation and periods of mutual coexistence (or détente).



The Truman Doctrine



The Marshall Plan

# Causes for the Cold War

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- When Russia dropped out of World War I and the Western Allies tried to end the growth of communism before the Soviet Union could develop from 1918-1920 it led to mistrust between the new Soviet Union and the West.
- The Soviet Union signed a Nonaggression Pact with Nazi Germany at the beginning of World War II which led to mistrust between the two sides.
- While the Soviets faced the German onslaught and the invasion of their homeland which resulted in the deaths of 20 million of their own people, the Allies invaded first North Africa to secure Middle Eastern oil and then Italy, so that they could bomb German factories around the clock. It felt like a betrayal to the Soviets. This led the Western Allies to delay the promised invasion and liberation of France for more than a year despite the Soviets begging for their assistance. The Soviets never forgive them for it.

# Causes for the Cold War

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- The Western Allies- principally the United States developed the atomic bomb– a weapon of incredible destructive power and tried to keep it and its capabilities a secret from the Soviet Union.
- The United States wanted to end the war in the Pacific prior to the Soviet Union entering the war against Japan because they feared the Soviets would take territories for themselves in East Asia.
- The Western Allies wanted to rebuild Germany in their own image once the war came to an end. But, the Soviets wanted a severely weakened Germany so that they could never be invaded by it again. Both Germany and the capital city of Berlin were divided into occupation zones by each of the Allied powers.



The Korean War



The History of Cuban Missile Crisis



# The Cold War: Assignment Items

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- Define the following terms: containment, brinkmanship, collective security, flexible response, and detente. (Jacob's Group)
- What was the importance of the following: the Truman Doctrine, the Marshall Plan, NATO, the Warsaw Pact, ICBM(s), the Berlin Wall, SALT I, and the Helsinki Accords? (Mariah's Group)
- Create a timeline which has the following events on it: the Berlin Airlift, the Korean War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Space Race, the Vietnam War, and the Iranian Hostage Crisis. (Tamara's Group)
- Why would the United States use covert operations in such places as Iran, Guatemala, Cuba, and Chile? What were the results of each of these covert operations? (Marcello's Group)
- What were the causes and effects of each of the following: the Berlin Airlift, the Korean War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Space Race, the Vietnam War, and the Iranian Hostage Crisis. (Jules's Group)

# Assignment Items- Student Responses- 1

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## 1. Terms

- Containment- policies to limit or stop the spread of communism.
- Brinkmanship- concept that nuclear war could never happen because it would mean both countries would launch nukes at each other and destroy the world.
- Collective Security- if one country in the system is attacked by another country, all of the countries must come to its assistance.
- Flexible Response- the use of military power and technologies to respond to crises around the world.
- Detente- trying to ease hostilities.

# Assignment Items- Student Responses- 2

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## 2. Policies

- Truman Doctrine- U.S. helps or assists other nations that were fighting to resist the spread of communism.
- Marshall Plan- provide funding for rebuilding roads, bridges, factories, businesses, hospitals, and schools of the nations of Western Europe and Japan after World War II.
- NATO- a collective security agreement that would use the strength of the U.S. military and its nuclear arsenal to defend Western Europe against the spread of communism.
- Warsaw Pact- a collective security agreement that would use the military strength of the Soviet Union and its nuclear arsenal to defend Eastern Europe from the designs of the West.
- ICBM (Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile Systems)- can strike from long distances and deliver nuclear payloads.
- Berlin Wall- a symbol of the divide between the East and the West in the Cold War.
- SALT I (Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty)- an agreement that was signed to prevent the escalation of the arms race.
- Helsinki Accords- the communist bloc of nations agreed with the West to recognize basic human rights.

# Assignment Items- Student Responses- 3

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## 3. Timeline of Events

- The Berlin Airlift- 1947-1948
- The Korean War- 1950-1953
- The Space Race- 1957-1975
- The Cuban Missile Crisis- 1962
- The Vietnam War- 1964-1973
- The Iranian Hostage Crisis- 1979-1981

# Assignment Items- Student Responses- 4

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## 4. American Interventions

- America used covert operations to eliminate political figures who were seen as possible communist threats.
- The efforts to remove leaders from both Cuba and Iran became long-term failures.
- The U.S. was successful in removing leaders from Guatemala and Chile, but the leaders that Americans backed turned out to also be brutal dictators.
- The reason for these operations was to prevent another global conflict by establishing regimes that were friendly to the U.S. Most of the time, these interventions were abject failures.

# Assignment Items- Student Responses- 5

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## 5. Cause and Effect- Chart Items:

- Berlin Airlift (1947-1948) Cause- Soviet blockade of West Berlin; Effect- Demonstrated Western resolve against Soviet aggression
- Korean War (1950-1953) Cause- North Korea invaded South Korea; Effect- Korean peninsula remained divided and it intensified the Cold War rivalry.
- Cuban Missile Crisis (1962) Cause- the failure of the Bay of Pigs invasion led the Soviets to place missiles in Cuba; Effect- a near nuclear confrontation that was avoided by improved U.S.- Soviet communications.
- Space Race- (1957-1975) Cause- A Cold War competition for achievements in space exploration; Effect- Technological advancements that benefited humanity and propaganda value for both superpowers.
- Vietnam War- (1964-1973) Cause- The desire of the communists in North Vietnam to unite the entire country under their rule; Effect- A war with massive casualties which divided American society and led to a re-evaluation of American foreign policy strategy moving forward.
- Iranian Hostage Crisis (1979-1981) Cause- Removal of the Shah from power and the seizure of the U.S. embassy in Tehran; Effect- Strained relations with Iran and Islamic nations in the Middle East, diplomatic isolation for Iran, and it contributed to a political shift in the U.S. with the election of Reagan in 1980.

# WHO WON THE SPACE RACE?



Who Won the Space Race?

# The Cold War: Short-Answer Question Assignment

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- Address the following items:
  - a. Briefly describe one continuity in U.S. foreign policy during the Cold War from 1945-1980.
  - b. Briefly describe one change in U.S. foreign policy during the Cold War from 1945-1980.
  - c. Explain one way in which the United States attempted to influence the affairs of other nations during the Cold War from 1945-1980.



# Lesson Objectives

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- Explain the causes and effects of the Red Scare after World War II.
- Americans debated policies and methods designed to expose suspected communists within the United States even as both parties supported the broader strategy of containing communism.

# The Red Scare

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What is McCarthyism?

# The Economy



# Communism vs. Capitalism

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## Communism-

An economic system in which goods are owned in common and are available to all as needed. It also advocates for the idea of no personal property.

A totalitarian system of government in which a single authoritarian party controls state-owned means of production.

## Capitalism-

An economic system characterized by private or corporate ownership of capital goods, by investments that are determined by private decision, and by prices, production, and the distribution of goods that are determined mainly by competition in a free market.

## Republic-

A government in which supreme power resides in a body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by elected officers and representatives responsible to them and governing according to law.



Make Mine Freedom, 1948

# Lesson Objectives

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Explain the causes of economic growth in the years after World War II.

A burgeoning private sector, federal spending, the baby boom, and technological developments helped spur economic growth.

Explain the causes and effects of the migration of various groups of Americans after 1945.

As higher education opportunities and new technologies rapidly expanded, increasing social mobility encouraged the migration of the middle class to the suburbs and of many Americans to the South and West. The Sun Belt region emerged as a significant political and economic force.



The Creation of America's Highway System



# Assignment Items

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- Explain three ways in which the federal government fostered the economic growth in America during the Cold War period from 1945-1980.
- Explain two ways in which Americans migrated during the Cold War period from 1945-1980.
- Explain one reason why Americans would experience an economic slump by the end of the Cold War period from 1945-1980.

# The Culture

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# Lesson Objectives

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Explain how mass culture has been maintained or challenged over time.

Mass culture became increasingly homogeneous in the postwar years, inspiring challenges to conformity by artists, intellectuals, and rebellious youth.



Leave it to Beaver- The Best of Wally Cleaver, 1957-1963



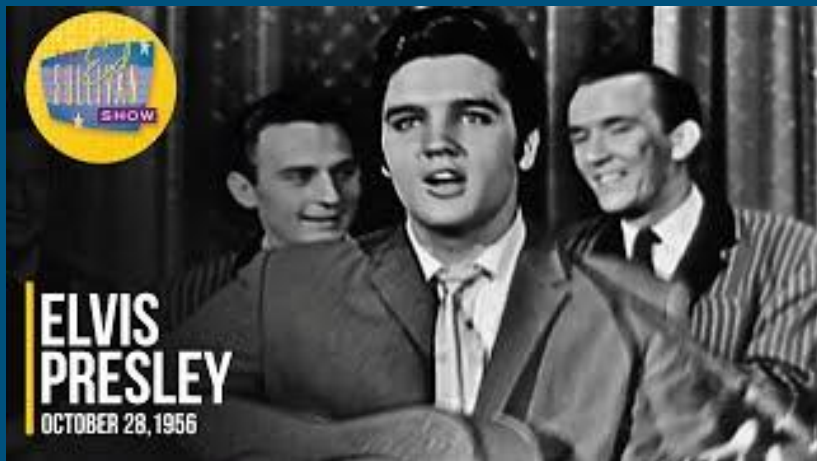
Lucy and the Chocolate Factory, 1952



Star Trek- Space Seed (1967)



All in the Family- A Math Lesson with the Bunkers, 1975



The Ed Sullivan Show- Elvis Presley, 1956



Big Mama Thornton, "Hound Dog," 1965 (Live)





Chuck Berry, Johnny B. Goode, 1958 (Live)



The Beatles- The Ed Sullivan Show, 1964



The Rolling Stones- The Ed Sullivan Show, 1966



The Supremes- The Ed Sullivan Show, 1966



Sly and the Family Stone- The Ed Sullivan Show, 1968



Creedence Clearwater Revival, The Ed Sullivan Show, 1969



John Denver- Take Me Home, Country Roads- 1971





Soul Train- The O'Jays- Love Train, 1973





The Eagles- Hotel California, 1977



The Bee Gees- Night Fever, 1978



Queen- Another One Bites the Dust, 1980



High Noon- Classic Film Trailer, 1952



The Magnificent Seven, 1960



James Bond- Goldfinger, 1964



2001: A Space Odyssey, 1968



The Godfather, 1972





Jaws, 1975



Rocky, 1976



Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back, 1980

# Assignment Items

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- a. Describe one important continuity in the entertainment of the period that captivated American audiences from 1945-1980.
- b. Describe one major change in the entertainment of the period that captivated American audiences from 1945-1980.
- c. Discuss the impact that events such as the following listed below would have on the entertainment of the period. (Choose one item.)

- \* The Civil Rights Movement

- \* The Vietnam War

- \* Malaise in the 1970s