

AP United States History

Cold War Introduction

- The Cold War
 - Global balance of economic and political power shifted after end of WWII and rapidly evolved into the Cold War
 - US and USSR emerge as superpowers leading to ideological struggles
 - Capitalism and communism become competing economic ideologies around the world
- United Nations — 1945
 - 15 member Security Council that maintains international security
- Soviets in Eastern Europe
 - Bordering Nations of Russia in Europe become satellites of USSR
 - Only wanted friendly nations next to the soviets and blocking Germany
- Occupation Zones in Germany
 - East Germany is communist and West Germany is capitalist
 - Weak vs Strong Germany conflict
- Truman Doctrine
 - Support free people who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or outside pressures
 - Stopping communism from spreading by aiding countries with money to block Soviets
- Marshall Plan — 1946-1947
 - Provide aid to Europe to fight communism in the aftermath of WWII
 - \$13 billion to mostly Western Europe
 - Part of the Truman Doctrine
- Berlin Blockade
 - Soviets blockade land routes from West Germany to West Berlin
 - Hope was either US would give up West Berlin or give a reason to retaliate for war
 - In response, US flies airplanes above East Germany into West Berlin

- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (1949)
 - Several Western European countries, US, Canada, form alliance to fight back communism
- National Security Council Paper 68 — 1950
 - More aggressive policy for US in defense and Alliances with non-communist countries
 - More money to defense spending
 - Convince public that communism is a threat
 - Group effort among DoD, DoS, CIA, and other agencies and lasted for decades
- Communist China — 1949
 - Long civil war in China fighting Nationalists against communists concludes in 1949
 - Communists take over and start to form alliances with Soviet Union
- Korean War — 1950-1953
 - North Korea invades South Korea under leadership of Kim Il-Sung and pushes UN forces down to corner of Korea
 - MacArthur leads a sea invasion at Incheon and cuts off North Koreans, pushes up to border of China
 - China is worried that the UN forces and sends troops to support North Korea
 - Cease Fire organized in 1953, technically still at war today