

The Cold War

Study Guide

Nations that are much more powerful than the other nations of the world are called **SUPERPOWERS**.

The two of these during the Cold War were the **US** and the **USSR**.

The United States led an organization called **NATO**.

The Soviet Union led an organization called **THE WARSAW PACT**

The Americans did not want communism to spread. This policy was called **CONTAINMENT**.

Schoolchildren were told to practice **DUCK AND COVER** drills in case of a nuclear bomb blast.

(Think **Bert the Turtle**)

People were encouraged to make **FALLOUT SHELTERS** where they could live if there was a nuclear attack.

In 1949, **CHINA** became a Communist country.

The communists in that country were led by **MAO ZEDONG**.

Mao started a program called the **GREAT LEAP FORWARD** which was designed to increase farm and industrial output.

He also started **the CULTURAL REVOLUTION** which was supposed to purge China of Western influences.

During the Cultural Revolution, people were encouraged to carry the **LITTLE RED BOOK**.

The Japanese and French faced resistance in Indochina and Vietnam from **GUERRILLA** fighters.

The leader of the Communists in Vietnam was **HO CHI MINH**.

The French were defeated at the battle of **DIEN BIEN PHU**.

Vietnam was divided into a **COMMUNIST** North and a **NON-COMMUNIST** South.

The United States believed that if one country became communist, others would too. This was called the **DOMINO THEORY**.

Eventually, American forces left Vietnam and the **COMMUNISTS** won the war.

Many people tried to flee Vietnam, they were called the **BOAT PEOPLE**.

There was also a Communist Revolution in **CAMBODIA** where the **KHMER ROUGE** took over.

Their leader **POL POT** was responsible for killing over **A MILLION** people, or one of three Cambodians.

The Soviets had their own Vietnam in **AFGHANISTAN**.

GORBACHEV tried to reform the Russian system but failed **ENTIRELY**.

The Soviet Union ceased to exist in **1991**.

The United States is now the world's only **SUPERPOWER**.

Nuremberg trials	trials in which the Allies prosecuted Nazis for war crimes
Cold War	struggle in which the U.S. and Soviet Union became rivals but never fought directly in military conflict
iron curtain	imaginary barrier separating Soviet-controlled countries and the free world
Truman Doctrine	President Truman's policy to aid nations struggling against communism
Marshall Plan	U.S. aid program to help Western Europe rebuild after World War II
containment	American policy to keep communism contained within its existing borders
Berlin airlift	operation in which the U.S. and Britain broke the Soviet blockade of West Berlin
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization; military alliance to counter Soviet expansion
Warsaw Pact	rival military alliance formed by the Soviet Union and its satellite states
hydrogen bomb	Improved atomic bomb using fusion instead of fission, its detonated by the US in 1952
deterrence	the development of or maintenance of military power to deter, or prevent, an attack
arms race	race in which countries compete to build more powerful weapons
Sputnik	USSR-launched first man-made satellite
Bay of Pigs invasion	a CIA-led force of Cuban exiles that attacked Cuba
Cuban Missile Crisis	in October, 1962 a confrontation of threats between Kennedy and Khrushchev
nonaligned nations	Countries not allied with NATO or Warsaw Pact
détente	reduced tensions between the superpowers highlighted by nuclear arms limitations
Martin Luther King, Jr.	Baptist preacher and civil rights leader who advocated nonviolent protest against segregation
counterculture	a movement in which people adopted values that ran counter to the mainstream culture
Solidarity	1980, Poland- thousands of workers joined an anti-government protest movement
Mikhail Gorbachev	the President of the Soviet Union beginning in 1985 who ushered in a new era of social and economic reforms
glasnost	Russian term meaning "a new openness," a policy in the Soviet Union in the 1980s calling for open discussion of national problems
perestroika	a policy in the Soviet Union in the 1980s calling for restructuring of the stagnant Soviet economy
Velvet Revolution	Successful peaceful revolution in Czechoslovakia that pushed Communists out of power
Boris Yeltsin	Leader of the Republic of Russia who opposed coup d'état attempt of hard-line Communists in 1991
ethnic cleansing	a systematic effort to purge an area or society of an ethnic group through murder or deportation
Internet	System of networks that connects computers around the world
Saddam Hussein	the dictator of Iraq, who invaded Kuwait in 1990 in an effort to gain control of 20% of the world's oil production
Persian Gulf War	1991 American-led attack on Iraqi forces to expel them from Kuwait
al Qaeda	a terrorist group established by Osama bin Laden to rid Muslim countries of Western influence
Osama bin Laden	Former leader of al Qaeda
Taliban	the Islamic fundamentalist faction that controlled most of Afghanistan from 1996-2001

When travelling between the US and USSR, crossing what body of water makes for the shortest trip?

The Arctic Ocean

Berlin was located in what country's zone of occupation after World War II?

The Soviet zone

What famous person coined the term "iron curtain?"

Winston Churchill

In what two countries AND in what year was the Truman Doctrine first put to use?

Greece and Turkey

Who led the UN forces in the Korean War?

General Douglas MacArthur

How did the Korean War end?

It was a stalemate.

When did US spy planes first photograph missile launching sites in Cuba?

1962

What happened once the French gave up control of Vietnam?

Split country into North & South Vietnam

How did East Germany stop the exodus of people into West Berlin in 1961?

They built the Berlin Wall

Who overthrew Cuba's dictator in 1959?

Fidel Castro

How did Egypt anger the West in 1956?

They seized the Suez Canal

Which three countries attacked Egypt as a result of this action?

Britain, France, & Israel

What two countries in Africa became pawns in the Cold War as they gained independence?

Congo & Angola

In what South American country did the US support the opposition to a democratically elected leader? Who was he?

Chile Salvador Allende

What happened to Allende?

He was overthrown by a military coup

SALT

Strategic Arms Limitation Talks

ABM

Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty

INF

Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty

What caused the US economy of the 1970's to slow dramatically?

Rapid inflation and high unemployment

How did the Marshall Plan affect Western Europe?

It helped those countries rebuild their economies beyond pre-WWII levels

Who ordered the "de-Stalinization" of the USSR?

Nikita Khrushchev

What did "de-Stalinization" mean?

Tearing down statues, renaming streets & towns, loosened restrictions

What 4 countries revolted after Stalin's death but were quickly suppressed?

East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland

Who led the Solidarity movement in Poland in the 1980's?

Lech Walesa

What was his occupation?

electrician

Why did Gorbachev pull Soviet troops out of Eastern Europe? How did these countries react?

USSR couldn't afford to keep troops there

What was the most visible symbol of the Cold War? What happened to it?

The Berlin Wall

How did Boris Yeltsin alter the Russian economy's basic structure?

He made it function like a capitalist system

What made Chechnya's desire for independence different from other former Soviet republics?

Chechnya was part of Russia and ethnically different from Russians

What ethnic group in Yugoslavia tried to prevent the breakup of the country?

Serbians

What Serbian province was the scene of brutal fighting and ethnic cleansing and remains a problem to this day?

Kosovo

How did the nations of Europe attempt to compete with the United States?

They formed the European Union (EU) in 1992

How were the 1993 Oslo Accords a major advance in the Middle East peace movement?

The PLO recognized Israel's right to exist and Israel recognized the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people