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