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# US History Remediation

## Ike & JFK Presidencies

**Cold War Conflicts****Section 3****The Cold War at Home****Terms and Names**

**HUAC** House Committee on Un-American Activities

**Hollywood Ten** People called before HUAC who did not cooperate

**blacklist** List of people in the Hollywood film industry who were refused jobs because they did not cooperate with HUAC

**Alger Hiss** Former State Department official

**Ethel and Julius Rosenberg** Activists in the American Communist Party who were executed as spies

**Joseph McCarthy** Republican Senator who claimed Communists were taking over the federal government

**McCarthyism** Term used to refer to tactic of accusing people of disloyalty without producing evidence

**Before You Read**

In the last section, you read about the Cold War abroad. In this section, you will read about the effects of the Cold War at home.

**As You Read**

Use a web diagram to take notes on the ways that anticommunist fear gripped the United States.

**FEAR OF COMMUNIST INFLUENCE**  
(Pages 822–824)

**How did Americans react to the threat of Communist influence?**

Many Americans felt threatened by the rise of Communist governments in Europe and Asia. Some even felt that Communists could threaten the U.S. government from within. These fears increased when people found out about some spies selling U.S. government secrets to the Soviets.

Republicans accused the Truman administration of being “soft on communism.” In response to this pressure, Truman set up a Loyalty Review Board. The Board investigated over 3 million people. About 200 were fired. Many

people felt that these investigations were unconstitutional. The accused were not allowed to see the evidence against them or to face their accusers.

In 1947, Congress set up the House Committee on Un-American Activities (**HUAC**). Its purpose was to look for Communists both inside and outside government. HUAC concentrated on the movie industry because of suspected Communist influences in Hollywood. Many people were brought before HUAC. Some agreed that there had been Communist infiltration of the movie industry. They informed others to save themselves.

Ten people called before HUAC refused to testify. They said the hearings



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were unconstitutional. The **Hollywood Ten**, as they were called, were sent to prison for their refusal.

In response to the HUAC hearings, Hollywood executives created a list of some 500 people they thought were Communist-influenced. They refused to hire the people on this **blacklist**. Many people's careers were ruined.

In 1950, Congress passed the McCarran Act. It outlawed the planning of any action that might lead to a totalitarian dictatorship in the United States.

1. What are three ways that the United States reacted to fear of communism at home?

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**SPY CASES STUN THE NATION**

(Pages 824–826)

**How did spies increase fear of communism?**

Two spy cases added to the fear of communism sweeping the nation. One involved an official of the State Department named **Alger Hiss**. A former Soviet spy accused Hiss of spying for the Soviet Union. He had documents that implicated Hiss. Hiss claimed the documents were forgeries. Hiss was convicted of perjury—for lying about the documents—and went to jail.

In 1949, the Soviet Union tested an atomic bomb. Most people thought that it would take the Soviets much longer to develop their own atomic bomb. A British scientist admitted giving the Soviets secret information about the American bomb. He also implicated two Americans: **Ethel and Julius Rosenberg**.

The Rosenbergs were members of the American Communist Party. They denied the charges of spying. But they were convicted and sentenced to death. People from all over the world appealed for clemency for the Rosenbergs. They said the evidence against them was weak. The Supreme Court refused to overturn the decision, and the Rosenbergs were executed in 1953.

2. What two spy cases increased fear of communism in the United States?

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**MCCARTHY LAUNCHES HIS "WITCH HUNT" (Pages 826–827)**

**Who was Senator McCarthy?**

In the early 1950s, Republican Senator **Joseph McCarthy** made headlines. He claimed that Communists were taking over the government. He also said the Democrats were guilty of treason for allowing this Communist infiltration.

McCarthy never produced any evidence to support his charges. These unsupported attacks on suspected Communists became known as **McCarthyism**. Later, McCarthyism also came to mean the unfair tactic of accusing people of disloyalty without producing evidence.

Many Republicans encouraged McCarthy. They thought that a strong anti-Communist position would help them win the 1952 elections. But some complained that McCarthy was violating people's constitutional rights.

In 1954, McCarthy made accusations against the U.S. Army. The Senate hearings were broadcast on national television. The American people watched McCarthy bully witnesses but produce no

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evidence. McCarthy lost public favor. The Senate voted to condemn him.

There had been much support for Communist witch hunts in the early 1950s. Many people were forced to take loyalty oaths in order to get jobs. States passed laws making it a crime to speak of overthrowing the government. These laws violated the constitutional right of free speech. But people became afraid to speak

their views. Fear of communism made many Americans willing to give up their constitutional rights.

3. What was McCarthyism?

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**Cold War Conflicts****Section 4**

# Two Nations Live on the Edge

## Terms and Names

**H-bomb** Hydrogen bomb

**Dwight D. Eisenhower** President of the United States

**John Foster Dulles** Secretary of state

**brinkmanship** Willingness to go to the edge, or brink, of war

**CIA** Intelligence-gathering, or spy, agency of the United States government

**Warsaw Pact** Military alliance of the Soviet Union and its satellite nations

**Eisenhower Doctrine** Policy of the United States that it would defend the Middle East against attack by any Communist country

**Nikita Khrushchev** Soviet leader

**Francis Gary Powers** Pilot of an American U-2 spy plane

**U-2 incident** Downing of a U.S. spy plane and the capture of its pilot by the Soviet Union in 1960

## Before You Read

In the last section, you saw how the fear of communism affected life in the United States. In this section, you will see how Cold War tensions increased as both the United States and the Soviet Union tried to spread their influence around the world.

## As You Read

Use a chart to take notes on the involvement of the United States in Cold War trouble spots around the world.

### BRINKMANSHIP RULES

#### U.S. POLICY (Pages 828–829)

#### What was the arms race?

The Soviet Union exploded its first atomic bomb in 1949. American leaders wanted to develop a more powerful weapon. In 1952, the United States exploded the first hydrogen bomb, or **H-bomb**.

But the Soviets tested their own H-bomb in 1953. **Dwight D. Eisenhower**

was president. His secretary of state, **John Foster Dulles**, was very anti-Communist. He said America must not compromise. The United States must be prepared to use all of its nuclear weapons against any aggressor. This willingness to go to the edge, or brink, of war was called **brinkmanship**.

The United States began making more nuclear weapons. So did the Soviet Union. This was called the arms race. Many



Section 4, *continued*

Americans feared a nuclear attack at any time. They had air-raid drills and fallout shelters to prepare for these attacks.

1. Why did the arms race begin?

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**THE COLD WAR SPREADS AROUND THE WORLD**

(Pages 829–832)

**What events increased Cold War tensions?**

The United States was in competition with the Soviet Union all over the world. President Eisenhower began to rely on the **Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)**. The CIA used spies to get information abroad. It also carried out covert actions, or secret operations, to weaken or overthrow governments unfriendly to the United States.

One CIA action involved Iran. In 1953, the CIA convinced the Shah, or monarch, of Iran to get rid of a prime minister who was not friendly to the West. In 1954, the CIA took action in Guatemala. Eisenhower believed Guatemala was friendly to the Communists. The CIA trained an army that overthrew Guatemala’s government.

Soviet dictator Josef Stalin died in 1953. At first, tensions eased between the superpowers. People called it a thaw in the Cold War. But when West Germany joined NATO, the Soviet Union formed a military alliance with its satellite nations in 1955. This alliance was called the **Warsaw Pact**.

In 1956, a crisis developed in the Middle East. Egypt seized control of the Suez Canal. The Canal was located in Egypt but owned by Britain and France, who had built it. Egypt was an ally of

the Soviet Union. Britain, France, and Israel invaded Egypt to take the Canal back. The Soviets threatened to bomb Britain and France. The United States threatened to retaliate. War was prevented when the UN imposed a cease-fire. During the crisis, Eisenhower issued a warning, known as the **Eisenhower Doctrine**. It said the United States would defend the Middle East against Communist attack.

In 1956, the people of Hungary rose in revolt and called for a democratic government. The new government promised free elections. But when the Hungarians asked to leave the Warsaw pact in 1956, Soviet tanks rolled into Hungary. They crushed the reform movement. Many Hungarian reformers were killed, and others fled the country.

2. How did hostilities increase between the United States and the Soviet Union during the 1950s?

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**THE COLD WAR TAKES TO THE SKIES** (Pages 832–833)

**What was the missile race?**

The Soviet leader, **Nikita Khrushchev**, came to power in the years after Stalin’s death. Unlike Stalin, he believed communism could triumph through peaceful means.

On October 4, 1957, the Soviets shocked the world by launching Sputnik I. It was the first artificial satellite to orbit the earth. American scientists also worked hard to catch up. The first attempt to launch a U.S. satellite was a humiliating failure. On January 31, 1958, the United States successfully launched its first satellite.

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Meanwhile, the United States had been flying spy missions over the Soviet Union. The CIA used U-2 aircraft that flew so high they could not be shot down. Or so the Americans thought. On May 1, 1960, a U-2 spy plane was shot down over the Soviet Union. The pilot, **Francis Gary Powers**, was captured and convicted of spying. However, he was soon released in exchange for a Soviet spy.

This **U-2 incident** happened right before a meeting between Eisenhower and

Khrushchev. At the meeting, Khrushchev criticized the United States and walked out. The U-2 incident hurt Eisenhower's ability to deal with the Soviets.

3. In what two ways was the Cold War fought in the skies?

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**The Postwar Boom****Section 2**

# The American Dream in the Fifties

**Terms and Names**

**conglomerate** Major corporation that owns smaller companies in unrelated industries

**franchise** Company that offers similar products or services in many locations

**baby boom** Soaring birthrate from 1946 to 1964

**Dr. Jonas Salk** Developer of a vaccine to prevent polio

**consumerism** Excessive concern with buying material goods

**planned obsolescence** Purposely making products to become outdated or wear out quickly

**Before You Read**

In the last section, you read about the postwar boom in the United States. In this section, you will read how many Americans achieved their dreams of material comfort and prosperity, but some found the cost of conformity too high.

**As You Read**

Use a chart to take notes on specific goals that characterized the American Dream for suburbanites of the 1950s.

**THE ORGANIZATION AND  
THE ORGANIZATION MAN**

(Pages 847–849)

**What changes took place in the  
American workplace in the 1950s?**

The economy grew rapidly in the 1950s. By 1956, more Americans were white-collar workers in offices than were in blue-collar factory jobs. White-collar workers were paid better. They usually worked in service industries, such as sales and communications.

Businesses also expanded. They formed **conglomerates**, or major corporations that own smaller companies in unrelated industries. Other businesses

expanded by franchising. A **franchise** is a company that offers similar products or services in many locations, such as fast-food restaurants.

These large companies offered well-paying, secure jobs to certain kinds of workers. These workers were conformists, or team players. They were “company people” who would fit in and not rock the boat. Businesses rewarded loyalty rather than creativity. They promoted a sameness, or standardization, of people as well as products. Books such as *The Organization Man* and *The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit* criticized this conformity.



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1. What changes occurred in the American work force and workplace in the 1950s?

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television and read books and magazines. Youth activities, such as Scouts and Little League, became popular too.

2. What was life like in the suburbs in the 1950s?

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### THE SUBURBAN LIFESTYLE

(Pages 849–851)

#### What was life like in the 1950s?

Many Americans enjoyed the benefits of the booming economy. Many worked in cities but lived in suburbs. They had the American dream of a single-family home, good schools, and a safe neighborhood with people just like themselves.

There was an increase in births called the **baby boom**. It was caused by the reuniting of families after the war and growing prosperity. Medical advances also wiped out childhood diseases. **Dr. Jonas Salk** developed a vaccine to prevent polio. Polio had killed or crippled 58,000 children a year.

The baby boom created a need for more schools and products for children. Suburban family life revolved around children. Many parents depended on advice from a popular baby-care book by Dr. Benjamin Spock. He said it was important that mothers stay at home with their children. The role of homemaker and mother was also glorified in the media. But many women felt alone and bored at home.

By 1960, 40 percent of mothers worked outside the home. But their career opportunities usually were limited to “women’s fields.” These included secretarial work, nursing, and teaching. Even if women did the same work as men, they were paid less.

Americans had more leisure time. They spent time and money on leisure activities, such as sports. They also watched sports on

### THE AUTOMOBILE CULTURE

(Pages 852–853)

#### Why were cars so important?

Easy credit for buying cars and cheap gasoline led to a boom in automobile ownership. In the 1950s, the number of American cars on the road grew from 40 to 60 million.

A car was a necessity in the suburbs. There was no public transportation. People needed to drive to their jobs in the cities. They also had to drive to shop and do errands. Therefore, more and better roads were also needed. In 1956, the United States began building a nationwide highway network. In turn, these roads allowed long-distance trucking. This led to a decline in the railroads.

Americans loved to drive. They went to drive-in restaurants and movies. They drove long distances on vacation. Motels and shopping malls were built to serve them. These new industries were good for the economy. But the increase in driving also caused problems. These included stressful traffic jams and air pollution. Many white people left the cities. Jobs and industries followed. This left mostly poor people in crowded inner cities.

3. How did cars change American life?

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**CONSUMERISM UNBOUND**

(Pages 854–855)

**Why did Americans turn to consumerism in the 1950s?**

By the mid-1950s, nearly 60 percent of Americans were in the middle class. They had the money to buy more and more products. They measured success by their **consumerism**, or the amount of material goods they bought.

American business flooded stores with new products. Consumers had money to spend and leisure time. They bought household appliances like washing machines, dryers, and dishwashers, and recreational items such as television sets, barbecue grills, and swimming pools.

Manufacturers also tried a new marketing strategy called **planned obsolescence**. They purposely made

products to become outdated or to wear out quickly. Americans began to throw away items in order to buy “new models.” Easy credit, including the introduction of credit cards, encouraged people to buy. Private debt grew.

The 1950s were “the advertising age.” Ads were everywhere—even on the new medium of television. They tried to persuade Americans to buy things they didn’t need. They appealed to people’s desire for status and for a sense of belonging.

4. How was consumerism encouraged in the 1950s?

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**The New Frontier and the Great Society****Section 1****Kennedy and the Cold War****Terms and Names****John F. Kennedy** 35th president of the United States**flexible response** Policy of using nonnuclear weapons to fight a war**Fidel Castro** Ruler of Cuba**Berlin Wall** Barrier built to keep East Germans from fleeing to West Berlin**hot line** Direct phone line between the White House and the Kremlin**Limited Test Ban Treaty** Treaty that barred nuclear testing in the atmosphere**Before You Read**

In the last section, you read about the poverty that existed in the United States in the 1950s. In this section, you will read how John F. Kennedy became president and how he handled a period of intense foreign affairs.

**As You Read**

Use a diagram to take notes on the outcomes of the major foreign crises that the Kennedy administration faced.

**THE ELECTION OF 1960; THE CAMELOT YEARS (Pages 876–878)**  
**How did Kennedy win the election?**

In 1960, President Eisenhower's term came to a close. By then, many Americans were worried about the future. The economy was in a recession. In addition, the Soviet Union was gaining strength. As a result, some wondered whether the United States was losing the Cold War.

**John F. Kennedy** and Richard M. Nixon faced off in the 1960 presidential election. Kennedy was a Democratic senator from Massachusetts. Nixon was Eisenhower's vice-president. Kennedy won the election by a slim margin. Two main factors led him to victory.

During a televised debate, Kennedy impressed viewers with his strong, forceful personality. Nixon appeared nervous and ill at ease.

The second factor was Kennedy's response to the arrest of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in October 1960. Kennedy called King's wife to express sympathy and persuaded the judge to release King from jail. His actions won him the support of African-American voters.

President Kennedy and his wife Jacqueline charmed many Americans. Jacqueline Kennedy influenced fashion and culture. People talked of the Kennedy Administration as a kind of *Camelot*, the story of King Arthur that was made into a popular Broadway musical. Kennedy surrounded himself with advisers that one journalist called "the best and brightest."

1. What two factors helped Kennedy win the 1960 presidential election?

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## A NEW MILITARY POLICY; CRISES OVER CUBA (Pages 879–883)

### **What two crises involving Cuba did Kennedy face?**

Upon entering the White House, Kennedy focused on foreign affairs. He urged a tough stand against the Soviet Union. He also supported a policy called **flexible response**. This policy called for the use of conventional weapons rather than nuclear weapons in the event of a war. Conventional weapons included jets, tanks, missiles, and guns. In order to build more conventional weapons, Kennedy increased defense spending.

Kennedy's first foreign policy test came from Cuba. Cuba's leader was **Fidel Castro**. Castro had seized power in 1959. Soon after that, he declared himself a Communist. He then formed ties with the Soviet Union.

Kennedy approved a plan to remove Castro from power. The plan called for Cuban exiles to invade Cuba and overthrow Castro. The U.S. government would supply air support for the exiles.

The attack failed. Many exiles were captured. The failed invasion became known as the Bay of Pigs. It left the Kennedy administration greatly embarrassed.

A year later, the United States and Cuba clashed again. Pictures from U.S. spy planes revealed that the Soviets were building nuclear missile bases in Cuba. Some bases already contained missiles ready to launch. These weapons could be aimed at the United States.

President Kennedy demanded that the Soviets remove the missiles. In October 1962, he surrounded Cuba with U.S. Navy ships. These ships forced Soviet vessels trying to reach Cuba to turn around. A tense standoff followed. It appeared that

war might break out. However, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev finally agreed to remove the missiles.

The crisis damaged Khrushchev's prestige in the Soviet Union and the world. Kennedy also endured criticism. Some Americans thought Kennedy had acted too boldly and nearly started a nuclear war. Others claimed he had acted too softly. These critics believed that Kennedy should have invaded Cuba and ousted Castro.

2. Name the two Cuban crises that the Kennedy administration faced.

## CRISIS OVER BERLIN

(Pages 883–884)

### **How did the U.S. and Soviets try to ease tensions?**

Cuba was not Kennedy's only foreign policy problem. In 1961, the president faced a growing problem in Berlin. The city was still divided. East Berlin was under Communist control. West Berlin was under the control of Great Britain, France, and the United States. By 1961, almost 3 million East Germans had fled into West Berlin.

Khrushchev threatened to block all air and land routes into West Berlin. Kennedy warned the Soviet leader against such action. As a result, Khrushchev changed his plan. He built a large concrete barrier along the border between East and West Berlin. It was known as the **Berlin Wall**. It prevented any more East Germans from fleeing to West Berlin.

Despite their battles, Kennedy and Khrushchev did attempt to reach agreements. They established a **hot line**



Section 1, *continued*

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between their two nations. This special telephone hookup connected Kennedy and Khrushchev. It allowed them to talk directly when a crisis arose. The two leaders also agreed to a **Limited Test Ban Treaty**. This treaty barred nuclear testing in the atmosphere.

3. Name two ways the U.S. and Soviet Union worked to ease tensions between them.

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