

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# US History Remediation The Cold War Begins

**The United States in World War II****Section 4**

# The Home Front

## Terms and Names

**GI Bill of Rights** Law passed by Congress to help servicemen readjust to civilian life

**James Farmer** Civil rights leader who founded the Congress of Racial Equality

**Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)** Interracial organization formed to fight discrimination

**internment** Confinement under guard, especially during wartime

**Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)** Civil rights group formed by Japanese Americans

## Before You Read

In the last section, you saw how the Allies prepared for the postwar world. In this section, you will see how the war changed the United States.

## As You Read

Use a chart to take notes on the effects of the war on the home front.

### OPPORTUNITY AND ADJUSTMENT

(Pages 796-798)

#### **How did the war create opportunities at home?**

World War II was a time of opportunity for many Americans. The economy boomed. There were plenty of jobs. Wages rose. Farmers also did well.

Women had many job opportunities during the war. The share of women in the work force rose to 35 percent. (They lost some of these jobs when the men returned from military service.) Women also did a wide range of jobs and entered professions that had not been open to them before the war.

Many Americans relocated—picked up and moved. They moved to where there were defense jobs. States with military bases or defense plants saw huge gains in population. Some city populations grew by one third. The result was a housing shortage. Even though workers had the

money to pay, there was no housing to rent. There were also food shortages in some areas.

People had to adjust to new family situations. Many fathers were in the armed forces, so women had to work and raise children on their own.

The war also caused a boom in marriages. Many couples married before the men went overseas. But when the men returned after years of military service, many of these marriages failed. The divorce rate increased.

In 1944, Congress passed the **GI Bill of Rights**, which was designed to help servicemen readjust to civilian life. This bill paid for veterans to attend college or technical school. Over half the returning soldiers took advantage of this opportunity. It also gave federal loan guarantees to veterans buying homes or farms or starting businesses. The GI Bill

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gave many people opportunities they otherwise would never have had.

1. What opportunities did the war create at home?

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### DISCRIMINATION AND REACTION

(Pages 798-799)

#### **How did the war affect African Americans and Mexican Americans?**

On the home front, many African Americans left the South and moved to the West Coast. There they found skilled jobs that paid well. But they also found prejudice. In 1942, civil rights leader **James Farmer** formed a new interracial organization to fight discrimination. It was called the **Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)**.

African Americans also moved into the crowded cities of the North. Tension among the races grew. In 1943 it led to race riots. The worst one was in Detroit, where over 30 people were killed. President Roosevelt had to send federal troops to restore order. In response, many communities formed committees to improve race relations.

Mexican Americans experienced prejudice during the war years as well. In 1942, there were anti-Mexican riots in Los Angeles. In the "zoot-suit" riots, Mexican Americans were beaten by white service men and civilians.

2. How did World War II affect African Americans and Mexican Americans?

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### INTERNMENT OF JAPANESE

**AMERICANS (Pages 800-801)**

#### **What happened to Japanese Americans during the war?**

Japanese Americans endured terrible treatment during the war. After Pearl Harbor, panic-stricken Americans believed Japanese Americans living in the U.S. were disloyal to the United States. In Hawaii, the commanding general ordered the **internment**, or confinement of about 1 percent of Japanese-American residents.

On February 19, 1942, President Roosevelt ordered the internment of all Japanese Americans living in California, and parts of other western states. More than 100,000 people were rounded up and shipped to internment camps.

No charges were ever filed against Japanese Americans. No evidence of subversion was ever found. In 1944, in the case of *Korematsu v. United States*, the Supreme Court said the government policy was justified by "military necessity." After the war, the **Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)** pushed the government to compensate, or pay back those sent to the camps.

Over the years, Congress passed bills to repay those who had been interned for the loss of their property. Finally, in 1990, cash payments were sent to all former internees. In a letter that year, President Bush said the nation "recognized the injustice done to Japanese Americans during World War II."

3. What reason was given for the internment of Japanese Americans?

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Section 4, *continued*

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As you read this section, write notes to answer questions about the impact of the war on various segments of American society.

How did the war and its immediate aftermath affect the following?	
1. Labor	2. Agriculture
3. Population centers	4. Family life
5. Returning GIs	

How did these groups react to discrimination and racism during and after the war?
6. African Americans
7. Mexican Americans
8. Japanese Americans

## Cold War Conflicts

### Section 1

# Origins of the Cold War

## Terms and Names

**United Nations (UN)** Peacekeeping body of nations

**satellite nation** Country dominated by the Soviet Union

**containment** Effort to block Soviet influence by making alliances and supporting weaker nations

**iron curtain** The division of Europe between free and communist countries

**Cold War** State of hostility between the Soviet Union and the United States but without military action

**Truman Doctrine** U.S. policy of sending aid to any nation trying to prevent a Communist takeover

**Marshall Plan** Program under which the United States gave economic aid to rebuild postwar Western Europe

**Berlin Airlift** Resupply of West Berlin by U.S. and British planes during Soviet blockade of 1948

**North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)** Defensive military alliance of the United States, Canada, and ten European nations

## Before You Read

In the last section, you saw the social and economic changes that would reshape postwar America. In this section, you will see how the Allied coalition that won the war fell apart and the United States and the Soviet Union came into conflict.

## As You Read

Use a chart to take notes on U.S. actions and Soviet actions that contributed to the beginning of the Cold War.

## FORMER ALLIES CLASH

(Pages 808–810)

### What caused Soviet-American problems?

The United States and the Soviet Union were wartime allies. But there had been trouble between them for some time. A major reason was that they had opposing political and economic systems. In addition, the Soviets were angry that the United States had taken so long to launch

an attack against Hitler in Europe. Stalin also did not like that the United States had kept the development of the atomic bomb a secret. Americans were upset that Stalin had signed a treaty with Hitler before World War II. Still, at the end of the war, people hoped that the **United Nations (UN)** would help bring a time of peace. Instead, the UN became a place where the two superpowers competed and tried to influence other nations.

Section 1, *continued*

Meanwhile, Roosevelt had died. Harry S. Truman had become president. Truman was a plain, self-educated man. But he had honesty, self-confidence, and a willingness to make tough decisions.

Truman met with the British and Soviet leaders at the Potsdam Conference in July 1945. He reminded Stalin of his promise at Yalta to allow free elections in Eastern Europe. But Stalin would not listen to Truman. Soviet troops occupied Eastern Europe and Stalin was not going to allow free elections.

1. What were three issues that led to hard feelings between the Soviet Union and the United States?

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**TENSION MOUNTS** (Pages 810–811)  
**What did Stalin and Truman want for postwar Europe?**

Truman and Stalin disagreed over the future of Europe. Truman wanted strong democratic nations. He wanted the United States to be able to buy raw materials in Eastern Europe. He also wanted Eastern European markets for American products.

Stalin wished to spread communism. He also wanted to control Eastern Europe to prevent another invasion of Soviet territory. He wanted to use the resources of Germany and Eastern Europe to rebuild his war-torn nation. Stalin also felt that war between the Soviet Union and the West could not be avoided.

Stalin set up Communist governments in the European nations occupied by Soviet troops. They became **satellite nations**, countries that depended on and were dominated by the Soviet Union. The United States answered with a policy of **containment**. This was an effort to block

Soviet influence by making alliances and supporting weaker nations.

In 1946, Winston Churchill described “an **iron curtain**” coming down across Europe. It separated the nations in the “Soviet sphere” from the capitalist democracies of the West.

2. How did Truman’s and Stalin’s plans differ?

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**COLD WAR IN EUROPE** (Page 812)  
**What were the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan?**

The conflicting aims of the United States and the Soviet Union led to the **Cold War**. This was a state of hostility between these superpowers, but one without military action. Each tried to spread its political and economic influence worldwide.

Truman’s first test of containment was when Greece and Turkey needed economic and military aid in 1947. In the **Truman Doctrine**, the president argued that aid should be sent to any nation trying to stop Communists from taking over. Congress agreed. Aid was sent to Turkey and Greece.

Western Europe was also in terrible economic shape. Factories and fields had been destroyed. A terrible winter in 1946–1947 increased hardship. Secretary of State George Marshall wanted to send aid to nations that cooperated with American economic goals. Then Soviet troops took over Czechoslovakia in 1949. Congress saw the need for strong, stable governments to resist communism. It approved the **Marshall Plan**. The plan was a great success in rebuilding Western

Section 1, *continued*

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Europe and halting the spread of communism.

3. How did the United States begin to send aid to nations fighting communism?

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**SUPERPOWERS STRUGGLE OVER GERMANY** (Pages 813–814)

**How did the Soviets and the West disagree over Germany?**

East and West also disagreed over Germany. Stalin wanted to keep it weak and divided. The Western allies thought Europe would be more stable if Germany were united and productive. Britain, France, and the United States combined their occupied zones into the nation of West Germany.

Berlin was also divided into four occupied zones. But it was located in Soviet-controlled East Germany. The

Soviets cut off all transportation to West Berlin. West Berlin was the name given the zones occupied by Britain, France, and the United States. The Soviets said they would hold the city hostage until the West gave up the idea of German reunification. Instead, the United States and Britain started the **Berlin Airlift**. For 327 days, planes brought food and supplies to West Berlin. Finally, the Soviets gave up the blockade.

The blockade made the West worry about Soviet aggression. The United States and Canada joined with ten European nations in a defensive military alliance called the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**. Members agreed that an attack on one was an attack on all.

4. What led to the Berlin blockade?

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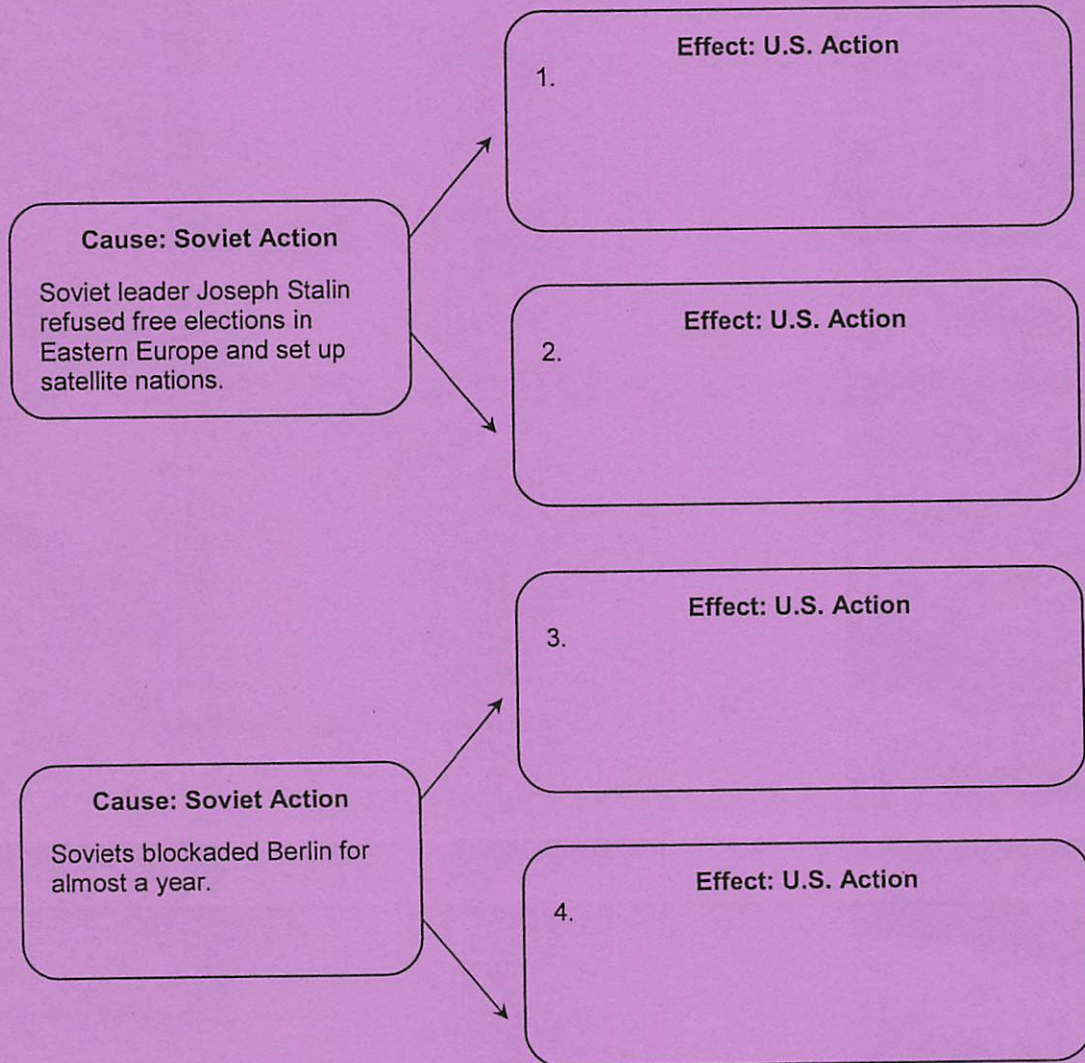
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Section 1, *continued*

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As you read this section, complete the cause-and-effect diagram with the specific U.S. actions made in response to the Soviet actions listed. Use the following terms and names in filling out the diagram:

**containment Truman Doctrine Berlin airlift NATO**





## Cold War Conflicts

### Section 2

# The Cold War Heats Up

## Terms and Names

**Chiang Kai-shek** Leader of the Nationalist forces in China

**Mao Zedong** Leader of the Communist forces in China

**Taiwan** Island off the coast of China

**38th parallel** Imaginary line that divides Korea at 38 degrees north latitude

**Korean War** War begun when North Korea invaded South Korea in 1950

## Before You Read

In the last section, you read about postwar Europe. In this section, you will read about the postwar situation in Asia and about the Korean War.

## As You Read

Use a time line to take notes on the major events of the Korean War.

### CHINA BECOMES A COMMUNIST COUNTRY (Pages 815–817)

#### How did the Communists gain control of China?

For two decades the Chinese Communists struggled against the Nationalist government led by **Chiang Kai-shek**. The United States supported Chiang because he opposed communism and sent him aid. But U.S. officials knew that Chiang's government was inefficient and corrupt. He overtaxed the Chinese people even during times of famine. He did not have the support of the people.

**Mao Zedong** led the Communist forces in the North. He won the support of many Chinese peasants. Mao distributed land to them and reduced rents. He had an experienced army with high morale.

President Truman refused to send American troops to help the Nationalists

fight communism. But he did send aid. Even so, in 1949, Chiang and his forces had to flee to **Taiwan**, an island off the coast of China. China was now Communist. Containment in China had failed!

American conservatives said that the United States had "lost" China because not enough had been done to help the Nationalists. Truman's followers said that the Communist success was because Chiang could not win the support of the Chinese people. Conservatives claimed that the U.S. government was filled with Communist agents. American fear of communism began to burn out of control.

1. How did Communists gain control of China?

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Section 2, *continued***THE KOREAN WAR; THE UNITED STATES FIGHTS IN KOREA**

(Pages 817–821)

**What caused the Korean War?**

Japan had ruled Korea since 1910. At the end of World War II, Japanese forces in the north surrendered to the Soviets. In the south, the Japanese surrendered to the Americans. Two nations then developed. They were separated by the **38th parallel**, an imaginary line that divides Korea at 38 degrees north latitude.

In 1948, South Korea became an independent nation. North Korea became a Communist nation. Each claimed the right to rule all of Korea.

In June 1950, North Korea started the **Korean War** by invading South Korea. Truman was afraid another Asian nation was about to fall to communism. He ordered air and naval support for South Korea. Then the United Nations agreed to help South Korea. Troops from 16 nations—most of them American—were sent to South Korea. They were led by General Douglas MacArthur.

North Korean troops moved steadily south. They conquered the South Korean capital of Seoul. Then MacArthur launched a counterattack. His forces trapped about half the North Korean Army, which surrendered. MacArthur's success in Korea made him a national hero.

UN and South Korean forces advanced toward the 38th parallel. If they crossed it, the war would become an offensive rather than a defensive one. In October 1950, the UN told MacArthur to cross the 38th parallel and reunite Korea.

The Chinese opposed UN forces moving into North Korea. China said it would not let the Americans near its

border. The UN ignored the threat and advanced. Then Chinese troops entered North Korea. They drove UN forces back. In January 1951, the Communists recaptured Seoul.

For two years, fighting continued. But neither side advanced. MacArthur wanted to extend the war into China. He even suggested dropping atomic bombs on China. Truman was against this strategy. The Soviets were allies of the Chinese. Truman felt bombing China would start World War III.

MacArthur continued to argue for his plan. He spoke to the press and to Republican leaders. Truman felt that he could no longer allow MacArthur's insubordination. He fired MacArthur as commander. At first, the American public sided with MacArthur. Later, they came to agree with Truman's idea of a limited war.

Meanwhile, a cease-fire went into effect in June 1951. Both sides agreed on a demilitarized zone at the 38th parallel. An armistice was signed in July 1953. The agreement was a stalemate. Korea was still divided between Communist North Korea and non-Communist South Korea.

Many people felt that American lives had been lost for little gain. As a result, the American people rejected the party in power, the Democrats, in the 1952 election. Republican Dwight D. Eisenhower was elected president. Americans also became even more worried about Communist expansion abroad and Communist spies at home.

2. What was gained by the Korean War?

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Section 2, *continued*

As you read this section, fill out the chart below by writing answers to the questions in the appropriate boxes.

	Civil War in China	Civil War in Korea
1. Which side did the United States support, and why?		
2. What did the United States do to affect the outcome of the war?		
3. What was the outcome of the war?		
4. How did the American public react to that outcome, and why?		