

## Unit 8 – Cold War

### Origins of Cold War

- US/Soviet Rivalry-
- US- democratic, capitalism, free trade, private ownership of property
- USSR- totalitarian, communism, state ownership of property
- Each wanted to expand their influence.
- United Nations- Peacekeeping organization created in 1945

### Harry S. Truman

- Became President after death of FDR
- Willing to make tough decisions; Down-to-Earth; “The Buck Stops Here”
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Amendment- 1951- No president can be elected more than twice.

### Potsdam Conference

- Met in July of 1945; Big Three- Truman, Churchill (& Atlee) , Stalin
- Decided that Germany would be divided into four zones
- US wanted to be able to sell goods to Eastern European countries
- Stalin refused to allow free elections in Poland and other satellite countries

### Satellite Nations

- Countries dominated by the Soviet Union
- USSR installed communist governments
- Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Poland
- Soviets had political, economic, and military influence

### Containment

- Policy of preventing the extension of communist rule to other countries
- Truman’s foreign policy
- Iron Curtain- Term used by Winston Churchill to describe the division of Europe
  - Western Europe- Democratic governments
  - Eastern Europe- Communist

### Truman Doctrine

- US offered economic aid to Greece and Turkey to stop the spread of communism
- Both countries had weak economies struggling from war
- \$400 million in aid

### Marshall Plan

- US offered aid to any country that wanted to rebuild after WWII
- Goals: create allies, create trading partners, stop spread of communism
- 16 countries received \$13 billion in aid; Very successful in rebuilding Western Europe

### Germany Divided

- Divided into four zones: US, France, GB, Soviet (US, GB, France combined theirs)
- Berlin (capital) in Soviet zone
- Stalin blockaded Berlin to cut off supplies from West

### Berlin Airlift

- US planes flew food and supplies to Berlin for 327 days
- Round the clock flights; Boosted American prestige
- Soviets lifted blockade

### NATO

- North Atlantic Treaty Organization- US, Canada, and ten Western European nations created a defense alliance
- Military support if any member was attacked
- Created because of the fear of Soviet aggression

### Warsaw Pact

- Military alliance between Soviet Union and 7 other Communist nations in Eastern Europe
- Created when West Germany joined NATO in 1955
- West Germany was allowed to rearm

### China Becomes Communist

- Chinese Civil War- Nationalists vs. Communists
- Chiang Kai-shek vs. Mao Zedong
- US supported Nationalists, USSR supported Communists
- US did not recognize the Communist govt.

### Korean War

- 38<sup>th</sup> Parallel- dividing line between North and South Korea
- North Korea- Communist; South Korea- Democratic
- June 1950- North invaded South
- United Nations sent troops- mostly Americans
  - Led by Douglas MacArthur

#### MacArthur vs. Truman

- MacArthur's army pushed North Koreans past 38<sup>th</sup> parallel
- Wanted to advance into China
- China sent troops to help N. Korea
- MacArthur criticized Truman, tried to convince others to invade China
- April 1951- Truman fired MacArthur for insubordination

#### Results of Korean War

- July 1953- Agreed to an armistice to stop fighting
- Stalemate
- Communists had been push back but but 38<sup>th</sup> parallel remains dividing line
- 54,000 Americans killed, \$67 billion

#### Cold War at Home

- Many Americans feared that Communists in the US would be loyal to Soviet Union
  - 80,000 members in US Communist Party
- House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC)
  - Congress investigated movie industry for propaganda
  - Hollywood Ten- witnesses who were sent to prison for refusing to testify before HUAC
  - Blacklist- list of over 500 suspected Communists who would not be hired (Actors, directors, writers, etc. )

#### Dennis vs. U.S.

- Smith Act- 1940- made it illegal to plot to overthrow the US government
- *Dennis vs. US*- Supreme Court ruled that the Smith Act was constitutional and did not violate the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment freedom of speech
- Individual liberties are limited in matters of national security

#### Spies in the US

- Alger Hiss- State department official, helped start United Nations under FDR
  - Accused of being Soviet spy
  - Whittaker Chambers produced documents proving this
  - Found guilty of perjury (lying to HUAC)
- September 1949- Soviets tested first atomic bomb
- Klaus Fuchs- German physicist who gave Soviets info about American bomb
- Ethel and Julius Rosenberg- convicted of providing atomic secrets to Soviets
  - Found guilty of espionage and sentenced to death.

#### McCarthyism

- Joseph McCarthy- Republican Senator
  - Claimed that Communists were taking over US government
  - Accused people of disloyalty without evidence
  - Claimed to have a list of over 200 names of Communists in the State Department
  - Downfall- Bullied witnesses during a televised Army hearing

#### Arms Race

- Soviet Union exploded atomic bomb in 1949.
- Raced to produce hydrogen bomb (H-bomb)

#### Brinkmanship

- Dwight D. Eisenhower- elected 1952
- John Foster Dulles- Secretary of State
- Brinkmanship- US promised to use all of its force against any aggressor nation; Willing to go to the edge of all-out war
  - Began a fear of nuclear war in US

#### Central Intelligence Agency

- CIA- formed to gather information and carry out covert operations against governments unfriendly to the US
- Supported revolutions in Iran and Guatemala

#### Eisenhower Doctrine

- January 1957- US would defend the Middle East against an attack by a Communist country
- Wanted to prevent Arab nations from siding with Soviet Union
- Extended Truman Doctrine

#### The Space Race

- Nikita Khrushchev- leader of Soviet Union after Stalin's death
  - Wanted to compete economically and scientifically
- Sputnik- first artificial satellite- 1957
- US began to spend more on space and scientific research
- NASA- created 1958

#### U2 Incident

- CIA had been making high-altitude flights over Soviet Union
- Francis Gary Powers- shot down in May 1960
- Embarrassing for Eisenhower and US
- Led to more tension between countries

### Unit 8- Postwar America

#### Postwar Problems

- GI Bill of Rights- paid tuition for veterans, gave unemployment benefits, low interest loans for jobs
- Housing Shortage- Companies began to mass-produce houses (Rows of houses that looked exactly the same)
- Suburbs- residential communities surrounding cities (Small-town feel, conformity, American Dream)

#### Economic Issues

- Workers in defense industry were laid off
- Price controls ended so inflation began (Prices increased 25% in two weeks)
- Americans had money saved so economy boomed; Home and auto ownership increased through 1950s

#### Truman and Civil Rights

- African-Americans who had served in war demanded their rights as citizens.
- Truman supported civil rights
  - Asked for ban on poll tax, anti-lynching law
  - Congress refused to pass
- Truman issued an Executive Order to integrate the armed forces (Also ended discrimination in hiring govt. employees)

#### 1948 Election

- Democratic candidate- Harry Truman/ Republican candidate- Thomas Dewey
- Dixiecrats- group of Southern Democrats who opposed civil rights
  - Strom Thurmond- Governor of South Carolina
- Truman won in upset

#### Fair Deal

- Truman proposed nationwide mandatory healthcare, subsidies for farmers (Both were not passed)
  - Raised minimum wage, extended Social Security, more flood control and irrigation projects
  - Truman did not run/ Dwight D. Eisenhower- Republican/ Adlai Stevenson- Democrat
  - Republicans played on people's fear of communism
- Eisenhower won

#### Eisenhower Presidency

- Accomplishments:
  - ended the Korean War
  - started the construction of the Interstate Hwy System, which gave the nation unlimited mobility
  - creation of the CIA, US spy organization created to prevent communist uprisings in other countries.
- Failures:
  - Did not reduce the size of government, like promised
  - Did not support civil rights

#### American Dream

- Economy prospered; Americans had the highest standard of living in world
- Many Americans worked in higher-paid positions
  - Managers, clerical, sales, insurance, advertising

#### New Businesses

- Conglomerates- a large corporation that owns smaller businesses in unrelated industries
  - Attempt to protect itself from decline in individual industries
- Franchises- a company that offers similar products or services in many locations

#### Conformity

- Employees lost some individuality; Companies hired people who would "fit in"; Did not want creative thinkers or rebels

#### Suburban Lifestyle

- Every large city was surrounded by a suburb
  - 85% of new homes were in suburbs
- House, good schools, safe environment, friendly neighbors

- Baby Boom- population explosion from late 40s-early 60s
  - Created largest generation in US history
  - 1957- baby born every 7 seconds

#### Causes of Baby Boom

- Reunited soldiers and wives. Lower marriage age. People wanted large families. Better paying jobs. Advances in medicine

#### Automobile Culture

- Gas was cheap, credit was easy (Living in suburbs required a car)
- Interstate Highway System- 1956- Eisenhower
  - Authorized building 41,000 miles of highways; Led to decline of railroads

#### Consumerism

- Buying material goods out of want, instead of need, about 60% of Americans were middle class
- Purchased household appliances, televisions, power lawn mowers, grills, tape recorders
- Planned obsolescence- marketing strategy in which manufacturers design products to become obsolete in a short period of time.

#### Popular Culture

- TV reached 55% of homes by 1954.
- Federal Communications Commission (FCC) agency that regulates TV, radio, phone, and other communication industries
- Advertising on TV \$2 billion in 1960.
- "Golden Age of Television"
  - I Love Lucy, Mickey Mouse Club, TV Guide, TV dinner, ready to heat meals

#### Counterculture

- Beat Movement- expressed social nonconformity of artists, writers, and poets. "Beatniks", Shunned work, little structure

#### Rock 'n' Roll

- Rock n Roll- style of music that grew out of blues, country, pop
  - Chuck Berry, Bill Haley and His Comets, Elvis Presley
  - Teenagers loved it. Parents hated it.
  - Rebellious, parents thought it would lead to delinquency
  - Record sales were 600 million in 1960

#### The Other America

- About 40 million people lived in poverty
  - Elderly, single women with children, minorities
- White Flight- middle-class white Americans moved from cities to suburbs
  - Cities lost business, tax money
  - Cities could not afford public transportation, schools, police, fire departments

#### Urban Renewal

- National Housing Act of 1949- called for tearing down rundown neighborhoods and building low-income housing
- Many areas were replaced by parking lots, shopping centers, parks, highways
- Poor had to move to another ghetto

#### Minorities Fight For Their Rights

- Bracero Program- Mexican workers were allowed into US during WWII to harvest crops
  - Many did not leave
  - Felix Longoria- Mexican American killed in Philippines, undertaker refused to bury him
    - Led to efforts to end discrimination

#### Native American Rights

- 1887-1934- Assimilation/Americanization policy
- Indian Reorganization Act- moved toward Native American autonomy
- Termination Policy- 1953- Eliminated economic support, discontinued reservation system, relocated N.A. to cities
- IT WAS A FAILURE. Couldn't find jobs, poor training, racial prejudice
- Termination ended 1963