

Roots of the Cold War Part 1

1. Why did Churchill and FDR fear the spread of Soviet control in Eastern Europe? (784)
2. What did the “Big Three” decide to do with Germany at Yalta? (784)
3. Why was the United Nations created? (785)
4. How did Stalin not live up to his Yalta pledge? (785)
5. What did Churchill mean that an “iron curtain” had come down on Eastern Europe? (785)
6. Who was George Kennan? (786)
7. What is CONTAINMENT? (786)

8. What two countries first tested the strategy of containment? (786)

9. What was the TRUMAN DOCTRINE? (786)

10. What was the MARSHALL PLAN? (786)

11. How was Berlin divided, and where was it located geographically? (786-787)

12. What did the US, UK, and France decide to do with their German zones? (787)

13. How did Stalin react? (787)

14. What did the US and UK do after being cut off from Berlin? (787)

15. What two German countries were created, and who were they allied with?

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- GRAPHIC ORGANIZER**
Postwar Organizations
- MAP** Berlin Airlift
- SLIDE SHOW**
McCarthy Telegram
- VIDEO**



Lesson 1

Roots of the Cold War

ESSENTIAL QUESTION *What are the consequences when cultures interact?*

IT MATTERS BECAUSE

The tensions that emerged after World War II led to a conflict that dominated U.S. foreign policy for decades.

Wartime Relationships

GUIDING QUESTION *What plans were created for the organization of the postwar world?*

In February 1945, the “Big Three” Allied leaders met at Yalta, a city in the Soviet Union. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, and Joseph Stalin came to talk about Europe’s future after the war.

Roosevelt and Churchill feared the spread of Soviet control in Eastern Europe. Stalin wanted this area as a shield to protect the Soviet Union from the West. Germany’s future was another challenging question.

The Allies finally agreed to divide Germany into four zones, each run by an Allied power: the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and France. Stalin agreed to free elections in Eastern Europe. He also offered help in planning a new international organization. Roosevelt and Churchill felt hopeful about a peaceful postwar world. These hopes were not met.

Founding of the United Nations

On April 12, 1945, President Roosevelt died suddenly. Vice President Harry S. Truman took office. Facing huge challenges, Truman told reporters, “When they told me [of Roosevelt’s death], I felt like the moon, the stars, and all the planets had fallen on me.”

Reading **HELP**DESK



Taking Notes: Listing

As you read, use a diagram like this one to list organizations created after World War II.

784 *The Cold War Era*



Content Vocabulary

- **iron curtain**
- **cold war**
- **perjury**
- **containment**
- **subversion**
- **censure**
- **airlift**
- **espionage**

Truman continued the plans for the international organization discussed at Yalta. On June 26 in San Francisco, California, 50 nations held the first meeting of the United Nations (UN). They all hoped the UN could settle disputes between countries and prevent wars.

Soviet Expansion

The UN could not, however, prevent trouble between the West and the Soviets. It became clear that Stalin would not live up to his Yalta pledge. He set up Communist governments and kept Soviet forces in Eastern Europe. There were no free elections.

Winston Churchill feared Stalin's actions were permanent. In 1946 Churchill said that an **iron curtain** had come down on Europe. The iron curtain cut off much of Eastern Europe from the West. What's more, Churchill thought the Soviets would try to gain control of other parts of the world.

As the war in Europe wound down, Allied leaders met in Yalta to discuss challenging questions about the postwar world. The Soviets would break many of the agreements reached at Yalta.



Bettmann/Corbis

iron curtain symbolic division between East and West in Europe during the Cold War

To address this threat, Truman turned to U.S. diplomat George F. Kennan. Kennan was an expert on the Soviet Union. He believed the two countries could not **cooperate**, or work together. The United States had to be firm with its new enemy. Kennan called for a policy of **containment** (kuhn-TAYN-muhnt), meaning the United States had to “contain,” or hold back, the Soviets. Doing this might require military and nonmilitary actions.

U.S. Responses

The policy of containment soon went into effect. Civil war raged in Greece, as Communists attempted to overthrow the country’s pro-Western government. At the same time, the Soviets pressured Turkey to give them naval bases that offered access to the Mediterranean Sea.

In March 1947, Truman asked Congress for money to help aid Greece and Turkey. In his request, Truman promised that the U.S. would help any free nation resisting Communist aggression. This promise came to be called the Truman Doctrine.

A few months later, U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall came up with a plan to aid Western Europe. Many areas were still struggling to recover from World War II. Many people were hungry and unable to work. Unrest was growing. From 1948 to 1951, the Marshall Plan pumped

\$13 billion worth of supplies, machinery, and food into Western Europe. The aid helped speed recovery and weaken the appeal of communism.

PROGRESS CHECK

Explaining What did the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan work toward?

Crisis in Berlin

GUIDING QUESTION *How did Western Allies respond to Soviet attempts to halt their plans for West Germany?*

After the war, Germany was divided into four zones. The Soviet Union controlled the eastern part of the country. The United States, Britain, and France held zones in the western part. The German capital of Berlin also was divided among the four



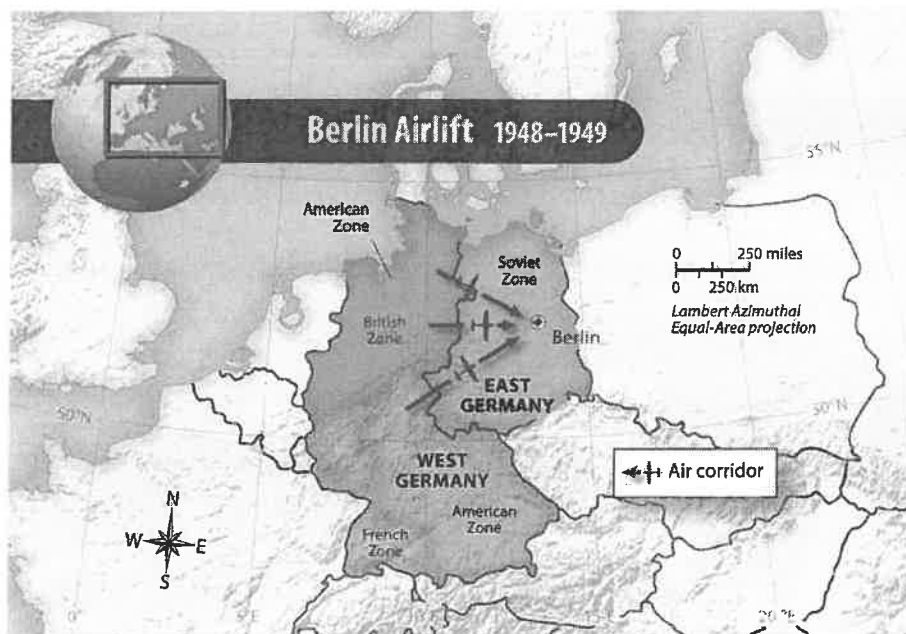
The plight of war refugees, such as this homeless German girl, was a major challenge facing the conquerors of Europe.

Reading **HELPDESK**

containment policy of holding back or stopping communism
airlift delivery of supplies by airplane

Academic Vocabulary

cooperate to agree or work together
pose to present



GEOGRAPHY CONNECTION

Stalin's blockade cut off West Berlin. To reach the city, all planes in the airlift traveled along one of three corridors.

- 1 MOVEMENT** From where did all planes fly into West Berlin during the Berlin Airlift?
- 2 CRITICAL THINKING**
Speculating What might have happened to West Berlin if the Allies had not conducted the airlift?

nations. This city, however, lay deep inside the Soviet zone.

President Truman argued that Germany should be united. Stalin feared that a strong Germany would once again **pose** a threat to the Soviet Union. He wanted to keep Soviet influence in a divided Germany. This disagreement led to a crisis in 1948.

The Berlin Blockade and Airlift

On June 7, 1948, the United States, Britain, and France announced a plan. They would unite their zones to form a new West German nation. It would include the parts of Berlin under Western control, and it would have full Western support.

Threatened by this action, Stalin reacted quickly. On June 24, 1948, Soviet troops lined the edge of West Berlin. They stopped traffic on all land routes into West Berlin. As a result, West Berlin's citizens were cut off from needed supplies. The Soviets hoped the blockade would force the West out of Berlin.

President Truman was clear: "We stay in Berlin, period." Yet the president did not want to risk war by using military force to break the blockade. Instead, the United States and Great Britain organized an **airlift** to save the city. American and British planes began flying food, fuel, and other supplies into West Berlin.

A Divided Germany

The airlift worked. In May 1949, Stalin finally gave in and ended the blockade. By the end of the year, there were two German states. The Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) was allied with the United States. The German Democratic Republic (East Germany) was a Communist state tied to the Soviet Union. Berlin remained a divided city within East Germany.

PROGRESS CHECK

Analyzing Why did the Soviet Union oppose reuniting Germany?