Chapter 18: Cold War Conflicts

Section 1: Origins of the Cold War

Terms and Names:
United Nations       Satellite Nation       Containment
Iron Curtain        Cold War              Truman Doctrine
Marshall Plan       Berlin Airlift

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Set-Up: The United States and the Soviet Union emerged from WWII as two “superpowers” with vastly different political and economic systems.

Notes:
- In the Soviet system of communism the state controls all property and economic activity. In the Soviet Union there are no political parties under the totalitarian government.
- In the United States private citizens control the majority of the economy in a government designed for multiple party participation and free elections.
- Distrust and a struggle for influence between the US and the USSR began after WWII.
- The Soviet leader was Joseph Stalin, a former ally of Adolf Hitler until he invaded the Soviet Union.
- Stalin resented their Western Allies for failing to come to their aid particularly during the Battle of Stalingrad.
- Stalin was further angered when he learned the US had developed the atomic bomb in secret.
- The United Nations was created in 1945 and was a symbol of the effort for world peace.
- The United Nations soon became a stage for the US and USSR to get on their soapbox and spread their influence over others nations.

- The Potsdam Conference further created distrust between Truman and Stalin when it became apparent that Stalin would not keep the promise he made to Roosevelt to have free elections in Poland and other soon to be satellite nations.

- Stalin also wanted to take heavy reparations from Germany after the war to pay for Soviet losses. Truman disagreed and they compromised by agreeing to take reparations only from their occupation zones.

- The emergence of the US and USSR led as economic powers led to a struggle for US backed self-determination for Eastern Europe and USSR control of Eastern Europe for self-protection.

- Stalin installed communist governments in 6 Eastern Bloc countries that became known as satellite nations.

- The US adopted a foreign policy of containment proposed by George Kennon. The purpose of this policy was simply to stop the spread of communism.

- Europe was now divided between a mostly democratic Western Europe and a communist Eastern Europe. This prompted Churchill's famous speech "Iron Curtain" speech. (It was given at Westminster College in Fulton, MO).

- In conjunction with the speech the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) became an official country including West Berlin as did the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) including East Berlin.

- NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) was formed a few years later when 12 nations joined an alliance to provide military support against Soviet expansion.

**Section 2: The Cold War Heats Up (1944-1952)**

Terms and Names:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Taiwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chiang Kai-shek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mao Zedong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean War</td>
<td>38th Parallel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Set-Up: China becomes communist and Korea splits between a communist north and democratic south.
Notes:

- China was in the midst of a struggle between the US backed nationalist government of Chiang Kai-shek and communist government of Mao Zedong

- Chiang Kai-shek had won American admiration for his courage in fighting the Japanese during WWII, but US officials felt that Chiang Kai-shek had an inefficient and corrupt government

- Zedong was a champion of the Chinese people for leading education programs and improving food production

- Both sides cooperated during WWII, but they quickly renewed a civil war after Japan left China

- The US favored the nationalists because they opposed communism and sent them $2 billion dollars in aid

- The corrupt, weak, and abusive government of Chiang Kai-shek drove peasant support to Mao Zedong's communist side

- The People's Republic of China was soon formed once Chiang Kai-shek and the nationalists fled to Taiwan. Now mainland China was under communist rule. The US refused to officially recognize the People's Republic of China as China's true government

- Korea was split much like Germany. The Japanese above the 38th parallel surrendered to the Soviets and the Japanese below surrender to the Americans

- In 1948, the Republic of Korea (South Korea) was a democratic country led by Syngman Rhee out of the capital city of Seoul

- The communist Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) was led by Kim Il Sung based in Pyongyang

- After WWII, the US cut back the number of troops in South Korea

- June 25, 1950: North Korea goes below the 38th parallel and invades South Korea and the Korean War starts

- South Korea went to the United Nations to have a vote against the invasion by the UN Security Council. The UN voted for military action with a unanimous vote. (Side Note: The USSR was boycotting the UN over the presence of
Nationalist China aka Taiwan. A unanimous vote is needed by the UN Security Council and the USSR's absence made the vote possible.

- 2 days after the North Korean invasion President Truman ordered troops and fleets to Korea and South China Sea.

- General Douglas MacArthur commanded all troops in South Korea.

- North Korea forced UN and South Korean forces as far south as Pusan. MacArthur's planned counter attack pushed the North Koreans back almost as far as the Yalu River, the border of China.

- China entered the war and pushed UN troops past Seoul and the Korean War had turned into a war between communist China and the US.

- MacArthur recommended using nuclear warfare against China. Truman refused and UN troops fought back to the 38th parallel.

- MacArthur continued to push for full scale war against China and even wrote to newspapers and Republican leaders to try to influence his policy belief. The problem is that President Truman is the commander-in-chief of the armed forces and MacArthur's boss. This insubordination led to MacArthur's firing in April of 1951.

- Finally, in 1953, an armistice was signed ending the conflict.

- Korea ended just as it had started... divided along the 38th parallel.

- The American public held stronger fears against communism and rejected the Democrats in favor of the Republican Eisenhower in the 1952 election.

**Section 3: The Cold War at Home (1947-1953)**

**Terms and Names:**

- HUAC
- Hollywood Ten
- Ethel and Julius Rosenberg
- Blacklist
- Alger Hiss
- Joseph McCarthy
- McCarthyism

**Set-Up:** During the 1940s and 1950s the fear of communism led to reckless and questionable charges against people in the public and political spheres of the US.
Notes:

- After being accused of being soft on communism, President Truman created the Federal Employee Loyalty Program regulated by the Loyalty Review Board

- In all, 3.2 million government employees were investigated and 212 were dismissed as security risks

- An organization within the government called the HUAC investigated communist activity in the movie industry

- The HUAC subpoenaed 43 witnesses. Ten witnesses were considered unfriendly and became known as the Hollywood Ten

- The Hollywood Ten were sent to jail for refusing to answer questions and questioning the constitutionality of the hearings

- Hollywood executives created a blacklist of approximately 500 people in Hollywood who would never work there again

- The spy case of Alger Hiss drew the attention of the public as well. Hiss was accused of passing government documents to the Soviets. Too many years had passed to try Hiss on espionage, but he could be tried on perjury charges. He was found guilty and sent to prison while claiming his innocence. In the 1990s Soviet evidence was released by the NSA proving Hiss' guilt

- Even bigger was the Rosenberg case. The Rosenbergs were implicated by Klaus Fuchs when he declared he gave information about the atomic bomb to the Soviets. This information allowed the Soviets to develop the bomb years ahead of the predicted schedule. The Rosenbergs were found guilty and executed

- Joseph McCarthy was a senator from Wisconsin who capitalized on the public's fear of communism to win re-election. He had at various times claimed to have the names of upwards of 200 Communists in the State Department

- Senator McCarthy eventually made accusations against the US Army and during televised Senate investigations bullied witnesses and lost public support and Republican support
McCarthy never produced any evidence against anyone and was seen as falsely accusing people of disloyalty without any evidence. This became known as McCarthyism

Section 4: Two Nations Live on the Edge

Terms and Names:

H-Bomb Dwight Eisenhower Eisenhower Doctrine
Warsaw Pact Nikita Khrushchev Francis Gary Powers
U-2 Incident John Foster Dulles Brinkmanship

Central Intelligence Agency

Set-Up: The United States and the Soviet Union came to the brink of nuclear war during the 1950s

Notes:

- An arms race had started during the Truman presidency. Once the USSR had developed the Atomic Bomb the US pushed forward to regain the nuclear advantage. They developed the H-Bomb (Hydrogen Bomb). It would be 67 times as destructive as the bomb dropped on Hiroshima. Their US advantage lasted less than a year when the Soviet Union developed their own. The US had other advantages though.

- The foreign policy of the US under Eisenhower was established by Secretary of State John Dulles. His policy, later matched by the USSR, was to trim the US Armies and Navies while expanding the Air Force so that the US could threaten nuclear war at a moment’s notice. This became the policy of brinkmanship

- The US government began to rely on intelligence from the CIA and covert missions by the CIA

- Middle East Action- In 1951 Iran nationalized their oil fields (once owned by Great Britain). GB boycotted Iranian oil, and the Iranian economy started to falter. Fearing that Iran would turn to the USSR for support, the CIA funded forces of the Shah of Iran, the previous ruler of Iran. They succeeded in toppling Mossadegh and returning the Shah to power
- Central American Action - In Guatemala, their communist sympathizing government gave over 200,000 acres of American-owned land to peasants. The CIA trained an opposition army that invaded Guatemala. The Guatemalan army resigned.

- The Soviet Union formed the Warsaw Pact as a counter to NATO. It included the USSR and seven Eastern European countries.

- The Suez War between GB, France, and Israel prompted the Eisenhower doctrine. This policy extended the Truman doctrine to the Middle East.

- After the death of Stalin, many of the Soviet satellite nations started revolting against Soviet control. Poland created a nationalist government, but as Hungary declared their withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact, the Soviets put down the revolt violently. Hungarians were disappointed that the Truman doctrine didn't spread to Soviet satellite nations.

- The UN was unable to do anything because of constant vetoes by the Soviets in the UN Security Council.

- Stalin was succeeded by Nikita Khrushchev.

- 1957, the Soviets put the 1st artificial satellite in orbit, Sputnik.

- Less than a year later, the shocked and humiliated Americans put their own satellite in orbit.

- Tension would carry into the 1960s due to the U-2 incident. The CIA was coordinating secret U-2 spy flights that were not so secret. Eventually, a plane piloted by Francis Gary Powers was shot down in Soviet territory. The promising relations between Eisenhower and Khrushchev suddenly broke down.