The Dawn of the Cold War, 1945-1953

Topics of Consideration

1. Roots of the Cold War
2. Containment and the Truman Doctrine
3. The Marshall Plan
4. The Berlin Blockade and NATO
5. Tools of Containment
6. 1949: China and the Bomb
7. 1950-1953: The Korean War
8. 1950-54: The McCarthy Scare
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Roots of the Cold War

1. World War I: Russian Revolution (1917)
2. Ideological differences between US and USSR
3. 1917-1921: Red Scare in US
4. 1918-1920: US aided White armies
5. 1917-1933: US does not recognize USSR
6. 1939-41: Hitler-Stalin pact; Soviets invaded Finland
7. During WWII, Soviet frustration over second front
8. US shared nuclear secrets with UK, but not USSR
9. Conflict over Poland: US liberal - USSR communist
10. After FDR’s death, Truman more confrontational
11. At Potsdam conference, distrust obvious
12. US develops and uses atomic bomb
13. End of World War II -- power vacuum -- US and USSR
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Roots of the Cold War

14. Conflict over influence in former German territory.
15. USSR established satellite states in Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia.
16. US feared Soviet designs on Western Europe.
17. Churchill’s Iron Curtain speech, 1946. [link]
18. George F. Kennan’s Long Telegram, 1946
19. Lessons of Munich appeasement
20. US fought WWII to prevent totalitarian control of Europe.
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Containment and Truman Doctrine

1. 1947: Greece and Turkey, UK asked US for help.

2. However, Congress inclined to cut back on spending

3. Truman Doctrine: “to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures.”
   [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wmQD_W8PcXg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wmQD_W8PcXg)

4. Global containment against USSR anywhere

5. Kennan - Mr. X Article - elaborated on containment: “unalterable counterforce at every point.”
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The Marshall Plan

1. Europe was the original theatre of the Cold War and containment.
3. Also offered to Eastern Europe, but rejected under Soviet pressure.

Marshall Plan Payments

- Uk: $1,118
- France: $2,706
- Italy: $1,506
- West Germany: $1,289
- Netherlands: $1,679
- Greece: $331
- Turkey: $271
- Portugal: $22
- Australia: $19
- Denmark: $19
- Norway: $19
- Ireland: $19
- Yugoslavia: $19
- Sweden: $19
- Iceland: $19

Million US Dollars
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Berlin Blockade and NATO

3. Foundation of NATO 1949
4. Rearmament of Germany 1952
5. Soviet Reactions: German Democratic Republic 1949; Warsaw Pact 1955
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Tools of Containment

1. 1947 National Security Act:
   National Security Council
   CIA (fully established 1951)
   Department of Defense


3. Cultural Policies, academic exchanges to propaganda efforts.
   Fulbright program to promote democracy. Radio Free Europe to reach Eastern Europeans.

4. Memorandum NSC-68 (1950) called for massively enlarged military budget: “the Kremlin seeks to bring the free world under its dominion by the methods of the cold war. The preferred technique is to subvert by infiltration and intimidation.”

Allan Dulles, second director of the CIA
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1949: China and the Bomb

1. 1949: China become a Communist state
2. Monolithic communist threat?
3. 1949: Soviets get the A-Bomb

Mao Zedong (1893-1976)
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1950-1953: The Korean War

1. Korea divided after WWII: North and South Korea
2. North Korean invasion of South, 1950
3. Due to Soviet boycott of UN, security council backing for “police action.”
4. UN Forces -- Douglas MacArthur lands at Inchon and re-conquers lost territory
5. Decision to cross 38th parallel in an attempt to reunify Korea under US aegis
6. As MacArthur came close to Yalu river, massive Chinese intervention.
7. Stalemate fighting near 38th parallel
8. MacArthur criticized strategy of limited war, demanded all-out war vs China
9. Truman fired MacArthur; Korean War stalled until settlement in 1953
10. Truce Line remains de facto border between South and North Korea.
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1950-1954: The McCarthy Scare

1. Republican Senator, Wisconsin (1947-1957)

2. Investigated claims that there were Communist and Soviet spies inside the federal government

3. Lincoln Day speech (Feb 9, 1950), Republican Women's Club of Wheeling, West Virginia.

4. Became most visible public face of anti-Communism.

5. McCarthyism coined in 1950 to condemn the senator's methods, which were based on unsubstantiated accusations.

6. 1953, McCarthy chairman of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

McCarthy's Support in Gallup Polls

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