Cold War - 1945-1989

-A worldwide struggle for power between the United States and the Soviet Union

-It never resulted in direct military conflict between the superpowers (they were each afraid of Nuclear War)
  - instead it led to “proxy” wars around the world
  - rather than fight each other in Korea and Vietnam, they armed sides in civil wars, prolonging the fighting and causing massive devastation to “client” countries.

- Each nation felt besieged by the other.

- They competed on all fronts: ideological, diplomatic, economic, military, and cultural.
WWII Casualties

Total casualties – 60 million
Soviet Union – 20 m. (1/3 soldiers)
China – 15 m.
Japan – 2 m.
Germany – 4 m.
Poles – 6 m.
Great Britain – 400,000
U.S. – 300,000
European Refugee Population – 15+ m.
World War II - Major Consequences

- End of the European Age
- Rise of the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. to Superpower Status
- The Nuclear Age
- Rise of Nationalism and Independence Movements
- Rise of Social Movements - Women, Youth, Human Rights, Ethnic, Religious, and Cultural Minorities
- Internationalism - United Nations, IMF, World Bank
- Emergence of the Cold War
World War II - Major Consequences

- Decolonization of Africa
  - colonies in Africa had been colonized by western nations that were now members of NATO
  - NATO countries feared that if given their independence, they would favor Communism
  - NATO countries set up the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to provide loans and attract these countries to western views.

- Emerging nations allied themselves with the U.S., the U.S.S.R., or most tried to stay neutral
COLD WAR I – 1945-1963

Why? “deep seated animosities”

What? Most dangerous time of the Cold War – NO RULES

- Policy of containment – counter the influence of the other in every way while expanding your influence and power. (Truman Doctrine)

Germany?

Greece?
Iron Curtain
“An iron curtain has descended upon Europe”

- **Allies** - Free World (Western Europe) vs. Iron Curtain (Soviet bloc in Eastern Europe)
- **Foreign Aid** - Marshall Plan, Truman Doctrine vs. Soviet aid
- **Military Alliances** – NATO vs. Warsaw Pact, Arms Race
- **Trade Pacts** – Common Market (Free world) vs. Comecon
- **Culture Wars** – domestic containment, Kitchen Table Debates – a race for “hearts and minds”
- **Science/Technology** – “race to the moon,” arms race, creation of the military-industrial complex.
Cuban Missile Crisis – 1962

- “eyeball to eyeball, they (U.S.S.R.) blinked first”
- U.S.S.R. place nuclear missiles in Cuba
- Kennedy threatens military action and quarantines Cuba
- U.S.S.R. removes missiles
- Proves neither will go to war

http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/cold.war/
Hot Spots

Europe
- Hungarian Uprising, 1956

Asia
- China “goes Communist” 1949
- Japan, Taiwan our allies
- Korean War – 1950-1953
- Vietnam “falling dominoes”
Détente, Coexistence
1963-1980

- Rules of engagement developed
- Disarmament, Arms Control Treaties
- Nuclear Test Ban, ABM, START Treaties
  - MAD - Deterrence
- Summit Meetings, “hotline”
- Cultural Exchanges of scientists, artists
- Trade
- Human Rights – Helsinki Conference, 1977
Cold War II – 1980-1989

- Cold War heats up

1979 – 1980

Two key events:

- Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan
- Election of Ronald Reagan
Cold War II
1980-1989

- Reagan’s USSR – “Evil Empire”
- Return to an arms race
- Soviet “quagmire” in Afghanistan—very unpopular at home.
- Soviet sponsorship of revolutions in Latin America (Nicaragua)
- US covert operations in Latin America and Afghanistan
Societies in the U.S.S.R. and the U.S. may have resembled one another in some ways-in their spying, in their pursuit of nuclear superiority, in their quest for cold war supremacy--but they also resembled each other in their basic humanity--a fact that may have prevented the ultimate tipping of the balance of terror.
What ends the Cold War
“The Short Century” 1914-1989

1980’s - Collapse of Communism
1. Economic deterioration
2. Political Dissent - “people power,”
   the role of Eastern Europe
3. Gorbachev-perestroika and glasnost
4. Environmental degradation
5. External factors - the role of Reagan; détente?

1989 – Berlin Wall Falls

The end of the USSR-1991
1. The role of Boris Yeltsin
2. Formation of the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States)
Cold War Hot Spots, 1948–1975

1. The United States helps Greece defeat Communist-led rebels (1946–1949) and gives economic and military aid to Turkey (1947–1950).
4. The United States and the Soviet Union bring the world to the brink of nuclear war during the Cuban missile crisis in 1962.
7. The United States intervenes in the governments of Guatemala (1954), Bolivia (1956), and Chile (1973).

GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps
1. Location On what continents identified on the map did Cold War conflicts not occur?
2. Region About what fraction of the globe did Communists control by 1975?