

## WEEK 24: HISTORY



**Read pages 491 - 497 of the pages that follow this sheet.**

1. What did Stalin promise to do in the Eastern European countries that Russia took over? Did he keep his promise?
2. How many people had the Communists murdered in the late 1920's and early 1930's?
3. What is a "Cold War"?
4. What was the Truman Doctrine?
5. Why did 12 countries join together to form NATO?
6. After Communist leader Mao Tse-tung forced Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-shek out of China, where did Chiang go?
7. Between 1957 and 1979, how many people in China had been executed, starved to death, or murdered by the Red Guard?

**Read pages 398 – 399 of the pages that follow this sheet.**

8. How did the Korean War begin?
9. Who helped the South Koreans fight the war?
10. Why did President Truman deny General MacArthur's request?
11. Which side won the Korean War?
12. How did communism spread to Cuba?

**Read pages 407 - 408 of the pages that follow this sheet.**

13. What are the two sides who fought in the Vietnamese Civil War?
14. Why did President Truman send troops to Vietnam?
15. What did the US do after two US destroyers were fired upon in the Gulf of Tonkin?
16. Which president decided to withdraw US troops from Vietnam?
17. What happened to South Vietnam after the US withdrew their troops?

## **WRITING**

Today (Friday, April 20), the four Artemis astronauts returned to the earth. The four people traveled farther away from earth than any other people have. NASA says it will continue the Artemis program and send more missions to the moon.

Choose one of the topics below and write a paragraph about it (5 – 8 sentences).

1. I would like to be an astronaut or work for NASA because .....

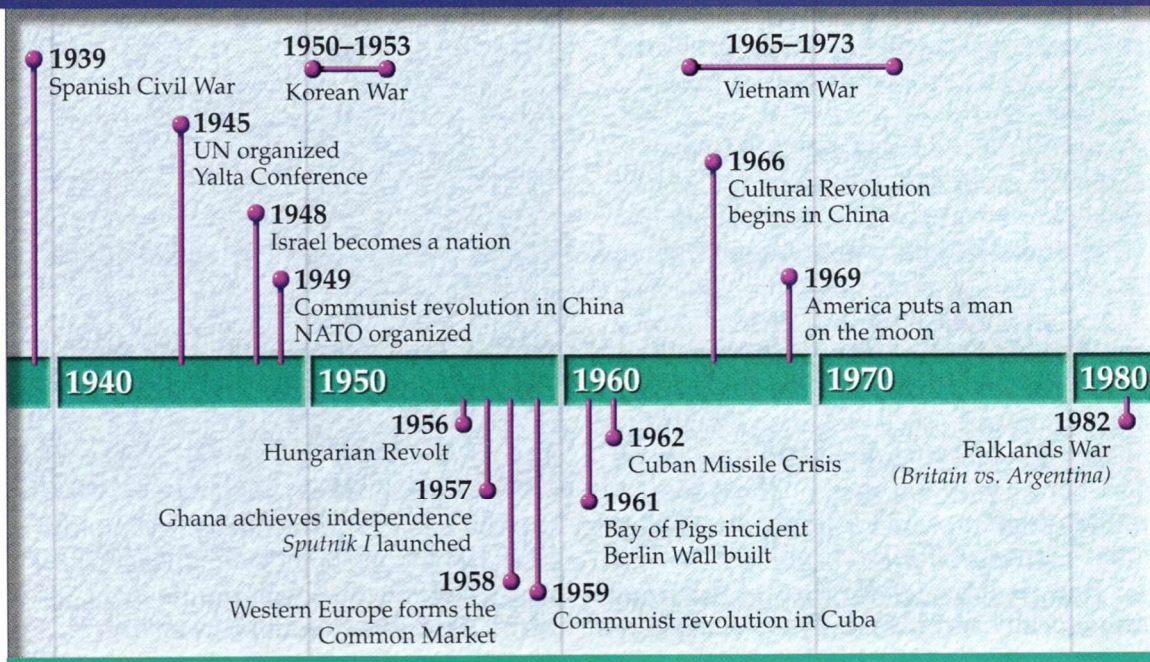
or

2. The NASA space exploration program is important because .....

Be sure to use correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar, and hand-write your paragraph.



**Artemis II Successful Mission!**



**A strange partner.** After World War II, it became Russia's policy to see how much territory she could seize in Eastern Europe. *The Allies, by joining hands with the Communists, let Stalin take over Eastern Europe.* Communist Russia was a strange partner for England and the U.S., the great leaders of democracy. When Roosevelt and Churchill gave in to Stalin's demands for control of Eastern Europe, Stalin verbally agreed to establish representative governments and permit free elections in Eastern Europe as soon as possible after the war. But Stalin did not keep his promise. The world paid a high price when the tyrant Stalin was enlisted to help defeat the tyrants Hitler and Mussolini.

### Problems at Yalta

**Churchill's caution.** In the last days of the war, President Franklin Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill had discussed what would happen in Europe and Asia after the defeat of Nazi Germany and Japan. Churchill was very *suspicious of Joseph Stalin*; he feared that Stalin might try

to move Communist troops into areas liberated from Germany and Japan. But FDR accused Churchill of trying to hold on to the British Empire, while Stalin encouraged nationalist and socialist revolutions in the African and Asian colonies. FDR



Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin at the Yalta Conference, 1945

and his advisers believed that democratic socialism was the solution to the problems of the lesser developed nations of the world.

**Stalin's brutality.** Churchill's fears were well-grounded, however. It was not widely known at the time, but Stalin's Communists had murdered far more than Hitler's Nazis. Stalin was actually the biggest mass murderer in history. In the late 1920s and early 1930s, over *10 million people* who resisted Communism were starved to death, executed, or exiled to Siberia. In the 1940s, an untold number of Christians, Jews, and rival political and military leaders were tortured and killed by Stalin's secret police.

**Roosevelt's mistake.** Great Britain was economically and physically exhausted by the war; only the U.S. could stop the advance of Communism. But FDR and his advisers were tired of fighting and were willing to compromise with Stalin. In a meeting at **Yalta** [yól'tə], a seaside resort on the Russian coast of the Black Sea, in early 1945, *Roosevelt let Stalin have his way.* In return for Stalin's promise to enter the war against Japan, and to compensate him for damage done to Russia by the German invasion, Roosevelt *gave the Communist dictator a large chunk of Poland* and allowed him to encourage a pro-Communist government in Poland itself. The Free Polish government-in-exile in London was abandoned.

Roosevelt also *allowed Stalin to keep the rich province of Manchuria* and let him have *Mongolia* as well, betraying Nationalist Chinese leader Chiang Kai-shek, who had bravely fought both Communist terrorists and the Japanese. Finally, Roosevelt *promised Stalin that all American troops would be withdrawn from Europe* within two years of the imminent Nazi defeat. This promise later had to be cancelled when it became clear that Stalin's Communist troops were not going to leave *Eastern Europe* and stood ready to march into Western Europe.

## Communist Domination of Eastern Europe

The **U.S.S.R.** (*Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*) moved quickly in Eastern Europe. It had already claimed **Estonia**, **Latvia**, and **Lithuania** in 1940. As the Germans were defeated in Eastern Europe, Russia absorbed their territories. Soviet-dominated puppet governments called "*people's republics*" were established in **Poland**, **Hungary**, **Romania**, **Bulgaria**, and **Czechoslovakia**. ("People's republic" is a misnomer, since *Communism is dictatorial and not republican* in practice.) **Yugoslavia** and **Albania** established independent Communist governments but maintained close ties to the Soviet Union. **East Germany** became the Soviet-dominated German Democratic Republic in 1949.

## The Cold War

With World War II just over, America and Western Europe realized they were facing a new enemy—**international Com-**



"Is that the shirt you worked fifteen hours for?"

In the U.S.S.R., wages were lower and prices were much higher than in the U.S. (cartoon from *We Choose America*)



*"Just think, only two to a room!"*

In the U.S.S.R., housing was so scarce that families often had to share crowded apartments. (cartoon from *We Choose America*)

**munism.** No sooner had one adversary of freedom (Hitler) been defeated than another had arisen. By the late 1940s, the free world stood in opposition to the human slavery of international Communism. Nations that fell to Communism were locked into an atheistic dictatorship that denied the people freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom to travel, especially outside their country.

*The U.S. and the Soviet Union became engaged in an ongoing "Cold War," a war fought not with military weapons but with words and diplomacy. In this war each side attempted to win allies among other nations through financial aid and other forms of assistance. It was soon a full scale "war" to "win friends" either to the cause of freedom or to the cause of Communism.*

### Containment of Communism

**Truman Doctrine.** When Russian Communism threatened Greece and Turkey, President Truman announced a policy of **containment** in 1947, declaring that *the U.S. would provide economic aid to any free country to help it resist Communist aggression.*

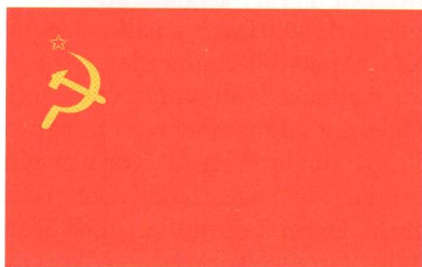
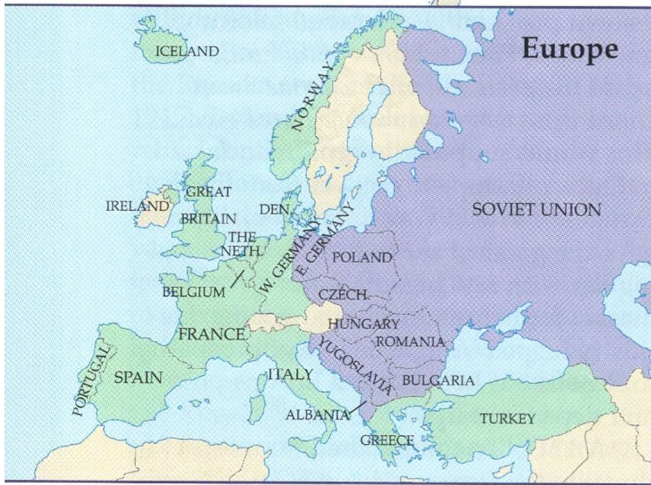
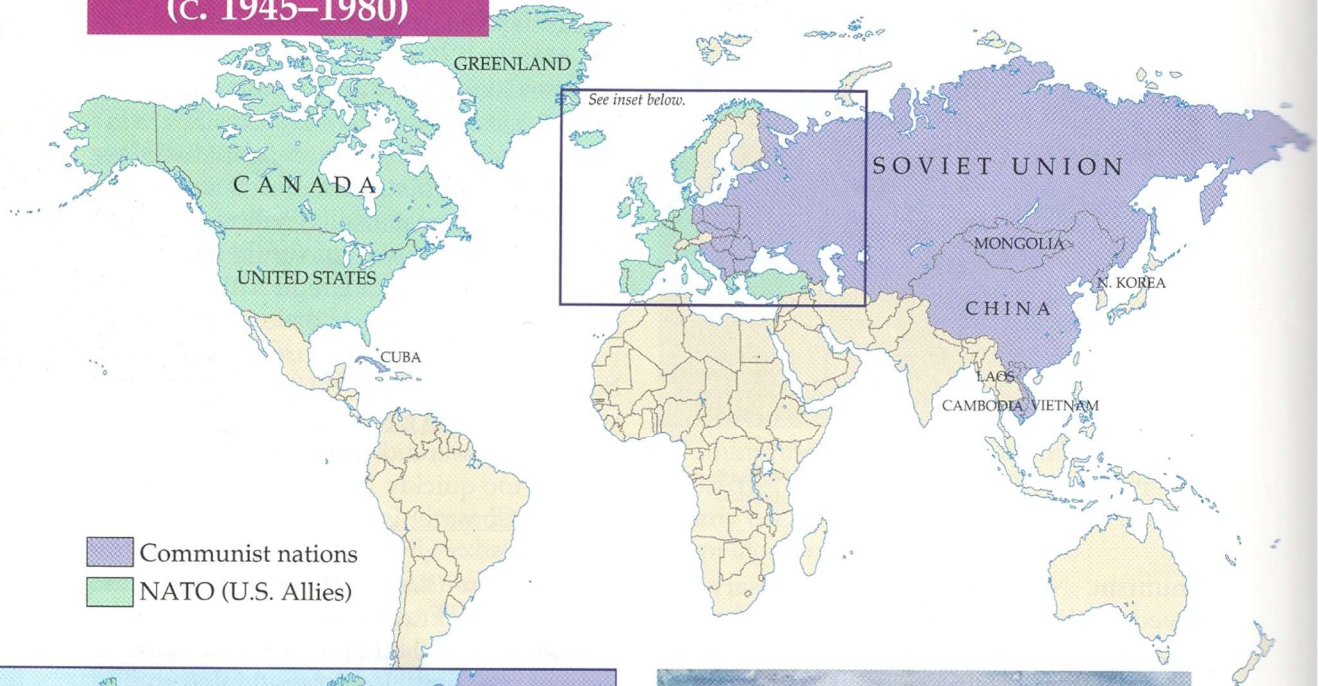
This policy, known as the Truman Doctrine, was meant to keep Communism from spreading to new areas of the world.

**Marshall Plan.** Also in 1947, Secretary of State George C. Marshall announced that *the U.S. would provide economic assistance to help European nations recover from World War II, with the stipulation that each nation receiving aid must also be willing to do all within its own power to rebuild its economy.* The Soviet Union balked at the Marshall Plan, claiming it would interfere with the sovereignty of European nations, but in reality the Soviets simply did not want the U.S. to gain any prestige in Europe. Russia did not want Europe to recover too quickly from World War II because Communism thrives in misery and poverty.

**Molotov Plan.** The U.S.S.R. refused to allow Eastern European nations to participate in the Marshall Plan. Instead, it set up its own program. Under the Molotov [mô'lü-tôf] Plan, *nations of Eastern Europe would trade raw materials with the Soviet Union in exchange for manufactured goods.* This would supposedly give financial aid to Eastern Europe to recover from the ravages of World War II, but in reality it gave the greatest aid to Russia, by providing her with raw materials and a ready market for her manufactured goods. Industry helped bring a degree of prosperity to Russia, but kept Eastern Europe poor and dependent upon Russia.

**NATO.** To combat the Communist threat to the free world, NATO (the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization**) was organized in 1949. Twelve nations signed the NATO pact, pledging that if one member were attacked, all would come to its aid. The original members of NATO were the U.S., Canada, Iceland, Norway, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, Luxembourg, Portugal, France, and Italy. Greece, Turkey, and West Germany joined later.

**THE COLD WAR  
(c. 1945–1980)**

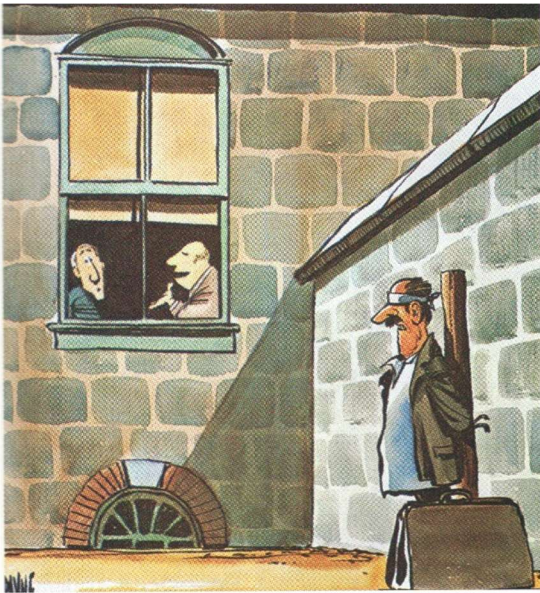


*Soviet Flag*



*"It makes a nice symbol, but it's a lousy way to farm."*

In the U.S.S.R., millions of farmers labored on collective farms with old-fashioned equipment, and the Soviets still had to import food from the West to feed the nation. (cartoon from *We Choose America*)



"Everyone who applies for an exit visa gets it."

The U.S.S.R. greatly restricted travel, especially outside the country. (cartoon from *We Choose America*)

**The Common Market.** The domination of Eastern Europe by the Soviets forced the nations of Western Europe to cooperate much more closely with each other than they had in the past. In 1958, Western Europe formed the Common Market (**European Economic Community** or EEC). The original members were France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg. In 1973, Great Britain, Ireland, and Denmark joined the Common Market. In 1981, Greece joined, and in 1986, Spain and Portugal became members of the Common Market.

### China: Communist Takeover

One of the greatest disasters for the cause of freedom was the Communist takeover of China in the late 1940s. As early as the 1920s, Communist forces wanted to take control of China's government, but Nationalist forces were able to maintain the traditional government of China. The leader of the Communist revolutionaries was **Mao Tse-tung** [mou' dzü'dōng', also spelled *Zedong*: 1893–1976]. The Nationalist government was headed by the Christian statesman **Chiang Kai-shek**. During World War II, the Com-



**Chiang Kai-shek:** led Chinese Nationalists in their fight against the Communists and finally established a Nationalist government on the island of Taiwan.

munist and Nationalist forces had made a shaky alliance to fight off the threat of imperial Japan. But no sooner was Japan defeated than fighting broke out in 1945 between the Communist and Nationalist forces. Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist army made a respectable stand against heavy odds, but Mao Tse-tung's Communist forces were armed with confiscated Japanese artillery and plenty of aid from the U.S.S.R. The Soviet Union was eager to see Communism triumph in China. By 1949, Chiang's army was forced to flee to the tiny Chinese island of **Taiwan** (Formosa).

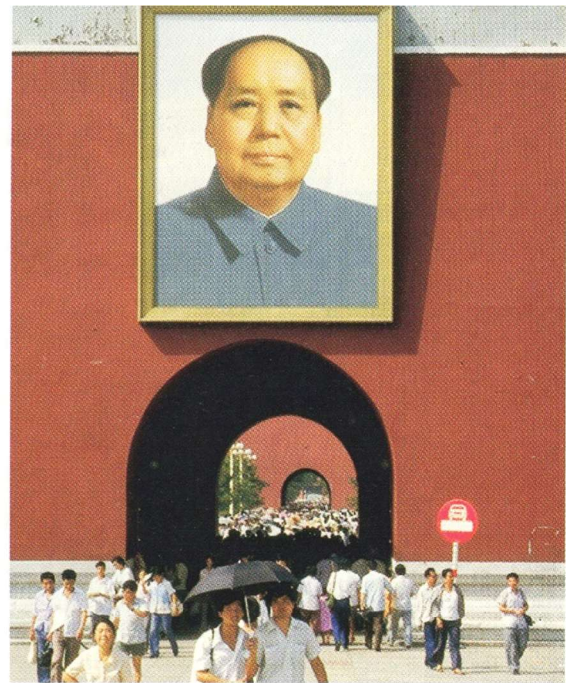
Chiang Kai-shek established a free **Nationalist** government on Taiwan, and Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai [jō' ěn'li'] established a Communist regime, called the **People's Republic of China**, on the Chinese mainland. For a number of years, the U.S. continued to recognize Chiang's government as the rightful government of all China, but by the 1970s, the U.S. and most of the world recognized *two separate Chinas*.

**Soviet aid to Communist China.** The U.S.S.R. helped Mao Tse-tung's government establish itself. In many ways, these two Communist systems were much alike.



Chinese Communists patterned their government after Russia—civil rights were non-existent and elected officials were puppets of the Communist Party. The totalitarian Communist state's political "education" was accomplished through secret police, mass arrests, executions, slave labor, and the elimination of all opposition to the new government.

**Competition for world domination.** Since the U.S.S.R and China stood for the same basic principles of Communism, one would expect them to have a close alliance. Indeed, for a time the Chinese were eager to accept the aid and advice of the Russians. But by the mid-1950s, a breach in the friendship was evident. China was going its own way, developing its own brand of Communism. The Soviet Union had helped create its own rival power. Russia had given birth to a new Chinese regime capable of mobilizing  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the world's population. Both Russia and China had aspirations to rule the world. They agreed it should be a Communist world, but they disagreed as to who should be in charge. By 1960, Russian-



*Poster of Mao Tse-tung: Throughout China, posters of Chairman Mao reminded the people of their cruel dictator.*

Chinese cooperation was only nominal. If either regime were to rule the world, the other would have to be eliminated.

**The "Great Leap Forward."** In 1957, Mao admitted that in the first five years of the revolution some **800,000 opponents** had been executed. From 1958 to 1960, Mao conducted a program known as the Great Leap Forward. Under this program, *people were forced to work in factories or on large collective farms*. Food production fell so drastically that as many as **15 million people** may have starved to death. Mao's party undertook a *planned program to control every area of Chinese life*, just as Stalin's party undertook to control every area of Russian life.

**"Cultural Revolution."** In 1966, Mao decided to launch a full-scale "Cultural Revolution" to cleanse China of all Western and foreign influences. Encouraged by the Communist Party, students and young people formed gangs called the **Red Guards** which filled China's city streets with noisy demonstrations, marches, and protests, and *attacked Chinese intellectuals and professionals*. By 1979, the Red Guards

had murdered an estimated **400,000 people**. Millions more were beaten and terrorized. One famous concert pianist had his fingers smashed with a hammer for playing European classical music. Many doctors, nurses, lawyers, teachers, scientists, and other professionals were imprisoned and tortured; others were forced to work at menial jobs, sweeping streets, digging ditches, and doing hard labor on collective farms. University classrooms, art museums, libraries, and private homes having western-style furniture were vandalized. Books, furniture, and valuable works of art were destroyed. The Academy of Sciences virtually shut down when 150,000 techni-



*China's Millions: Mao Tse-tung and his Communists killed millions of people in China.*

cians were condemned for believing in scientific methods taught in Europe and the U.S. While most of the *free world moved up in its standard of living, Communist China, Russia, and other Communist countries went backward in their standard of living.*

### CHECK UP

1. When was the United Nations organized? Why? Where are its headquarters?
2. Describe Russian society after Communism took over.
3. Why did the U.S. and Western Europe cooperate with Stalin during World War II?
4. What did Stalin promise to do after the war? Did he keep his promise?
5. Who met together at the Yalta Conference in 1945? What was decided at this conference?
6. Why is "people's republic" a misnomer?
7. What kind of government was established in Yugoslavia and Albania? What did East Germany officially become in 1949?
8. Describe the Cold War between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.
9. How did President Truman plan to prevent Communism from spreading to new areas of the world? What was his plan called?
10. Why was NATO organized? List the 12 nations that originally signed the NATO pact. Which nations later joined NATO?
11. What great disaster for the cause of freedom in Asia occurred in the late 1940s? Who led the Chinese Communists? Who led the Chinese Nationalists?
12. What was the "Cultural Revolution"?

**Identify:** containment, Marshall Plan, Molotov Plan, Common Market, Taiwan, People's Republic of China, totalitarian, Great Leap Forward, Red Guards

## The Korean War

In the 1950s, Communist aggression spread to **Korea**, and the Cold War boiled into open conflict. After Japan's defeat in 1945, Korea was divided into two zones: **North Korea** (overseen by the U.S.S.R.) and **South Korea** (overseen by the U.S.). In South Korea, the people established a representative form of government, but in North Korea the Soviet Union interfered with free elections and established a Communist government. This made it impossible to unify Korea into one nation as planned.

In 1950, North Korean troops crossed the **38th parallel** boundary line and invaded South Korea. The UN sent troops, largely American forces, to help the South Koreans protect themselves against Communist aggression. The UN forces were headed by American **General Douglas MacArthur**, the World War II hero who had kept his promise to recapture the Philippines from the Japanese. MacArthur and his troops successfully drove the North Koreans back across the 38th parallel.

When Chinese Communists came to the aid of North Korea, sending in troops and supplies, General MacArthur wanted to bomb China's military bases along the Yalu River and thereby gain victory in the Korean War. But *President Truman feared offending Communist China and the U.S.S.R.,* leading him to deny MacArthur's request for permission to blockade Chinese ports, to incorporate Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist army, and to use atomic bombs against Chinese cities. MacArthur responded to Truman's containment philosophy with his now famous statement: "There is no substitute for victory." Truman and Gen-



eral MacArthur both persisted in their opinions until April 1951 when President Truman relieved General MacArthur of his command.

Because of General MacArthur's years of loyal service, Americans welcomed him home from Korea as an American hero. He also received a standing ovation from the U.S. Congress when he spoke at a joint session and reminded them that "War's very object is victory," and that indeed there is "**no substitute for victory.**" He went on to tell Congress that "history teaches with unmistakable emphasis that *appeasement but begets new and bloodier war.*" MacArthur insisted that if we did not fight the Communists in Asia, we would have to fight them later in some other part of the world. Unfortunately, his opinion was ignored in the shaping of American foreign policy, and thousands of American servicemen would later die on Asian soil in Vietnam.



*Korean War: U.S. troops depicted in a painting by H. C. McBarron*

In 1953, an armistice was reached, returning the situation to what it had been before the war. Korea remained divided with a *Communist government in North Korea* and a *free government in South Korea*. Thus the Korean War ended in a **stalemate** (nothing gained by either side).

### **Communism Spreads to the Americas**

*A false hope for peace.* Meanwhile, Soviet Communism spread to other parts of the world. Soviet leader Joseph Stalin died in 1953. He was replaced by **Nikita Khrushchev** [krōosh'chōf], who, though he had earned the nickname "hangman of the Ukraine," denounced Stalin's gruesome tactics in 1956. Khrushchev gave the false impression that Soviet Communism was "mellowing"—softening in its tactics—and that it no longer aspired to rule the world. This "*de-Stalinization*" of Russia gave the free world false hope that the danger of Communism had lessened. Khrushchev spoke of "**peaceful coexistence**" between Communism and the free world.

**Communism in Cuba.** However, any hope of stopping Communism where it already existed in the world was soon crushed. In 1959, after favorable reviews in some U.S. newspapers and years of *guerilla warfare* (revolutionary surprise attacks by a small volunteer army), **Fidel Castro** overthrew the Cuban dictator Fulgencio **Batista** [bə·tēs'tə]. The U.S. had shunned Batista's dictatorship and hoped that Castro's regime would be more representative in nature. The people of Cuba trusted Castro but soon discovered that Castro's revolution was backed by Russia and that he was an avowed *Communist*. Batista's dictatorship had been exchanged for a repressive Communist dictatorship. The Cuban revolution was the first Communist revolution in the Americas. Communism was now at the doorstep of the U.S.

## The Vietnam Conflict

The greatest blow to the U.S. in its fight against world Communism came in Southeast Asia. Following World War II, this entire region was in chaos as European nations granted their colonies independence and encouraged them to establish democratic governments. Throughout Southeast Asia, Communists worked unceasingly to establish dictatorships in these former European colonies. For the U.S., the real problem came in **Vietnam.**

**Outbreak of conflict.** France recognized the independence of Vietnam in 1948. However, the French opposed the plan of Russian-trained **Ho Chi Minh** [hō'chē'mīn'] to establish a Communist dictatorship there. As a result, civil war raged in Vietnam between Ho Chi Minh's Communist forces (backed by the U.S.S.R. and Communist China) and democratic Nationalist forces (backed by the French). By 1954, the French resistance to a Communist takeover had collapsed. In an international agreement, Vietnam was temporarily divided at the **17th parallel.** *North Vietnam was to be ruled by Communists, and South Vietnam was to be ruled by Nationalist forces.*

**U.S. enters conflict.** In 1950, President Harry Truman sent military aid to help the French keep their hold on Indochina and to prevent Chinese Communists from taking over Southeast Asia. According to the "domino theory," if Indochina fell to Communism, so would the remainder of Southeast Asia. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, North Vietnamese Communists began to invade South Vietnam in increasing numbers. By 1962, the U.S. was giving substantial support to South Vietnam. American pilots were flying over Vietnam, and military advisers were training and directing Vietnamese ground forces in defensive

operations. By the time he was assassinated in November 1963, President **John F. Kennedy** had sent over 16,000 military advisers to South Vietnam; the U.S. hoped to set an example by stopping Communist advancement in Vietnam.

**Gulf of Tonkin incident escalates war.** The conflict (*technically not a war because a state of war was never declared*) escalated in 1964 when two U.S. destroyers were *allegedly* fired upon by North Vietnamese torpedo boats in the Gulf of Tonkin. After this reported incident, Kennedy's successor President **Lyndon B. Johnson** ordered air strikes against North Vietnam. In 1965, marines became the first U.S. combat troops sent to Vietnam. By 1968, more than 500,000 American troops were in Vietnam. America was involved in a full-fledged war (still technically *undeclared*) to defend freedom

and human dignity in South Vietnam against the Communists of North Vietnam.

**No victory.** Soon Russia and Communist China came to the aid of North Vietnam. The advantage of the North Vietnamese was their *large numbers, knowledge of the terrain, and supply of weapons from the Soviet Union and China.* As the war dragged on, American lives and money continued to be spent on foreign soil with no apparent hope of victory.

**U.S. withdraws; South Vietnam falls.** Americans wanted either a victory or an end to American men fighting and dying in Vietnam. Thus President **Richard Nixon** decided to get the U.S. out of Vietnam. In **1973, after eight years of a no-win war,** South Vietnam, the U.S., and North Vietnam signed a cease-fire agreement, and the U.S. removed its combat troops from Vietnam. Over 58,200 American troops died or were declared missing as a result of the war with another 303,700 wounded. Vietnam was *America's first no-win war.*

As U.S. military personnel returned home, a wave of patriotic fervor swept across the nation. Cheering Americans showed their heart-felt appreciation to the servicemen who bravely fought in Vietnam. Many Americans were saddened as prisoners of war told of their long inhumane treatment in **Hanoi** [hă·noi'] **prisons.** (Hanoi was North Vietnam's capital.)

No sooner were American troops out of Vietnam than the North Vietnamese Communists launched a new assault against South Vietnam. On April 23, 1975, President Ford officially announced the end of American involvement in Vietnam, ordering the evacuation of U.S. civilians and embassy personnel. On April 30, 1975, **Saigon** [sī·gŏn'], South Vietnam's capital, *fell to Communist forces, and the Communists gained complete control of Vietnam.* The cause for containing Communism in Southeast Asia was lost. MacArthur's warning about Korea proved to be true in Vietnam.

After South Vietnam's fall, the Communists' cruel regime quickly spread its power to **Cambodia** and **Laos.** In Cambodia alone,

