

## Guided Reading $Origins \ of \ the \ Cold \ War$

**A.** As you read this section, complete the cause-and-effect diagram with the specific U.S. actions made in response to the Soviet actions listed. Use the following terms and names in filling out the diagram:

containment **Truman Doctrine** Berlin airlift **NATO Effect: U.S. Action** 1. **Cause: Soviet Action** Soviet leader Joseph Stalin refused free elections in Eastern Europe and set up satellite **Effect: U.S. Action** nations. 2. **Effect: U.S. Action** 3. **Cause: Soviet Action** Soviets blockaded Berlin for almost a year. **Effect: U.S. Action** 4.

**B.** On the back of this paper, explain the significance of each of the following terms:

Cold War Marshall Plan

## SKILLBUILDER PRACTICE Analyzing Motives

How did the Cold War develop so soon after the success of the Allied victory in World War II? When you analyze the motives of the United States and the Soviet Union at the end of the war, look at the experiences, emotions, and needs that compelled each nation to act in a certain way. Read the following passage, and then complete the chart below. (See Skillbuilder Handbook, p. R6.)

**U.S. and Soviet War Experiences** The Soviet Union suffered more casualties in World War II than all the other Allies combined. The Soviet Red Army lost approximately 7.5 million soldiers, more than twice Germany's loss of about 3.5 million. Moreover, there were about 19 million Soviet civilians killed during the war and another 25 million refugees left homeless. Much of Russia, Poland, and the Ukraine lay in ruins, having been overrun and scorched several times during the fighting.

Although 405,000 U.S. soldiers died in the war, there were no civilian casualties, and the continental United States was never invaded or bombed. The industrial production necessitated by the war helped the country out of the Depression and revitalized its capitalist economy. By 1945, almost half of all the goods and services produced in the world came from the United States.

**U.S. and Soviet Goals** It was clear even before the end of the war that the United States and the Soviet Union had different goals for Europe.

The United States wanted to rebuild Europe, especially Germany, so that the burden of feeding so many refugees would not fall on American tax-

payers. It was also in U.S. interests to have economically strong European countries that were able to buy U.S. products. The Soviet Union, on the other hand, wanted to rebuild itself. Stalin thought Germany should pay \$20 million in machinery and raw material as reparations for the wrongs the Soviets had suffered during the war.

After the Soviet experience in the war, Stalin feared invasion from the West. Gaining military and political control of Eastern Europe was his way of creating a buffer from further attack. Since the Red Army occupied the countries it liberated from the Germans, Stalin quickly set up or supported similar Communist governments. According to Stalin, "In this war, each side imposes its system as far as its armies can reach. It cannot be otherwise."

For its part, the United States feared totalitarian regimes that imposed their own systems on otherwise free and independent nations. Stalin in his desire for absolute control, Truman argued, was every bit as ruthless and dangerous as Hitler. Truman's efforts to contain communism was a diplomatic compromise between going to war again and stopping the Soviets from gaining any more power in the world than they already had.

	Experiences During War	Emotions After War	Needs After War
SOVIET UNION			
UNITED STATES			



# reteaching activity $\ Origins \ of \ the \ Cold \ War$

### **Reading Comprehension**

Choose the best answer for each item. Write	the letter of your	answer in the blank.
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<ul> <li>1. The world peacekeeping body formed after World War II was called the a. League of Nations.</li> <li>b. United Nations.</li> <li>c. North Atlantic Treaty Organization.</li> <li>d. Warsaw Pact.</li> </ul>	
2. The now-famous "iron curtain" speech was given by a. Harry S. Truman. b. Douglas MacArthur. c. Winston Churchill. d. George Marshall.	
<ul> <li>3. All of the following were considered satellite nations of the Soviet Union except <ul> <li>a. Greece.</li> <li>b. Poland.</li> <li>c. Hungary.</li> <li>d. Czechoslovakia.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
4. The amount of aid provided to European countries from the Marshall Plan totaled about a. \$6 billion. b. \$10 billion. c. \$13 billion. d. \$20 billion.	ıt
<ul> <li>5. One of the key characteristics of communism was</li> <li>a. no opposing parties.</li> <li>b. a market-based economy.</li> <li>c. free and open elections.</li> <li>d. a weak central government.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>6. All of the following were members of NATO except</li> <li>a. China.</li> <li>b. France.</li> <li>c. the Netherlands.</li> <li>d. the United States.</li> </ul>	



## GEOGRAPHY APPLICATION: REGION $\ The\ Marshall\ Plan$

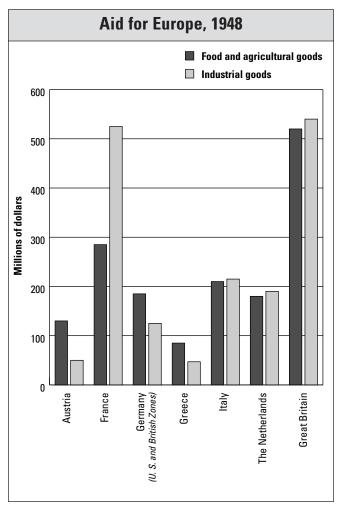
Directions: Read the paragraphs below and study the graph carefully. Then answer the questions that follow.

7 hen World War II ended and the countries of Europe needed emergency relief and economic aid, the United States, Canada, and other nations contributed to the effort. Despite their efforts, necessities were still in short supply. In some countries, food was even scarcer than it had been during the war. To determine the full extent of the problem, President Truman sent former President Herbert Hoover on a fact-finding mission to 22 European nations. On his return, Hoover reported the stark reality to Truman. People were starving in Europe, and stopgap aid would not solve the problem. A long-term plan was needed.

During a Harvard College commencement address in June 1947, Secretary of State George C. Marshall offered the aid of the United States to all European nations in need. He asked the nations of Europe to agree on a plan of recovery and to tell the United States what aid was needed. In return for the aid of the United States, Marshall proposed that European nations would have to agree to cooperate and remove trade barriers. Although invited to participate, the Soviet Union refused Marshall's offer. In addition, the Soviets prevented their satellite nations in Eastern Europe from applying for aid.

In all, 16 Western European countries applied for assistance under what was known as the European Recovery Program, or the Marshall Plan. Congress heatedly debated the plan for ten months. The loudest and most insistent criticism concerned the estimated cost—about \$12.5 billion. For a time, it looked as if Congress would reject the plan. However, in February 1948, a Sovietbacked uprising put Communists in control of Czechoslovakia. Alarmed by this Soviet aggression, Congress promptly approved the Marshall Plan by large majorities in both houses.

The Marshall Plan proved to be a great success, both politically and economically. The spread of communism was halted, and Western European economies quickly revived. Within three years, the production of goods in Western Europe surpassed prewar levels. The Marshall Plan also proved beneficial to the American economy, for an economically revitalized Western Europe provided a ready market for American goods and services.



### **Interpreting Text and Graphics**

1. What commodity was particularly scarce in Europe after the war?
2. Which two countries on the graph received the most total aid in 1948, the first year of the Marshall Plan?
Why do you suppose this was true?
3. Why do you think the Soviet Union opposed the Marshall Plan?
4. How many dollars worth of food and agricultural aid did Italy receive in 1948?
5. Which country received the most in total aid in 1948?
What was the total dollar amount, approximately?
6. What event finally moved Congress to approve the Marshall Plan?
7. In your own words, explain the following statement: "The Marshall Plan saved
Western Europe from being absorbed into the Soviet Bloc."
<u> </u>

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# PRIMARY SOURCE from Harry S. Truman's Letter to His Daughter

In this excerpt, Truman tells of first becoming president and of his meeting with Churchill and Stalin at the Potsdam Conference near Berlin. As you read, think about the challenges Truman faced at the beginning of his presidency.

A s you know I was Vice-President from Jan. 20 to April 12, 1945. I was at Cabinet meetings and saw Roosevelt once or twice in those months. But he never did talk to me confidentially about the war, or about foreign affairs or what he had in mind for the peace after the war. . . .

Well the catastrophe we all dreaded came on April 12 at 4:35 P.M. At 7:09 I was the President and my first decision was to go ahead with the San Francisco Conference to set up the U.N.

Then I had to start in reading memorandums, briefs, and volumes of correspondence on the World situation. Too bad I hadn't been on the Foreign Affairs Committee or that F.D.R. hadn't informed me on the situation. . . . Then Germany folded up. You remember that celebration that took place on May 8, 1945—my 61st birthday.

Then came Potsdam. . . . Stalin was a day late, Churchill was on hand when I arrived, I found the Poles in eastern Germany without authority and Russia in possession of East Prussia, Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, as well as Rumania and Bulgaria. Churchill had urged me to send our troops to the eastern border of Germany and keep them there.

We were about 150 miles east of the border of the occupation zone line agreed to at Yalta. I felt that agreements made in the war to keep Russia fighting should be kept and I kept them to the letter. Perhaps they should not have been adhered to so quickly. . . . Perhaps if we had been slower moving back we could have forced the Russians, Poles, Bulgars, Yugos etc. to behave. But all of us wanted Russia in the Japanese War. Had we known what the Atomic Bomb would do we'd have never have wanted the Bear [symbol of Russia] in the picture. You must remember no tests had been made until several days after I arrived in Berlin [for the Potsdam Conference].

Adm. Leahy told me that he was an explosives expert and Roosevelt had just thrown \$2,600,000,000 away for nothing. He was wrong. But his guess was as good as any. [Senator Jim] Byrnes thought it [the A-bomb] might work but he wasn't sure. He thought if it did we would win the

Japanese War without much more losses but we still needed the Russians. That was one of my prime objects in going to Berlin—to get the Russians into the Jap War. Well, many agreements were made at Potsdam, the Foreign Minister's Conference was set up, I suggested that the Danube, the Rhine, . . . the Black Sea Straits all be made free waterways and that no trade barriers be set up in Europe. The last suggestion got nowhere. Had it been adopted all Europe's and the World's troubles would have been half over.

We entered into agreements for the Government of Germany—not one of which has Russia kept. We made agreements on China, Korea and other places none of which has Russia kept. So that now we are faced with exactly the same situation with which Britain + France were faced in 1938/39 with Hitler. A totalitarian state is no different whether you call it Nazi, Fascist, Communist or Franco's Spain.

Things look black. We've offered control and disarmament through the U.N., giving up our one most powerful weapon for the world to control. The Soviets won't agree. They're upsetting things in Korea, in China, in Persia (Iran) and in the Near East.

A decision will have to be made. I am going to make it. I am sorry to have bored you with this. But you've studied foreign affairs to some extent and I just wanted you to know your dad as President asked for no territory, no reparations, no slave laborers—only Peace in the World.

from Margaret Truman, ed., Letters from Father: The Truman Family's Personal Correspondence (New York: Arbor House, 1981), 103–108.

#### **Discussion Questions**

- 1. According to his letter, what challenges did Truman face when he became president?
- 2. What does Truman's letter reveal about his attitude toward the Soviet Union?
- 3. How well do you think Truman handled foreign affairs right after he became president? What could he have done differently?