

The World Transformed: 1945 to the Present

Chapter 1- The Cold War: Toward Soviet-American Confrontation

- After WWII, Soviet Union and the US rise as the *dominant powers*
- Collided for post-war arrangements, created *the Iron Curtain*
- S.U leaders feared the US might use its economic power to extend its influence
- US leaders feared that the post-war world chaos would invite Communist dominance

Origins of the Rivalry

- Who's to blame is still a controversy
- US leaders: Franklin Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman
- Soviet leaders: Joseph Stalin

From cooperation to conflict

- After Pearl Harbor, US added S.U to the Coalition (US, UK, & China)
- Yalta meeting: Stalin, Roosevelt & Churchill
- disagreed on post-war settlements, like political future of Poland
- 1945: Germany & Japan surrendered
- West-Germany (US, UK & France) & East-Germany (S.U)
- 1946: U.S-Soviet tensions arise over Communist domination in Eastern Europe, and S.U troops in Iran & China
- 1947:
- Truman Doctrine= a commitment by the US to take a stand against the threat of Communism to free people anywhere
- Officially declared the U.S was in Cold War
- Marshall Plan= financial aid for recovery of European economies
- Stalin organizes Cominform (Communist Information Bureau); to tighten grip on eastern Europe

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