

Objectives

- Trace the reasons that the wartime alliance between the United States and the Soviet Union unraveled.
- Explain how President Truman responded to Soviet domination of Eastern Europe.
- Describe the causes and results of Stalin's blockade of Berlin.



Terms and People

- **satellite state** – small country controlled by a more powerful neighbor
- **Cold War** – struggle in which the U.S. and Soviet Union became rivals but never fought directly in military conflict
- **iron curtain** – imaginary barrier separating Soviet-controlled countries and the free world
- **Truman Doctrine** – President Truman's policy to aid nations struggling against communism
- **George F. Kennan** – American diplomat and leading authority on the Soviet Union

Terms and People (continued)

- **containment** – American policy to keep communism contained within its existing borders
- **Marshall Plan** – U.S. aid program to help Western Europe rebuild after World War II
- **Berlin airlift** – operation in which the U.S. and Britain broke the Soviet blockade of West Berlin
- **NATO** – North Atlantic Treaty Organization; military alliance to counter Soviet expansion
- **Warsaw Pact** – rival military alliance formed by the Soviet Union and its satellite states

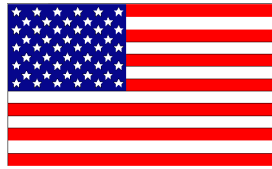


How did U.S. leaders respond to the threat of Soviet expansion in Europe?

World War II convinced U.S. leaders that the policies of isolationism and appeasement had been mistakes.

To counter the growing Soviet threat, they sought new ways to keep the U.S. safe and protect its interests abroad.

Despite their alliance during World War II, the U.S. and the Soviet Union had little in common.



The United States was a capitalist democracy. The American people valued freedom and individual rights.




The Soviet Union was a dictatorship. Stalin and the Communist Party wielded total control over the lives of the Soviet people.

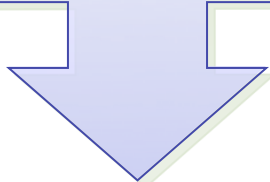
These differences were apparent as the Allies made decisions about the future of postwar Europe.

Postwar Goals	
U.S. and Britain	U.S.S.R.
Strong, united Germany	Weak, divided Germany
Independence for nations of Eastern Europe	Maintain Soviet control of Eastern Europe

When the Big Three met at Yalta, Stalin agreed to allow free elections in Eastern Europe, **yet free elections were not held.**



When the Big Three met again at Potsdam, the U.S. and Britain pressed Stalin to confirm his commitment to free elections; **Stalin refused.**



The Big Three alliance crumbled.

The nations of Eastern Europe and the eastern part of Germany became **satellite states** of the Soviet Union, separated from the free world by an **“iron curtain.”**



After the Big Three split at Potsdam, the **Cold War** struggle between the world's two superpowers began.

The Soviets were determined to spread communism to other lands.

The Americans were determined to stop them.

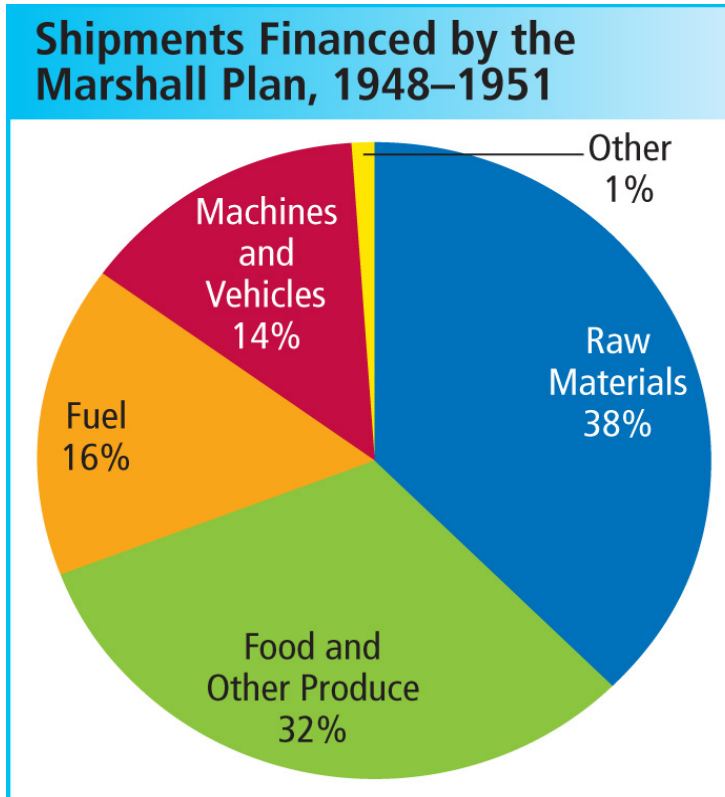
Containing communist expansion became the United States' top priority.

With the **Truman Doctrine**, the U.S. promised to support nations struggling against communist movements.

Money was sent to Greece and Turkey to provide aid to people who needed it.



The U.S. sent about \$13 billion to Western Europe under the **Marshall Plan**.

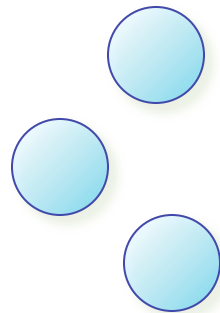


The money provided food, fuel, and raw materials to help rebuild war-torn cities and towns.

Germany, and the city of Berlin, became flashpoints in the Cold War.

After the war, Germany was divided into four zones.

The zones controlled by the U.S., Britain, and France were combined to form **West Germany**.



The Soviet zone became **East Germany**.

Berlin was also divided.



West Berlin was controlled by the Allies.

The prosperity and freedoms there stood in stark contrast to the bleak life in communist East Berlin.

Determined to capture West Berlin, Stalin blockaded the city, cutting off supplies.

In response, the U.S. and Britain sent aid to West Berlin through a massive airlift.

The **Berlin airlift** saved West Berlin and underscored the U.S. commitment to contain communism.



As Cold War tensions mounted, both sides formed military alliances for collective security.

NATO		Warsaw Pact
Belgium	Netherlands	Albania
Canada	Norway	Bulgaria
Denmark	Portugal	Czechoslovakia
France	Turkey	East Germany
Greece	United Kingdom	Hungary
Iceland	United States	Poland
Italy	West Germany	Romania
Luxembourg		Soviet Union

Section Review

QuickTake Quiz



Know It, Show It Quiz

