

Cold War Conflicts

The Cold War and the danger of nuclear war define international affairs, especially after the Korean War. Fear of communism in the U.S. leads to accusations against innocent citizens.



Cold War Conflicts

SECTION 1 Origins of the Cold War

SECTION 2 The Cold War Heats Up

SECTION 3 The Cold War at Home

SECTION 4 Two Nations Live on the Edge



18.1

Origins of the Cold War

The United States and the Soviet Union emerge from World War II as two “superpowers” with vastly different political and economic systems.



SECTION

1 Origins of the Cold War

Former Allies Clash

U.S.-Soviet Relations

- U.S., U.S.S.R. have very different economic, political systems (capitalism vs. communism)
- Capitalism: Private citizens control economy
- Communism: Economy controlled by the state/ruler
- U.S. suspicious of Stalin because he had been Hitler's ally
- Stalin resents that U.S. delayed attacking Germany and hid atom bomb



The United Nations

- 1945, United Nations established as new peacekeeping body
- UN becomes arena where U.S., U.S.S.R. compete



Continued . . .



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continued **Former Allies Clash**

Truman Becomes President

- Harry S. Truman succeeds FDR as president
- As vice-president, Truman was not included in policy decisions
 - was not told about atom bomb



Soviets Tighten Their Grip on Eastern Europe

- 1946, Stalin announces war between communism, capitalism inevitable



United States Establishes a Policy of Containment

- U.S. policy of **containment**—measures to prevent spread of communism
- Winston Churchill (of Great Britain) describes division of Europe as **iron curtain** (philosophical “wall” of Soviet domination and oppression.)
- [Iron curtain interactive](#)



SECTION

1

Cold War in Europe

The Truman Doctrine

- 1945–1991 **Cold War**—military tensions & political conflict between U.S., U.S.S.R.
- Also known as (AKA) competition between the US & USSR for power and influence in the world.
 - neither nation directly confronts the other on battlefield
- **Truman Doctrine**— policy to contain communism and to stop it from spreading. 1st used in helping Greece & Turkey resist communist takeover by USSR.



Superpowers Struggle over Germany

The Berlin Airlift

- Why? Great Britain, US, France reunite zones into West Germany. USSR feels threatened
- 1948, Stalin blockades by closing highway, rail routes into West Berlin
- **Berlin airlift**—Britain, U.S. fly food, supplies into West Berlin around the Soviet Blockade.
- Airlift was a way to bypass direct military conflict and thus not turn cold war hot.
- 1949, Stalin lifts blockade
- Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic form

Candy Bomber

The NATO Alliance

- Fear of Soviet aggression & veto power in the UN leads to **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**
- European nations, U.S., Canada pledge mutual military support/Collective Security



18.2

The Cold War Heats Up

After World War II, China becomes a communist nation and Korea is split into a communist north and a democratic south.



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2

The Cold War Heats Up

China Becomes Communist

Nationalists Versus Communists

- Chinese Communists led by Mao Zedong battle nationalist govt of **Chiang Kai-shek**
- U.S. supports Chiang because he is anti communist, but his govt is inefficient, corrupt
- 1949, Nationalists lose civil war & flee to island of **Taiwan** where Kai-Shek rules
- Mao Zedong wins and rules China



US Reacts to Communist Takeover

- U.S. public stunned by Communist takeover
- Democrats & Truman are blamed for “losing China” to communism



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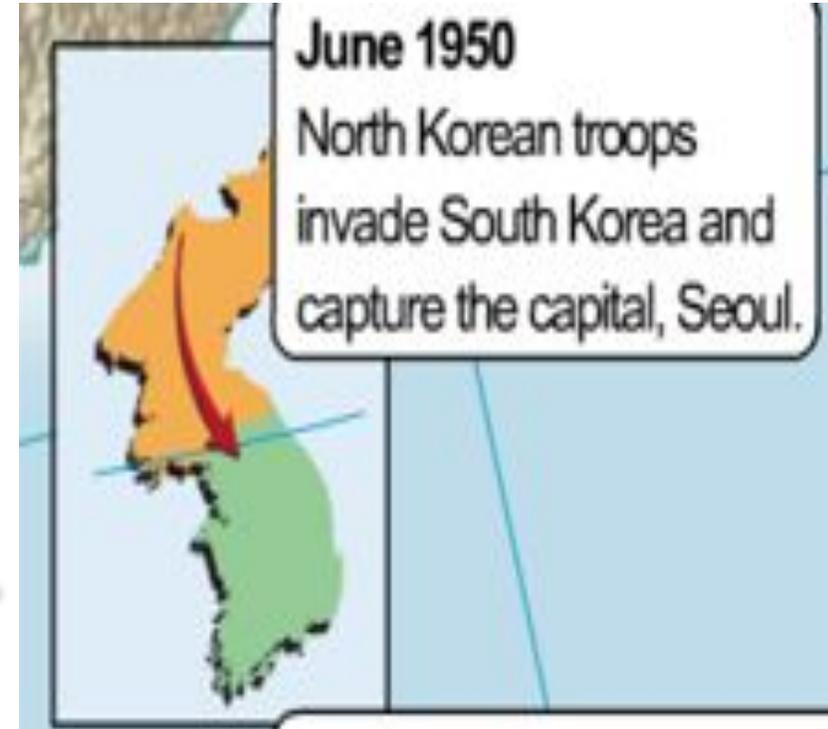
The Korean War

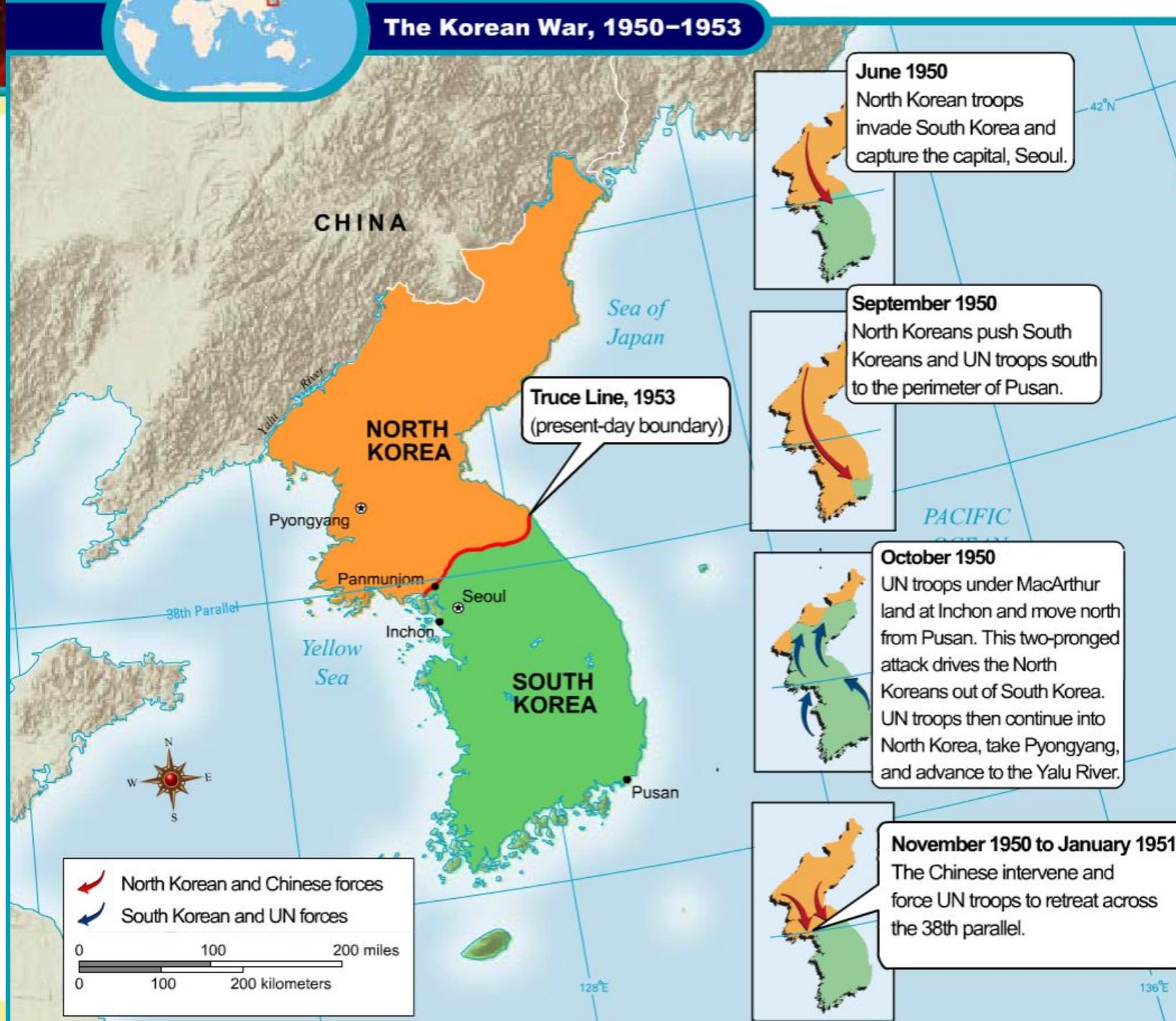
A Divided Country

- **38th parallel** (38° N latitude) divides Japanese surrender in Korea
- North of 38th parallel surrenders to U.S.S.R. (and becomes communist); south to U.S. (and is democratic)

North Korea Attacks South Korea

- 1950, NK invades South, begins **Korean War**
- South ask UN to stop invasion; Security Council approves because USSR is boycotting due to Taiwan having China's spot on UN Security Council.
- MacArthur put in command of South Korean, U.S., other forces
- [Korean War Interactive](#)





The US Fights in Korea

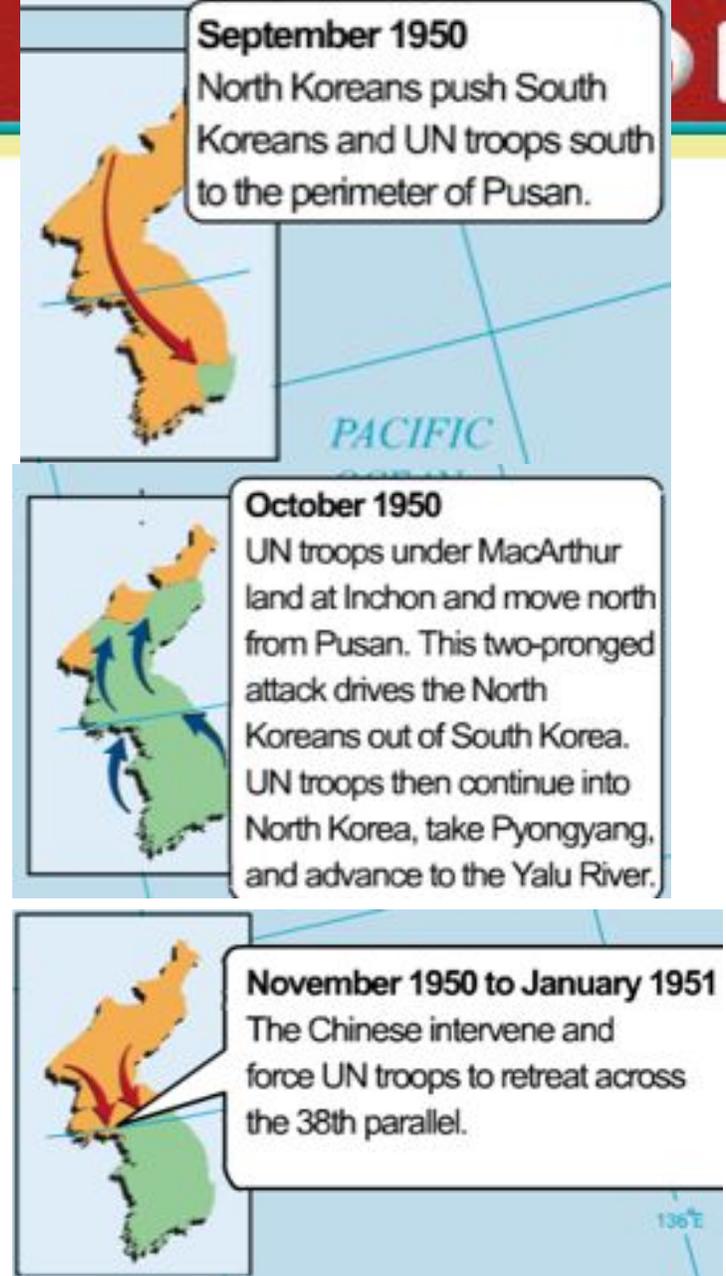
MacArthur's Counterattack

- North Korea drives south, captures Seoul
- UN, South Korean troops forced into small defensive zone
- MacArthur attacks North Koreans from 2 sides, pushes into north



The Chinese Fight Back

- China sends troops to help North Korea; push south, capture Seoul
- Fighting continues for 2 more years



Continued . . .



MacArthur Recommends Attacking China

- MacArthur calls for war with China; Truman rejects request
- Soviet Union, China have mutual assistance pact
- UN, South Korea retake Seoul, advance north to 38th parallel

MacArthur Versus Truman

- MacArthur goes over Truman's head to congress to push for invasion of China; Truman fires him



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Settling for Stalemate

- 1951, Soviet Union suggests cease-fire
- 1953 armistice: Korea still divided; demilitarized zone established
- Lack of success (though communism was contained), high human, financial costs help elect Eisenhower



10pm Most people are in bed. The scarcity of cars, the early nights, the absence of entertainment venues, and the electricity shortages, mean that by midnight Pyongyang is effectively a ghost city, and remains so until 6am the next day.



18.3

The Cold War at Home

During the late 1940s and early 1950s, fear of communism leads to reckless charges against innocent citizens.



SECTION

3 The Cold War at Home**Fear of Communist Influence****American Sentiments**

- Communist takeover of Eastern Europe and China fuel the fear of spread of communism
- 100,000 in U.S. Communist Party; some fear may be loyal to U.S.S.R.

Loyalty Review Board

- Truman accused of being soft on Communism due to China turning communist while he is president.
- Sets up Federal Employee Loyalty Program to investigate employees
- 1947–1951 loyalty boards investigate 3.2 million, dismiss 212



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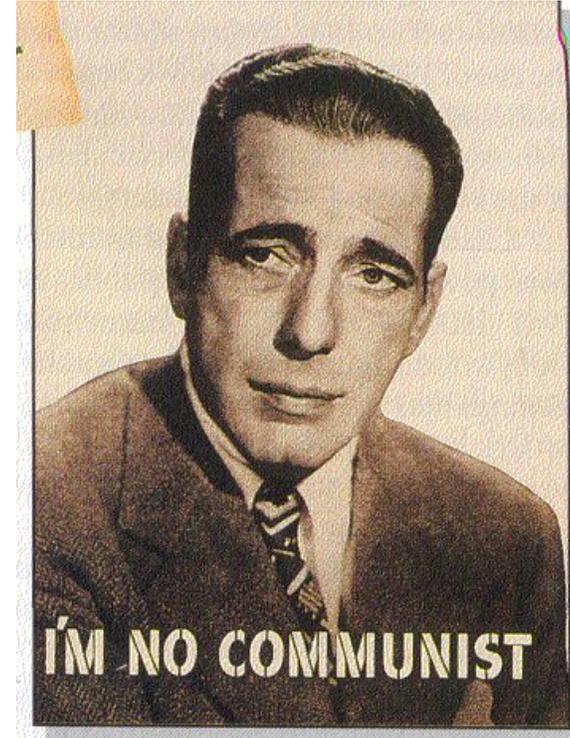
Famous Actor
Humphrey Bogart

The House Un-American Activities Committee

- **HUAC** investigates Communist ties in the govt. and the movie industry
- Investigates Communist influence in movie industry
- **Hollywood Ten** refuse to testify, sent to prison
- Hollywood **blacklist**—people accused of Communist ties, cannot get work

The McCarran Act

- Act—unlawful to plan action that might lead to totalitarianism
- Truman vetoes, says violates free thought; Congress overrides veto



Spy Cases Stun the Nation

Alger Hiss

- **Alger Hiss** accused of spying for Soviet Union; convicted of perjury can't be accused of spying because it had been too long.
- Congressman Richard Nixon gains fame for pursuing charges

The Rosenbergs

- 1949, Soviets explode atomic bomb sooner than expected
- Physicist Klaus Fuchs admits giving information about U.S. bomb
- **Ethel, Julius Rosenberg**, minor Communist Party activists, implicated in passing atomic secrets to USSR
- Rosenbergs sentenced to death; Supreme Court upholds conviction



SECTION

3

McCarthy Launches His “Witch Hunt”

McCarthy’s Tactics

- Senator **Joseph McCarthy** a strong anti-Communist activist
- Ineffective legislator; needs issue to win reelection
- **McCarthyism**—attacking suspected Communists without evidence
- McCarthy claims Communists in govt. to get publicity
- Few Republicans speak out; think he has winning strategy for 1952



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McCarthy's Downfall

- 1954, McCarthy accuses members of U.S. Army
- Televised hearings show him bullying witnesses
- Loses public support; Senate condemns him for improper conduct

Other Anti-Communist Measures

- States, towns forbid speech favoring violent overthrow of government
- Millions forced to take loyalty oaths, are investigated
- People become afraid to speak out on public issues



18.4

Two Nations Live on the Edge

During the 1950s, the United States and the Soviet Union come to the brink of nuclear war.



Brinkmanship Rules U.S. Policy

Race for the H-Bomb

- USSR explodes atomic bomb so we develop H bomb.
- **H-bomb**—hydrogen bomb—nuclear weapon more powerful than atom bomb
- 1952, U.S. explodes first H-bomb; 1953, Soviets explode one

We are suspicious because USSR exploded bomb so quickly.

The Policy of Brinkmanship

- **John Foster Dulles**, secretary of state under **Dwight D. Eisenhower**
- Dulles proposes **brinkmanship** policy:
 - willingness to risk nuclear war to prevent spread of communism
- Nuclear threat unlike any before: millions can die; nation prepares



SECTION

4

The Cold War Spreads Around the World

The Warsaw Pact

- U.S.-Soviet relations thaw after Stalin's death in 1953
- West Germany's entry into NATO scares Soviets
- Form **Warsaw Pact**—military alliance with satellite nations



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North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) are shown in **green**. The nations that became military allies with the Soviet Union in the **Warsaw Pact** are shown in **Red**.



A Summit in Geneva

- Eisenhower meets Soviets in Geneva, proposes “open skies” policy
- Soviets reject proposal; “spirit of Geneva” seen as step to peace

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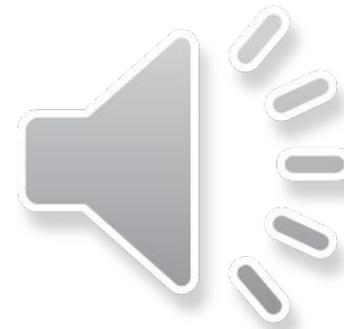
continued **The Cold War Spreads Around the World**

The Eisenhower Doctrine

- Soviet prestige in Middle East rises because of support for Egypt
- **Eisenhower Doctrine**—U.S. will defend Middle East against communists/USSR. We care due to oil.

The Hungarian Uprising

- 1956, Hungarians revolt, call for democratic government
- Imre Nagy, Communist leader, forms government, promises elections
- Soviet army fights Hungarians in streets; overthrow Nagy
- U.S. does not help Soviet satellite; Soviets veto action by UN



The Cold War Takes to the Skies

A New Soviet Leader

- **Nikita Khrushchev** emerges as new Soviet leader; favors:
 - peaceful coexistence and economic, scientific competition

The Space Race

- October 1957, Soviets launch *Sputnik*, first artificial satellite
- Shocked Americans pour money into own space program



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A U-2 Is Shot Down

- CIA makes secret high-altitude flights with U-2 to spy on Soviets
- Eisenhower wants flights discontinued before Krushchev summit
- **Francis Gary Powers** shot down on last flight over Soviet territory

Renewed Confrontation

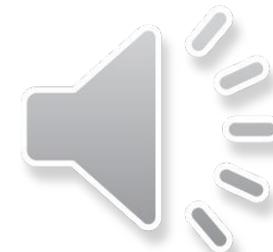
- Eisenhower first denies, then concedes U-2 was spying
- Agrees to stop flights, refuses to apologize as Khrushchev demands
- **U-2 incident** renews tension between superpowers; summit cancelled

[U2 Video](#)

[Left over from the Cold War Video Clip](#)



Wreckage of the U-2 spy plane flown by Francis Gary Powers (inset) is displayed at a museum in Russia





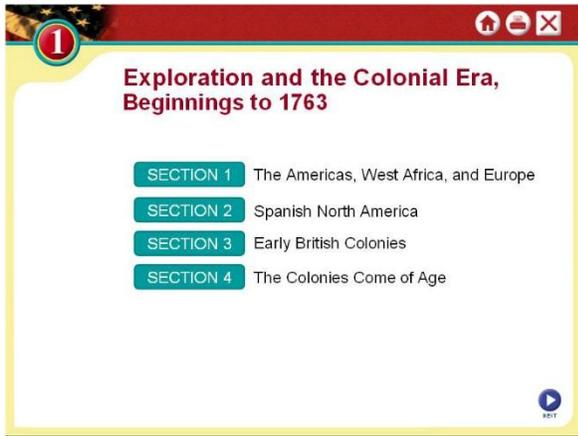
The Cold War lasted from the end of World War 2 until the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991.

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