

The Cold War

Outcome: Communism

Communism

1. Setting the Stage: Conclusions

- a. Communism was spreading in the years following WWII creating competition, fear, and mistrust.
 - b. Communism posed a threat to our way of life
 - c. Communism posed a threat to our friend's & resources
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Communism

2. What is Communism?


a. An economic & political system

	Economic System	Political System
U.S.		
Soviet Union		

Communism

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Soviet Union 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Socialism = gov't controlled economy-Limited opportunity but basic guarantees-Government controls prices, production, & wages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Totalitarian = rule by a dictator-Single party rule-Many restrictions exist-No Bill of Rights is present

Communism

- a. In theory, Communism is a fairy tale existence where wealth and power would be shared equally, class distinctions would disappear, and the need for government would wither away.
 - b. True Communism has never been achieved.
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Karl Marx



Communism

3. Communism Spreads

- a. Stalin broke the earlier promises he made at Yalta (Feb 1945)
 - i. Promised free elections in Eastern European countries
 - ii. Instead Stalin blocked the elections and imposed Communism
 - iii. Churchill announced "An Iron Curtain has descended across Europe."



Berlin



Communism

- b. Berlin became the 1st battle of the Cold War p. 605-606
- Stalin cut all supplies into West Berlin
 - US airlifted supplies into the city for 11 months
 - Stalin caved and reopened roads & railroads



Communism

- c. Civil War in China ended in a Communist Victory
- Mao Zedong & the Communists defeat Chiang Kai-Shek and the Nationalists in 1949
 - Communists rename China the People's Republic of China
 - Nationalists are forced to move to island of Formosa (Taiwan)
 - The U.S. refuses to recognize the PRC until 1972
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Chinese Civil War

Mao Zedong



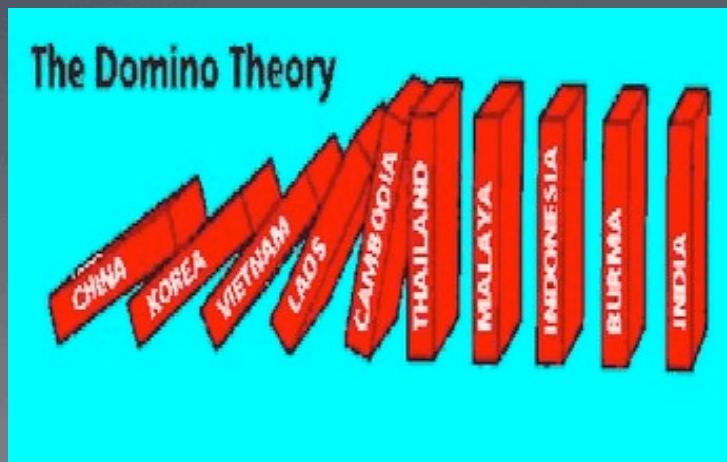
Chiang Kai-Shek



Communism

4. Options for dealing with Communism:

- a. Do nothing
- b. Go to war (nuclear?)
- c. Work towards the containment of Communism ---> Became the basis for U.S. policy during the Cold War



Communism
