

Life after World War II  
Origins of the Cold War

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The Containment Policy

★ Questions To Think About

1. Describe the containment policy. What was its goal?
2. Why did the United States decide to broaden its overseas commitments?
3. Was the containment policy essentially offensive or defensive? Explain

The Korean War

★ Questions To Think About

1. What was America's mission in Korea?
2. How far should the United States go in accomplishing that mission?

Anti-Communism at Home

★ Questions To Think About

1. Why were many post-war Americans concerned about the domestic threat posed by communism? Was fear of communism a response to legitimate threats to national security or an irrational response to other tensions within American society?
2. Were the federal government loyalty programs intelligent and constitutional methods of preserving American values? What were the consequences of such programs? (Alger Hiss, Rosenbergs)

Postwar Society

★ Questions To Think About

1. What factors contributed to American industrial preeminence in 1947?
2. In your view, is it realistic to think that the U.S. could have maintained this preeminence in subsequent years?

★ Questions To Think About

1. How did the geographic distribution of the U.S. population change after 1950?
2. What factors encouraged this shift?

★ Questions To Think About

1. Describe the changes that took place in earnings after the war?
2. How would you explain this increase?