

Restructuring the Postwar World, 1945–Present

Previewing Main Ideas

ECONOMICS Two conflicting economic systems, capitalism and communism, competed for influence and power after World War II. The superpowers in this struggle were the United States and the Soviet Union.

Geography *Study the map and the key. What does the map show about the state of the world in 1949?*

REVOLUTION In Asia, the Americas, and Eastern Europe, people revolted against repressive governments or rule by foreign powers. These revolutions often became the areas for conflict between the two superpowers.

Geography *Look at the map. Which of the three areas mentioned was not Communist in 1949?*

EMPIRE BUILDING The United States and the Soviet Union used military, economic, and humanitarian aid to extend their control over other countries. Each also tried to prevent the other superpower from gaining influence.

Geography *Why might the clear-cut division shown on this map be misleading?*

INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY

eEdition

- Interactive Maps
- Interactive Visuals
- Interactive Primary Sources



INTERNET RESOURCES

- Go to classzone.com for:
- Research Links
 - Internet Activities
 - Primary Sources
 - Chapter Quiz
 - Maps
 - Test Practice
 - Current Events



1945
United Nations formed.

1949
Communists take control of China.

1957
Soviets launch *Sputnik*.

1959
Cuba becomes Communist. (Fidel Castro)



WORLD

1945

1965

1947
Independent India partitioned into India and Pakistan.

1957
Ghana achieves independence from Great Britain. ▶



Cold War Enemies, 1949



■ Communist
■ Non-Communist

Lambert Azimuthal Equal-Area Projection



1969
U.S. lands astronauts on the moon.

1975
Vietnam War ends.

1990
Communists voted out of power in Nicaragua.

2000
South Korea and North Korea meet to improve relations.

1985

1973
Arab forces attack Israel in the Yom Kippur War.



1989
Berlin Wall is knocked down in Germany.

1994
First all-race election in South Africa is held. (Nelson Mandela) ▶



2003

If you were president, what policies would you follow to gain allies?

World War II has ended. You are the leader of a great superpower—one of two in the world. To keep the balance of power in your nation's favor, you want to gain as many allies as possible. You are particularly interested in gaining the support of nations in Africa, Asia, and Central and South America who do not yet favor either superpower.

You call your advisers together to develop policies for making uncommitted nations your allies.

Send troops.

Join together
in an alliance.

Support
anti-government
rebels.

Give
economic
aid.

EXAMINING *the* ISSUES

- How might the actions taken affect your country? the other superpower?
- How might being caught in a struggle between superpowers affect a developing nation?

As a class, discuss how the conflict between the superpowers affects the rest of the world. As you read about how the superpowers tried to gain allies, notice the part weaker countries played in their conflict.