**SSUSH20 The student will analyze the domestic and international impact of the Cold War on the United States.**

**Overview**: The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was a struggle between the western democratic nations (mainly the \_\_\_\_) and the communist nation of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (and later China) for the political supremacy of the world. Following World War II, the United States and the other Allies divided Germany into four occupation zones. Rivalries for influence over the German territories led to disagreements during the occupation of Germany by the French, British, Russians, and Americans, thus beginning the Cold War. Over four decades, competition between the United States and the USSR involved many other countries aligned with one of the two superpowers. The traditional European powers were physically, financially, and emotionally unable to reconstruct the continent. The Soviet Union controlled the eastern half of Europe and, despite promises, showed no desire to allow free elections in the areas that they controlled. The Soviets had not withdrawn their military forces back to their own frontiers. These implicit threats of force by the Soviet Union lead to a state of tension between the U.S. and the Soviets that became known as the Cold War (1945-1991).

**Truman Doctrine**

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was an expression of the U.S. belief that communism would infiltrate those areas of Europe that were left weakened by the effects of World War II. In 1946, a civil war broke out in Greece between the democratically elected government and a communist-backed insurgent movement. The British government, that had traditionally supported and protected the Greeks, informed the United States that they were no longer able to assist the Greeks in resisting the communist attempt to take over Greece. President \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ then issued a warning stating that the U.S. was prepared to use any means necessary to contain communism. Funds were promised to Greece and Turkey to assist in resisting communist take-overs. The policy of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ became the key foreign policy program of the United States until the downfall of the Soviet Union in 1991. While the policy was at first applied to Europe, it was later extended to the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, and Africa. By pledging to protect the world from communist expansionism, the United States in effect became the world’s protector from aggression. As a part of the Truman Doctrine, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (NATO) was created to provide for the mutual defense of Western Europe amid fears of the newly atomic armed USSR.

**The Marshall Plan**

To combat the negative economic impacts of the World War II, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who was the Secretary of State during the Truman Administration, proposed a European Recovery Program (later known as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_). The plan had two major aims: to prevent the spread of communism in Western Europe and to stabilize the international political order in a way favorable to the development of political democracy and free-market economies. Over the four-years during which the Marshall Plan was formally in operation, Congress appropriated $13.3 billion for European recovery. It aided 22 European nations in their economic recovery by providing much needed capital and assisted American businesses by opening up European markets to American goods. This relatively small injection of capital helped to stabilize European politics and enable Western European nations to resist communist infiltration.

**Communist China**

The Truman Doctrine was a success in Western Europe, but, when applied to Asia in the late 1940’s, it was less so. China was embroiled in a civil war fought by the U.S.-backed Nationalist forces (led by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) and the Communist forces (led by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_). In 1949, the Chinese civil war ended in a communist victory. U.S. support of the Nationalists earned the enmity of the Chinese communists. The creation of a communist state in Asia also altered the balance of power in the region. U.S. strategists believed that the communist Chinese and the Soviet Union would form a single monolithic communist state which would threaten the remaining democratic states in Asia.

**Korean War**

After World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed to administer the formerly Japanese ruled Korean \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ under a joint-trusteeship. However, the leaders of the two dominant Korean political parties, the right-wing (U.S.-backed) party led by Syngman Rhee and the left-wing (Soviet-backed) party led by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­\_, objected to the trusteeship and quickly organized their own countries—each bent on re-unifying Korean under the image of either democracy or communism. When the U.S. publically announced that South Korea was not in the defensive sphere of the United States, Kim Il-sung (with Soviet blessings) launched a war to re-unify South and North Korea in June of 1950. The fear of total take-over of Asia seemed to be confirmed when communist North Korea invaded democratic South Korea. Extending the policy of containment to Korea, President Truman, along with the United Nations, launched a defense of South Korea. After three years of fighting, the U.S. and U.N. forces stabilized the Korean frontier along the 38th Parallel (the original border). No peace treaty has been signed and hostilities between the two states continue.

**McCarthy Hearings (McCarthyism)**

Senator \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, looking for a campaign issue to run for re-election, used America’s post-World War II fear of communism. McCarthy accused the Truman administration of being “soft on communism” and of losing China to the communists. McCarthy further claimed that the U.S. Department of State had been infiltrated by communist sympathizers and this group was shaping U.S. foreign policy to favor the Soviet Union. Subsequent Senate hearings did not prove McCarthy’s charges. In 1953, after Republican Dwight Eisenhower took office, McCarthy launched a wide-ranging series of investigations as the Chairman of the Internal Security Committee that included the Department of State and the United States Army. Between April and June 1954, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_were broadcast to a national audience. McCarthy’s tactics of making accusations of disloyalty, subversion, or treason without proper regard for evidence, belittling of witnesses, and constant interruptions to make points of order, ultimately led to his downfall.

**The Cuban Revolution**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was a major exporter of sugar to the United States and received special incentives from the U.S. government. Cuba was also a major tourist destination for Americans. In 1952, General \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ overthrew the elected government of Cuba and established a military dictatorship. He allied himself with the leading multi-national businesses and the mafia controlled hotels, casinos, and brothels. Batista exacted huge bribes for allowing these businesses to continue as usual in Cuba. In 1953, the 26th of July Movement led by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ attempted to overthrow the Batista government. The movement’s stated goal was to restore democracy to Cuba. The coup attempt failed, and in 1955, Castro (and his brother Raul) was exiled from Cuba. In 1956, the brothers returned with a group of guerilla soldiers. After a couple of years of intense fighting, they were able to overthrow the Batista government in 1958. Upon gaining control of Cuba, Fidel Castro named himself president for life. Castro’s plans to nationalize foreign businesses and land reform policies alienated American businessmen. The United States responded by applying economic sanctions against Cuba, including an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (ban on trade).

**Bay of Pigs** **Invasion**

After realizing that Cuba’s new leader, Fidel Castro, had become a Communist, the United States began planning for the overthrow of the Castro government. Unwilling to be seen as directly involved in the overthrow of a populist government such as Castro’s, the U.S. used the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (CIA) to train and carry out a coup against the Castro government. The plan was to carry out a landing along the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and use U.S. supplied aircraft to support the landing. On April 5, 1961, Cuban exiles landed but were crushed by the Cuban Army and Air Force. The newly elected President, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, refused to use U.S. air support to support the invasion after the attack had been leaked to the Cubans. Captured exiles revealed the U.S. backing and Castro went to the Soviet Union for military and economic support. The Soviet Union saw Castro’s gesture as a way to expand the Cold War into the western hemisphere.

**Cuban Missile Crisis, 1962**

U.S.-Cuban relations were further worsened when Castro allowed the installation of medium-range \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ missiles on Cuba. The Soviet government was worried that U.S. nuclear weapons held a tactical and strategic edge on the Soviet Union. The Soviet government decided to place nuclear missiles on Cuba in order to shorten the time that Soviet missiles would have to reach targets in the U.S. These missiles would have placed most of the U.S., Canada, and Latin America within the range of attack. Castro saw the placement of Soviet missile batteries and their supporting troops as a way of preventing future interference in Cuban affairs by the United States. When the missiles were discovered, the Kennedy ordered a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on Cuba rather than a direct military strike on the missiles fearing that such an attack would escalate into an all-out war with the Soviets. As nuclear warheads headed to Cuba on Soviet ships, the Soviet Union agreed to withdraw its missiles from Cuba if the U.S. would secretly withdraw missiles from Turkey and pledge not to invade Cuba. They agreed and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ war ended.

**Vietnam - Causes (1946-1964)**

Vietnam had been a colony of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ during the late 19th century. During World War II, the region had been seized by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The Vietnamese people had organized a resistance movement, known as the Vietminh, warred against the Japanese and French. The organization was dominated by the communist party and led by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. When World War II ended, the French assumed that they would regain control of the region. The Vietminh resisted the takeover and defeated the French in 1954. The United Nations attempted to broker the creation of new nations in what had been French Indochina. The nations of Cambodia and Laos were created. However, the people of southern Vietnam did not want to be ruled from Hanoi in the north and did not wish to be communist. The U.N. divided the nation at the 17th parallel and planned for an election to decide the unification of north and south. The South Vietnamese government rejected an all-Vietnam election because a communist-backed guerilla movement, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, had begun a terror campaign in the south. The Vietcong targeted village chiefs, school teachers, and government officials. South Vietnam requested and received U.S. military support in the form of training for its armed forces. The United States believed that a communist takeover of South Vietnam would lead to further expansion of communism in Asia. President Eisenhower invoked the image of a row of falling dominoes, thereby creating the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Theory. In keeping with the U.S. policy of containment, the United States began its involvement in Southeast Asia. The United States increased aide, but reminded largely in an advisory role under President John Kennedy, but in 1963, the U.S. assisted in a coup against the perceived weak South Vietnamese government. In the ensuing chaos following the coup, communist forces were able to strengthen their hold over the South.

**Vietnam - Escalation (1964-1968)**

U.S. naval units in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had been supporting the South Vietnamese Marine and Naval units as they staged a series of raids into North Vietnam. On August 2, 1964, North Vietnamese naval vessels were accused of attacking the U.S. Navy destroyers Maddox and Turner Joy. President Johnson responded by ordering an air attack on North Vietnamese naval bases that had supported the North Vietnamese naval vessels. Prior to the U.S. attack, Johnson requested Congressional approval. Congress issued the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_which gave the President authorization to conduct military operations in Southeast Asia without a formal declaration of war. Meanwhile, the Vietcong had intensified their effort and had decisively defeated larger South Vietnamese forces twice in 1964-1965 and attacked the U.S. support base at Pleiku. President Johnson made a marked change in U.S. policy by placing ground troops into combat in South Vietnam. The United States sent troops to Vietnam to protect its bases. This increase in troop strength gradually increased to more 500,000 men by 1968. The growth of U.S. military influence in the region led the Soviet Union and the People’s Republic of China to give North Vietnam military aid.

**The Practice of War**

The U.S. fought primarily against the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (N. Vietnamese guerillas). The U.S. and North Vietnamese army did occasionally engage in direct combat. However, the U.S. had a decisive technical advantage in artillery, air support, and air mobility which spelled disaster for North Vietnamese units. Missions in the Vietnam War typically involved anti-guerrilla sweeps throughout the countryside in an effort to destroy the Viet Cong base of support or to find, fix, and destroy Viet Cong and North Vietnamese units. Communist units were supplied from the North by using the Ho Chi Minh Trail along the border with Laos and Cambodia. American air units tried to stop the flow of supplies along the Ho Chi Minh Trail and in destroying supply networks in North Vietnam. South Vietnamese civilians at times were caught in the middle of these fights and suffered heavy casualties.

**Tet Offensive, 1968**

U.S. forces were unable to totally destroy communist forces in the South and communist forces lacked the ability to drive out the Americans. However, the United States commander, General William Westmoreland, was under the impression that the communist forces were on the verge of collapse as his publication of enemy body-counts would indicate. He urged Congress to authorize an additional 200,000 men to finish off the North Vietnamese Army and Vietcong once and for all. The communist forces were not defeated, but had withdrawn into their sanctuaries in Cambodia and Laos to rebuild and train. General Giap, the commander of the North Vietnamese forces, decided to stage a massive offensive in the south in order to shatter the morale of the U.S. and South Vietnamese units. Massing his forces, Giap struck 100 cities in South Vietnam in what came to be called the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Although initially caught off guard, ARVN (Army of the Republic of Viet Nam) forces the U.S. rallied and counter-attacked inflicting severe casualties on the Vietcong. Televised scenes of Heavy Street fighting in Saigon and Hue played out against Westmoreland’s earlier report that the North Vietnamese Army and Vietcong were finished as a fighting force.

**Growing Opposition at Home (SHORT ANSWER)**

Opposition to the Vietnam War dated back to its beginnings when students from the pacifist movement protested the American entrance into the conflict. As early as 1964, there were mass student protests in San Francisco and New York City. As the Congressionally authorized lottery to draft American men into military service began, some students began to burn their draft cards to show their disdain for the war and the draft. The Johnson administration had adopted a policy of stressing only positive reports on the Vietnam War. Television news reports seen nightly by millions of Americans seemed to belie the positive image of the war portrayed by the President and his advisors. By 1968, the Tet Offensive had broken the faith of many Americans in the truthfulness of the government. Protests escalated as draft rules tightened and more and more young men were drafted and sent to Vietnam. Truman’s Containment Policy and Eisenhower’s Domino Theory emphasized the role geography would have in creating foreign policy. The goal of foreign policy during the Cold War was to contain communism to a localized area and prevent its spread from one country to the next. To fight the Cold War, the United States had to create a strategy similar to its World War II strategy. The U.S. kept large well-stocked bases in Western Europe to prepare for a land-based attack by the large tank armies of the Soviet Union and to insure that Western Europe did not fall to communism as had Eastern Europe. The U.S. also had a strong naval presence in the world and relied heavily on nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and submarines to project U.S. power in every corner of the world and to discourage other areas of the world, especially Asia and South America, from falling to communism.