The Cold War

AMERICA AND THE COLD WAR

Chapter 16 - Section 1

The War that wasn't really a War

- The Cold War was **a 40 year postwar strategic & political "battle" between the philosophies of** *democracy & communism*

- No bullets were ever fired, but rather a lasting, **state of hostility toward one another**

Who was this "war" between?

- **American and other Western democracies** (like France and Great Britain) **vs. the Soviet Union and the Eastern European nations** that the Red Army occupied (Poland, Czechoslovakia, East Germany)

What was the big fear?

⬥ That the Cold War **would lead to WWIII**

The United Nations (UN)

- **A world organization created after WWII to keep peace and prevent another world war**

United Nations

What to do with Germany now that the war was over

- The **United States** and the West **wanted to rebuild a stable Germany**

- The Soviet Union wanted revenge and total control over Germany since they had suffered so much loss (27 mill.)

- They didn't want to ever **fear being invaded** by them again

The Marshall Plan

- **A plan to rebuild the economies of Europe**

- To be **funded by the U.S.**

- 16 Western European nations participated - the Soviets and their satellite nations (countries they controlled) did not

Why would we want to pour $13 billion into Europe?

COOPERATION INTEREUROPEENNE

- Helping the economies of the European countries would **help spread democracy**

- If we did not then **totalitarian leaders** (like Hitler or Mussolini) **might rush in to fill the void**

The "Iron Curtain"

- Churchill used this phrase when speaking of the Soviet Union's *intentional total cutting off of any contact* **between the communist countries** of Eastern Europe **and the democratic countries** of Western Europe and the U.S.

A PEEP UNDER THE IRON CURTAIN

The "Truman Doctrine"

◊ President Truman's threat that **the U.S. would act to halt the spread of communism wherever in the world it threatened democracy**

Containment

- The U.S.'s policy of **combating the spread of communism by** *containing* **it whenever and wherever it tried to spread**

National Security Act of 1947

- Created the **Department of Defense**

- Created the **CIA** (Central Intelligence Agency)

Mission of the CIA

- **To secretly gather info. about what was going on in other countries,** *particularly the Soviet Union*

- Controversial because they often did things that neither the President nor Congress knew about or approved of

- Some feared it would be like a secret police in totalitarian govt.'s (like Hitler's *gestapo*)