

The Cold War

The Communist Scare
Chapter 16 - Section 2

Germany after the War

- ▶ The country was divided into 4 sectors each controlled by one of the allies
- ▶ Berlin, also was divided into 4 zones even though it was in the Soviet sector



West Germany

- ▶ American, French, and British leaders became convinced that **Stalin was not going to allow the reunification of Germany** so they merged their 3 zones to create a new country called **West Germany**



West Berlin

- ▶ The western part of Berlin became the capital of West Germany, but it was located in the Soviet zone



How did the Soviets respond to this?

- ▶ They formed a communist East Germany
- ▶ Wanted the U.S. out of West Berlin and didn't want people fleeing Eastern Europe
- ▶ Soviets created a *blockade* and didn't allow food or supplies to pass through Soviet-controlled East Germany into West Berlin



How did the U.S. and its allies respond to this blockade?

- ▶ President Truman didn't want to start a war by using military force to open the route, but also **didn't want to give up West Berlin to the Soviets**
- ▶ So he ordered an *airlift* – a chain of around the clock supply flights into West Berlin
- ▶ Over 200,000 flights over 15 months to feed and supply the 2.5 mill. West Berliners
- ▶ 13,000 tons of goods/day



Berlin Airlift

- ▶ Caused the Soviets to lift the blockade
- ▶ Was a **political as well as strategic *victory*** for U.S.
- ▶ Berlin remained a focal point of East–West conflict



Berlin Wall

- ▶ Many East Germans wanted to leave the Soviet controlled east
- ▶ ***Built a wall*** in 1961 to stop the flow of East Germans to the West
- ▶ Guarded with barbed wire and armed guards



“Tear Down That Wall”

- ▶ **Many were killed** trying to escape to the other side
- ▶ Became a **symbol of the Cold War**
- ▶ Finally torn down in 1989 when the Soviet Union collapsed



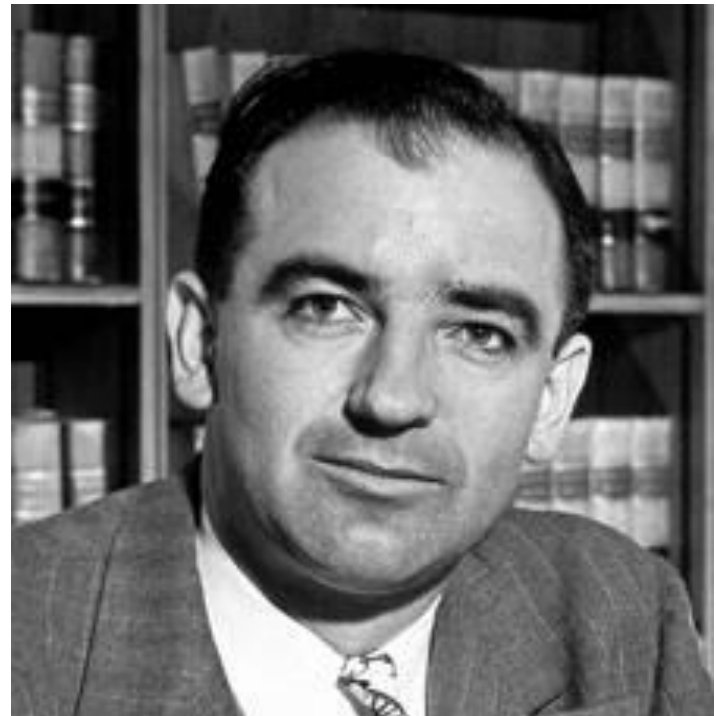
NATO

- ▶ The North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- ▶ A **defensive alliance of *western* nations against the communist East (mainly Russia)**
- ▶ An attack on one is viewed as an attack on all



Joseph McCarthy

- ▶ An unknown senator from Wisconsin who claimed that there were communists in the American govt. and other positions of power



Witchhunt

- ▶ McCarthy began pointing fingers, raising suspicions, and making accusations
- ▶ Ignored the idea that a person is innocent until proven guilty



Name Names

- ▶ Those who were called to testify before McCarthy's committee were told to "name names" of those who might be communists
- ▶ Would be sent to jail if you refused to cooperate
- ▶ Many careers were ruined *even if you were just accused* and not found guilty



HUAC

- ▶ The *House Un-American Activities Committee*
- ▶ Huge fear of communism spreading into our country led them to investigate any “suspicious” activities, particularly in the movie industry



Blacklisted

- ▶ Movie stars and other members of the Hollywood film industry were told to cooperate or else you'd be *blacklisted*
- ▶ Meant that *no studio would hire you*



U.S. spies

- ▶ The hysteria of these witch hunts was overblown, but spies in our country did provide the Soviets atomic secrets
- ▶ Helped them build *atomic* (1949 – 4 years after us) and then *hydrogen* (1954 – 2 years after us) bombs (1,000 X more energy)



Julius & Ethel Rosenberg

- ▶ The 1st U.S. civilians in history to be executed for *espionage* (spying)
- ▶ **Accused of providing Soviets w/ atomic bomb secrets**
- ▶ Controversial because many said they were scapegoats and because they were Jewish



End of McCarthyism

- ▶ He finally went too far by accusing the U.S. army of being filled with “commies”
- ▶ ***Army-McCarthy hearings*** were televised and he was exposed for being a reckless bully
- ▶ Died from alcoholism a couple years later



Assignment

- ▶ Write a 100–150 word essay. Choose to be **Joseph McCarthy** explaining his reasons for his “witch hunt” **OR** choose to be a **Hollywood movie actor** explaining why you have been “blacklisted”. Either way, you must use and underline 5 facts from the section in your paper.
- ▶ Alternatively, imagine you have been hired as an artist to create a **propaganda poster** for HUAC (the House Un-American Activities Committee). Design a poster that **encourages citizens to be suspicious** of any communist-leaning ideas and to **report any suspicious activity** to the government.