

# The Rise of Big Government 1929–1939

## — Great Depression / FDR's New Deal —



### HIGHLIGHTS



- Great Depression
- President Herbert Hoover
- President Franklin Delano Roosevelt
- New Deal and Rise of Socialism in America

The confidence that the American people placed in the wealth and prosperity of the Roaring Twenties came crashing down in 1929. With the collapse of the stock market in October, a Great Depression hit which would characterize the next decade of American history.

### *The Great Depression*

#### Causes of the Depression

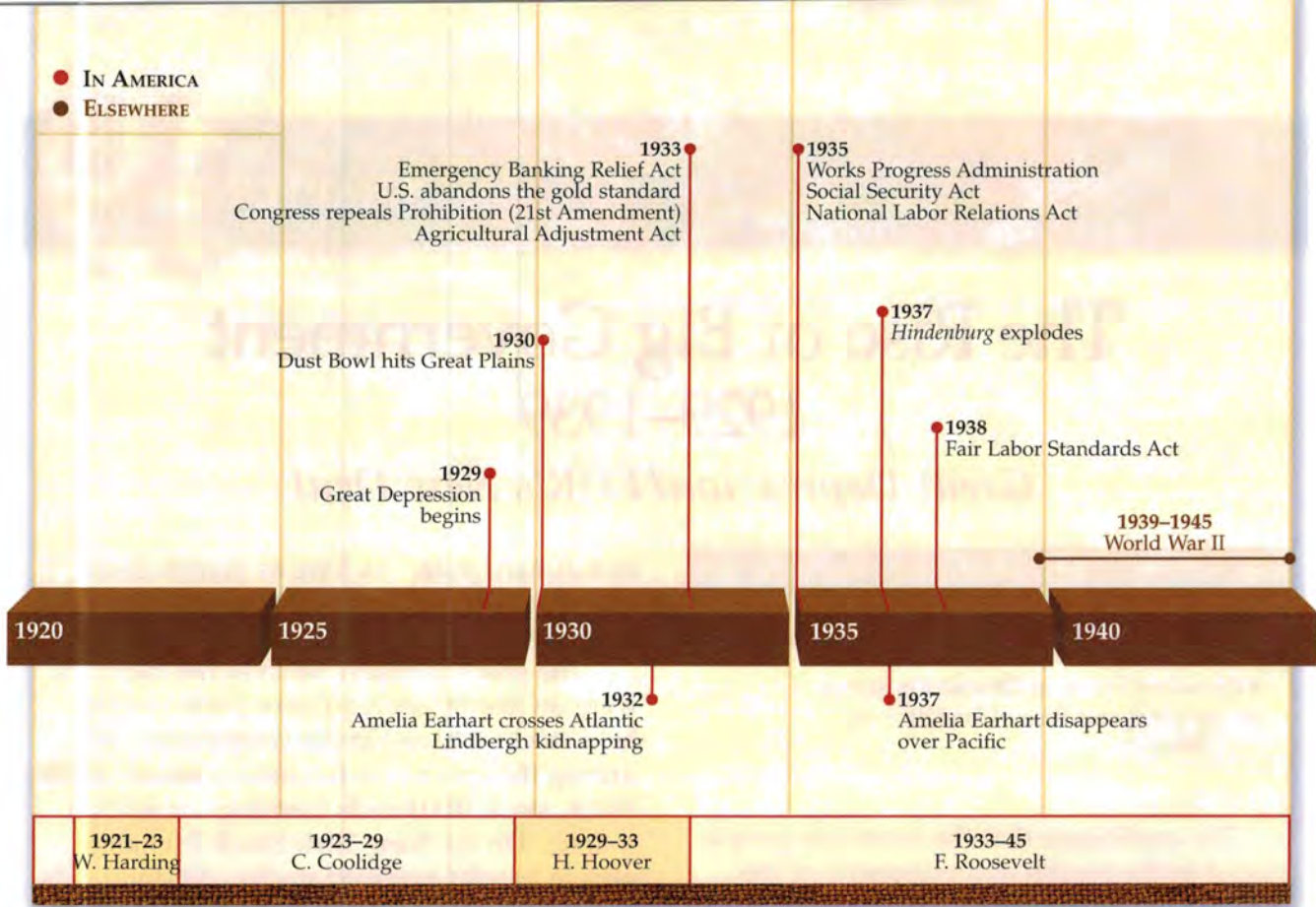
**Buying on credit.** Although business boomed in the 1920s, much of this prosperity was based on **easy credit**. The Federal Reserve Bank kept interest rates low, making it easy for businesses and individuals to take out loans. This “loose money” policy encouraged people to go into debt. **Modern advertising** came of age in the 1920s, increasing consumer demand for products. Newspapers, magazines, and radio reached almost every home with the message of new products to buy. Many ordinary people bought new homes, cars, and appliances on credit. Instead of paying the full price of these goods at the time of purchase, they paid only a small monthly payment on the

**installment plan.** As long as people could buy on credit, factories kept busy and people had jobs.

**The stock market.** Most of the factories were owned by shareholders, people who held stocks (shares) in the corporations producing the goods. As business boomed in the 1920s, **stock dividends** (earnings on stocks) soared. On the **New York Stock Exchange**, people bought and sold stocks. As dividends went up, many people bought more stocks, driving the price of stocks even higher. For a time, dividends matched the true value of trading stock. Then some people began to practice **speculation** (risky investments for the chance of making a quick profit). Ignoring the true value of stocks, they tried to buy stock while it was going up and then sell it at a higher price. The rising market convinced many people that they could always sell at a higher price. Thus, people bought and traded stocks at far above their true value.

**Buying on margin.** Stocks, like consumer goods, could also be bought on credit. Soon, people were speculating on borrowed money, gambling that the stock market would continue to rise. By paying as little as 10 percent of the price of stock in cash, people could hold stock **on margin**. Margin buyers believed that when the price of the stock went up, they could sell at a profit and pay off their loans. But if the price of the stock went down, they would have to sell at a lower price.

**An influential few.** Only 1 in every 100 Americans traded on the stock market



in the 1920s, and less than half of these were speculators. However, some large banks became involved in careless trading; thus a few big traders could send stock prices rapidly upward. From 1927 through September 1929, the stock market soared ever higher. Then, a few big investors began to get nervous because stock prices were much higher than the actual value of the companies they represented. These investors began to sell their stocks.

## The Economy Collapses

**The Great Crash.** In late 1929, the economy began to slow down. As people bought fewer consumer goods and the *supply of unsold goods*, known as **inventory**, began to grow, some factories began to lay off workers. These developments sent stock prices down, but they really began to tumble when the margin buyers were forced to sell to pay off their loans. With prices plummeting, more and more people tried to sell their stocks, but no one wanted to buy.

The stock market crash began on Thursday, October 24, 1929. Within minutes of the opening bell, signaling the start of trading, panic seized the market. Traders shouted wildly on the floor of the exchange as each tried to sell his shares before they skidded even lower. By the close of the day, exhausted ticker tape operators were hours behind in recording the millions of sales. Alarmed, a few wealthy brokers stepped in and temporarily halted the slide. Then, on **Black Tuesday**, October 29, 1929, the bottom fell out of the market. In one day, many people went from riches to rags. As people became fearful and sold even sound stocks, prices plunged. Investors lost \$30 billion in 3 weeks. The market continued its downward spiral for the next 3 years. By 1932, the price of a share of United States Steel Corporation had gone from \$265 to \$22. Some stocks lost all of their value.

**Bank failures.** Although relatively few people actually owned stocks, *the stock market*

Salvation Army workers giving milk to needy children during the Depression



crash effectively shut off the supply of credit that had sustained the economic boom. Many banks had invested in the stock market and lost a great deal of money. More than 4,000 banks failed between 1929 and 1932. When a bank failed, many people lost all of their savings. Thus few people could buy the cars and appliances rolling off the factory assembly lines. Even the wealthy people who had not participated in the stock market cut back on their spending and investing. Businesses could not get loans, and consumers had neither money nor credit to buy goods.

As factories cut down on production, they laid off workers or greatly reduced their wages. This started a grim cycle as workers with less money bought fewer goods, increasing the likelihood of more factories closing. Most factory owners attempted to keep people employed by cutting their wages, but the ranks of the unemployed grew. The number of people out of work rose from 4 million in 1930, to 8 million in 1931. By 1932–1933, the worst years of the Depression, 1 in every 4 workers—13 million—were out of work. The average yearly rate of unemployment in the 10 years of the Depression (1930–1940) was 15%.

**Government intervention.** When, in 1930, many banks could not meet their obligations, the Federal Reserve decided to shrink the money supply. But this action

only increased the number of bank failures. The Federal Reserve's handling of the money supply deepened and prolonged the Depression.

Three reasons can be given for the severity of the Great Depression: (1) the desire of a few to get rich quick, (2) the widespread practice of buying goods on credit, and (3) government interference in the free market economy.

**A worldwide depression.** The economic disaster spread to Europe, Japan, and throughout the world. World trade was already at a low ebb because of high tariffs between the United States and foreign countries. Europe owed the United States large sums of money for WWI loans. During the Depression, the U.S. government canceled many of these debts, further weakening the banking system.

### CHECK UP

1. What encouraged many people to go into debt?
2. Describe some of the factors that led to the Great Depression.
3. What happened on Black Tuesday?
4. Give three reasons for the severity of the Great Depression.

**Identify:** stock dividends, New York Stock Exchange, inventory

## Herbert Hoover's Challenge (1929–1933)

**Herbert Hoover** (1874–1964) became President of the United States in 1929 just in time to inherit the “blame” for the Great Depression. He believed that the excesses of the stock market and other unwise speculations brought on the Great Depression. Hoover called for a return to sound credit and banking practices.

### Helping Hands

**Private charity.** President Hoover felt that families, churches, charities, and neighbors should look after the needs of the unemployed. Some people accused Hoover of lacking compassion for the needy, but no one understood the needs of suffering people more than **the Great Humanitarian.** After World War I, Hoover had supervised the vast relief of millions in Europe. If conditions in the United States had been as harsh as conditions in Europe, the President would have proposed more government aid. When asked about letting people go without food or shelter, he replied: “This is not an issue as to whether people shall go hungry or cold in the United States. It is solely a question of the *best method* by which hunger and cold shall be prevented. . . .” Hoover approved limited, temporary govern-

ment assistance but felt that most help should be directed through private charities. Throughout the land, *soup kitchens, bread lines, and shelters* sprang up to meet the needs of the poor. In the larger cities, groups like the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, and the Pacific Garden Mission came to the rescue of many of the unemployed. By 1933, many private agencies had mobilized to provide relief. The YMCA alone had 614 centers that provided bed and food for 62,000 men in the cities. Catholics established 600 child-care homes, providing for over 80,000 children. Jewish communities founded 60 institutions for poor children. Goodwill Industries had 75 dormitories scattered throughout the country.

**Strong family ties provide relief.** Many needs were met through family, friends, and neighbors. In the cities, where people suffered more than those in the country, neighborhoods worked together to help feed, clothe, and shelter the less fortunate. Despite many hardships, most families remained together during the Depression. Most people either lived in the country or had parents or close relatives who lived on farms. Some returned to the family farm during the Depression, while others simply relied more on their vegetable gardens and canned their food. A few men abandoned their family responsibilities during the De-

### PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

## Herbert C. Hoover (1874–1964)

**Years of Presidency:** 1929–1933

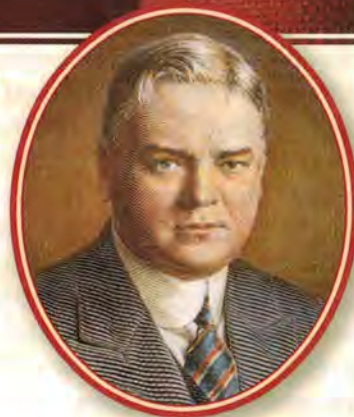
**Vice President:** Charles Curtis

**Political party:** Republican

**State of residence when elected:** California

**Remembered for his organization of food relief programs after World Wars I and II**

**Major events during Presidency:** Stock market crash (October 1929), beginning of Great Depression



*31st President*

pression and became **hobos**, riding the freight trains from town to town.

Because families, churches, and local charities provided relief, government assistance was unnecessary. However, some politicians insisted that government relief was needed to supplement the private agencies. Rather than taxing the people, they said the government could simply print more money.

### The Dust Bowl

A severe drought, known as the **Dust Bowl**, hit the Great Plains in **1930**, affecting western *Kansas*, *Oklahoma*, and the panhandle of *Texas*. During World War I, farmers had unwisely planted wheat on this land, which was better suited to cattle grazing. When the crops shriveled up in the burning heat, the exposed soil swirled away in the wind, creating great clouds of dust.

**Private relief.** Although most farmers on the Plains were able to keep their farms, some had to move away. The **American Red Cross**, a private charity, provided relief for many farm families. When Congress proposed a bill for government relief, President Hoover asked the Red Cross if it needed additional funds. The Red Cross replied that not only did they not need government funds, but the mere suggestion of government assistance had already caused a decline in private contributions. The bill was defeated, and private contributions to the Red Cross resumed.

**Rumors circulate.** The politicians who wanted to offer government welfare refused to

give up. With the help of the press, they led people to believe that drought-stricken families in Arkansas had started “hunger riots.” When the United States Army sent troops to the scene, they discovered that the whole thing was a hoax—there were never any riots or starving farmers.

### Propaganda

**Exaggerated fiction.** In 1939, **John Steinbeck** (1902–1968) wrote *The Grapes of Wrath*. This novel described the plight of the “Okies,” farm families from western Oklahoma who went to California in search of jobs. Most families who went west did not experience the hardships that Steinbeck presented in his novel. Steinbeck openly supported labor violence and strikes instigated by socialist groups to keep the Okies from earning a living as migrant farm laborers in California.

**Art and photography.** Steinbeck was not alone. Socialist photographers and artists produced misleading pictures of the “Okies” and the mountaineers of Appalachia and the Ozarks. These mountaineers did not have the modern conveniences of homes in the towns or cities, but they did not consider themselves to be poor. The Depression actually had little effect on their lives.

**More rumors.** Some people wanted to create an imaginary crisis in order to move the country toward socialism. They spread rumors of bank mortgage foreclosures and mass evictions from farms, homes, and apartments. But local banks did all in their power to keep their present tenants. The number of people out of work in the 1930s averaged about 15 percent of the work force; thus 85 percent continued to work. Most had to take a pay cut, but prices also declined during the Depression, enabling people to buy more for their money.

**Socialist sympathizers.** In some cities, Communist sympathizers stirred up trouble between factory owners and workers, encouraged street violence, and called for the overthrow of the government. Some labor union organizers demanded violent change, but most wanted to elect liberal politicians who would regulate the private business sector. In the end, the work-

*A farm in the Dust Bowl*



## LESSONS FROM HISTORY

*The Grapes of Wrath in Russia*

When Hollywood made a movie based on John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, Communists in America and in the Soviet Union tried to use the film for Soviet propaganda. They hoped to convince the Russian people of the sufferings of the "typical" American, but their plan backfired. Rather than believing that free enterprise in America had failed,

the Russian people left the movie theater envious of the poor Okies. "Why, they all had their own cars and trucks!" they exclaimed. The Russians had expected to see the Okies *walk* to California. Instead, they *drove*. Far from being starving refugees, the Okies even had money or found work along the way to pay for the gas needed on their long trip to California.

ers suffered most from the strikes and labor violence. Some writers and intellectuals used the Great Depression to criticize the American free enterprise system, but most Americans condemned their radical talk.

**Life in the Depression**

**Family entertainment.** Most people felt that America was still a great place to live and continued to enjoy life. Family activities and neighborhood get-togethers were inexpensive and frequent. Families gathered together in the evenings to listen to their favorite radio programs. Many people played a new board-game called *Monopoly*. In warm weather, evening hours were spent on front porches or at the park listening to band concerts.

Motion pictures, sporting events, and magazines experienced record sales during the decade, despite the sagging economy. Baseball remained the national pastime. The color motion picture *Gone With the Wind* (1939), based on Margaret Mitchell's romantic novel, drew thousands to the movie theaters. Many came to see the animated films of a young cartoonist named Walt Disney, the creator of *Mickey Mouse*. Throughout the years of the Great Depression, most people had enough money for daily needs as well as for some entertainment.

**Christianity.** Churches grew as Christians and non-Christians looked to God in their hard

times. Revivals, camp meetings, and Bible conferences flourished. Evangelists and Bible speakers traveled up and down the country preaching. Harry Rimmer became a popular speaker, lecturing in colleges and universities against evolution. While Modernist churches and denominations espoused many of the false philosophies hatched in the 1800s, fundamental, Bible-believing churches and denominations greatly expanded their facilities, such as mission boards, conference grounds, and camps. Their influence continued to affect the character of America, producing morality, honesty, truthfulness, decency, and goodness. Other countries considered America to be a Christian nation because God was honored in public life and

*Despite hardships in Depression, most families were able to provide for themselves.*



public places. The world reeled under World War I and the Great Depression, but America as a nation remained steady in its Christian character.

**Government programs.** Most Americans worked hard, maintained strong family ties, and trusted God in their time of difficulty, but certain leaders began to convince people that the government should solve their financial problems. Some American writers and politicians saw the Marxist-socialism of the Soviet Union as a way out of the Depression. Why not let government do for the American people what it was doing in Russia and other areas of the world? As government interfered with the American economy, many people began to depend on it for their financial needs.

**Suffering in socialist Russia.** Communists claimed that life was much better in the Soviet Union, but the poorest people in America were far better off than those living under Communism. During the Depression, many Russians starved to death because of the brutality and failure of Marxist-socialism in their country. While the free enterprise nations of the world would eventually recover from the Depression, Russia would remain locked in a seemingly permanent depression.

### CHECK UP

1. Who was the Great Humanitarian? How did he think those in need should be helped?
2. What caused the Dust Bowl?
3. How did the American Red Cross respond when Congress proposed a bill to provide for government assistance in the Dust Bowl relief effort?
4. How did socialist writers, photographers, and artists portray the victims of the Dust Bowl? Why?
5. Describe life in the average American community during the Depression.
6. Why did other nations consider America to be a Christian nation?

**Identify:** hobos, John Steinbeck, *The Grapes of Wrath*

## Franklin Roosevelt's "New Deal" (1933–1945)

Because the Great Depression of the 1930s created hardships, many people were willing to accept socialistic ideas of government control and economic planning. In 1932, New York governor Franklin Roosevelt campaigned on the Democratic ticket for the Presidency. Politicians in Washington began to call for vast public welfare programs, promising the people full employment, higher wages, and lower prices.

### FDR Becomes President

President Hoover had taken office only 7 months before the stock market crash, but Democrats blamed the Republicans for the Depression. In his nominating speech, Roosevelt said, "I pledge myself to a new deal for the American people." Roosevelt's "**New Deal**" for the American people consisted of vague, unclear recommendations for an economic recovery. He called for firm, aggressive action, but no one really knew what he planned to do. Roosevelt said that he believed in balanced budgets and relief for the "average American," whom he called the "forgotten man." Roosevelt also appealed to the liquor sellers—the breweries and bars—promising to repeal Prohibition (the 18th Amendment).

Governor Roosevelt's campaign speeches proved irresistible to the majority of American voters. When the 1932 election results came in, Roosevelt received 23 million votes to Hoover's 16 million. Thus **Franklin Delano Roosevelt** (1882–1945), known as *FDR*, became President of the United States.

### The First Hundred Days

**Bank holiday.** In the first 3 months or so of his Presidency, FDR managed to push 15 major laws through Congress. Newspapers hailed what they called **The First Hundred Days**. Roosevelt's first accomplishment was to stabilize the U.S. banking system, which by 1933 had grown desperate. Many banks were

failing because of **bank runs** (when people lose confidence in a bank and rush to withdraw their money.) The governor of Michigan stopped bank runs in his state by declaring a **bank holiday**, closing all banks within the state for 8 days. This gave the banks time to calm the fears of depositors and assure them that their money was safe. Some banks had failed because of unwise investments, but many remained sound.

Within hours of his inauguration, President Roosevelt declared a national bank holiday, closing all banks in the United States. This was his first official act as President. On March 9, 1933, Congress passed the **Emergency Banking Relief Act**, which gave the

President broad powers to control banking policies and to reopen banks as he saw fit.

**Fireside chats.** President Roosevelt explained his actions on Sunday evening, March 12, speaking to a nationwide radio audience. This was the first of many **fireside chats** given by FDR over the radio. *Franklin Roosevelt was the first President to make extensive use of modern means of communication with the people.* Roosevelt had a good radio voice—calm and reassuring. He told the American people “that it is safer to keep your money in a reopened bank than under your mattress.” After hearing the President’s fireside chat, many people returned their money to their banks on Monday morning

## Understanding the Roosevelts



Franklin Roosevelt

**Stricken by polio.** In 1921 while vacationing at his summer home in New Brunswick, Canada, Franklin D. Roosevelt fell into the water while sailing and developed a chill, which led to a severe

case of **polio**. For the rest of his life, he was unable to walk without leg braces and experienced much pain. People close to Roosevelt later insisted that his social welfare programs reflected his own feelings of helplessness, which he readily transferred to those who suffered during the Depression.

After much personal effort and physical therapy, FDR reentered politics and soon became the governor of New York in 1928. By 1932, he had been elected President.

**Political solutions.** FDR had little interest in what he called “religion,” but he felt it his duty to use his wealth and position to help others. His upbringing and education led him to embrace politics as the solution to society’s problems.

**Eleanor Roosevelt.** Because of FDR’s illness, his wife **Eleanor Roosevelt** (1884–1962) traveled and spoke around the country. She became a powerful figure and promoted a new world organization to replace the failed League of Nations. For her efforts, she became a United States delegate to the United Nations in 1945.



Eleanor Roosevelt



and added other deposits. By late March, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the banks that had been closed were back in operation, having been declared "safe" by government inspectors. By summer, Congress would authorize the **Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)**, which insured all member bank accounts for up to \$5,000 per account.

### New Deal Begins

Roosevelt's popularity soared after his success in stabilizing the banking system. This enabled Congress to give the President broad powers to begin a government spending and jobs program called the **New Deal**.

FDR believed that the government could spend its way out of the Depression by providing public relief and jobs for everyone. Roosevelt based his New Deal on the ideas of a *socialist economist* from Great Britain, **John Maynard Keynes** [kānz]. The idea that government can live beyond its means is called *Keynesian economics*, the creed of "tax and spend" politicians. Under FDR the government began to operate on a **deficit** (spending more than received from taxes and other revenues).

Thus, on April 19, 1933, the United States abandoned the **gold standard**. FDR announced that all privately held gold (not including jew-

elry and coin collections) should be returned to the Federal Reserve banks in exchange for paper money. Paper money could no longer be redeemed for gold. Roosevelt claimed that paper money, backed by the federal government, would be as good as gold. This allowed the government to **inflate** the currency, or print more money, to pay for government programs.

### Repeal of Prohibition

FDR reasoned that even more money could be raised for the New Deal by repealing Prohibition and taxing alcoholic beverages. In December 1933, FDR sponsored the passage of the **21st Amendment** to the Constitution, which *legalized the sale of liquor, repealing Prohibition* (18th Amendment).

### The Tennessee Valley Authority

One of the first government projects planned by the New Deal was the **Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)**. The purpose of the TVA was *to control flooding, conserve soil, and bring hydroelectric power to the mid-South.* Through the TVA, the government bought large amounts of private land and built great dams along the rivers of the Tennessee Valley. With this construction came many government jobs.



*Norris Dam in Tennessee was the first major dam to be completed by the TVA.*

**An imaginary crisis.** To generate public support for the TVA, promoters of the New Deal circulated pictures of soil erosion in parts of the South that were not even in the Tennessee Valley, including Ducktown, Tennessee, a copper mining area in the Appalachian Mountains. At Ducktown, acid from the mines left hillsides bare of trees, creating severe erosion. These misleading pictures led people to think that unless the government built dams in the Tennessee Valley, all of the soil would be washed away.

**Government control.** The TVA dams generated electric power, which the government sold cheaply to surrounding communities. Thus, the government controlled the electrical power supply for millions of people.

### **Agricultural Adjustment Act**

In May 1933, President Roosevelt and Congress rushed the **Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA)** into law. Seeking to increase prices for agricultural products by reducing the supply of food, *the government paid farmers not to plant crops or graze livestock on pasture land.*

Many people were disturbed that the government encouraged farmers to dump milk, shoot and bury livestock, and plow under corn and cotton in order to create shortages and drive up farm prices. Former President Hoover called it a crime. Why did the New Dealers encourage destroying food while insisting that government should help feed the people by giving them

jobs? Herbert Hoover concluded that the New Deal planners were deliberately creating an economic crisis and prolonging the Depression in order to persuade the American people to accept welfare socialism as a way of life.

### **National Recovery Administration**

Meanwhile, labor unions demanded higher wages to offset food costs. New Deal social planners believed that increasing wages and prices would force more money into circulation, thereby boosting the economy. Because prices could not increase faster than wages, the government put wage and price controls on businesses. Thus businesses could not raise their prices, despite the higher cost of labor. Factories shut their doors or laid off workers because employers could no longer make a profit. Under the **National Recovery Administration (NRA)**, established in 1933, *the government attempted to control wages and prices and to limit competition among businesses* while encouraging labor organizations. Conservatives saw this as a big step into socialism.

### **Works Progress Administration**

By 1935, the New Deal launched its largest public relief program, the **Works Progress Administration (WPA)**. The public approved of this program because, unlike today's welfare programs, the WPA insisted that people work before they received government money.

*CCC and WPA workers*



Workers built many roads, bridges, public buildings, parks, and other facilities. Murals painted by WPA artists can be seen in some of our older public buildings today.

Unfortunately, the program became so large (over 3 million enrolled) that it led to much political corruption and waste. Some of the work was "make work." It was said that one crew would dig a ditch and another would come along and fill it in. Because workers all received the same wage, they had *little incentive* to excel or do extra work. Average Americans who passed by WPA road crews observed that the workers appeared to spend more time leaning on their shovels than digging. Many Americans, having grown up to expect and respect an honest day's work as part of the Protestant work ethic, had little respect for the WPA.

### Civilian Conservation Corps

Another related project, the **Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)**, provided jobs for young men. By 1936, nearly a half million men between the ages of 18 and 25 were enrolled in the program. Living in military-style barracks and wearing uniforms, they worked on reforestation and other soil and water conservation projects.

#### CHECK UP

1. Who promised a "New Deal" to Americans? What was the New Deal?
2. What is a bank run? How did President Roosevelt stop the run on banks?
3. What idea did John Maynard Keynes develop?
4. What was the purpose of the Tennessee Valley Authority? How did TVA promoters generate public support?
5. How did the Agricultural Adjustment Act increase agricultural prices?
6. What did the Works Progress Administration do? How was it similar to the Civilian Conservation Corps?

**Identify:** The First Hundred Days, fireside chats, Eleanor Roosevelt, FDIC, inflate, National Recovery Administration

### Social Security

In 1935, Congress passed the **Social Security Act**, introducing it as a *voluntary* program. This act *established a government fund for unemployment and old-age insurance*. Each pay period, a certain amount of money would be withheld from the worker's paycheck and deposited in this fund; an equal amount would be contributed by the employer. At first, only a small amount of money was withheld from paychecks. The government promised that the Social Security tax would remain small.

The Social Security Administration soon blossomed into an enormous agency and began to transfer vast amounts of money to welfare programs. As *more* people were needed to contribute *more* money to keep the system afloat, Social Security became *mandatory* for most workers. Instead of saving the Social Security money for its original purpose, the government used the fund to pay for public welfare programs.

### Rise of Labor Unions

In addition to the Social Security Act, President Roosevelt backed a bill proposed by Senator Robert Wagner of New York. In 1935, Congress passed the **National Labor Relations Act**, which gave workers the right to form labor unions and practice **collective bargaining**. In collective bargaining, a union represents workers and negotiates for higher wages and certain working conditions. In 1935, **John L. Lewis**, the leader of the United Mine Workers union, organized the **Committee of Industrial Organizations (CIO)** within the ranks of the American Federation of Labor (**A.F. of L.**). While the American Federation of Labor had always been primarily an organization for skilled workers and had organized workers by crafts, *the CIO organized all workers within an industry, skilled and unskilled, into one large organization*. Encouraged by a new government agency, the **National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)**, the CIO gained power rapidly. It made steady progress in organizing the steel, automotive, rubber, and textile industries. Unable to agree

upon tactics, the A.F. of L. and the CIO soon split. In 1938, the CIO became the **Congress of Industrial Organizations** with John Lewis as its president. By 1939, about 8 million workers belonged to unions.

**Sit-down strikes.** In order to organize workers, the CIO used a tactic known as the **sit-down strike**. Union members refused to work and barricaded themselves inside the workplace. Attempts by police or non-union employees to remove them often resulted in violence and destruction of private property. Employers feared that resistance to sit-down strikes would lead to the destruction of expensive machinery. By threatening violence and the destruction of private property, labor organizers forced employers to bargain with the union. In many industries, *all* workers were forced to join the union. A company that could hire only union members was said to be a **closed shop**—that is, closed to all but union members.

**Violent strikes.** Labor strikes were common through the late 1930s and early 1940s. Many people were shocked by the violence that often occurred during strikes. *Communist labor organizer Gus Hall* encouraged labor violence. He had studied at the Lenin Institute in Moscow and returned to the United States in 1933 to become head of the **Communist**

**Party, U.S.A.** Most labor leaders were not Communists, but many had socialist ideas. They wanted government-sponsored unions to control private enterprise.

### Foreign Policy

**Recognizing Communist Russia.** President Roosevelt took important steps in regard to foreign policy. Diplomatic relations had been severed between the United States and Russia since the Communist Bolshevik Revolution in 1917. But Roosevelt wanted to trade with Russia, so in November 1933 the United States recognized the Communist government in Russia. For the first time since the Bolshevik Revolution, the United States and the Soviet Union exchanged diplomatic representatives. This recognition of the Soviet Union by the Roosevelt administration made it possible for Communists to gain loans and technology to develop and strengthen military power in Russia.

**Good Neighbor policy.** In 1935, the United States signed treaties of international cooperation with six republics in Latin America. FDR called his steps to promote friendship with Latin America countries the **Good Neighbor policy**. FDR became the first American President to visit South America while in office.

## PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

### Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882–1945)

**Years of Presidency:** 1933–1945

**Vice Presidents:** John Nance Garner (1st and 2nd terms), Henry Agard Wallace (3rd term), Harry S. Truman (4th term)

**Political party:** Democratic

**State of residence when elected:** New York

**Remembered for his New Deal social programs**

**Major events during Presidency:** first regular television broadcasts (1941); first controlled nuclear reaction (1942); World War II (1939–1945); formation of United Nations (1945)



*32nd President*



Amelia  
Earhart

### Big News of the 1930s

During the 1930s, not all news was about the Depression. In 1931, gangster **Al Capone** went to prison for tax evasion (failure to pay one's taxes). In 1932, the news centered on two aviators—**Charles Lindbergh** and **Amelia Earhart**. People anguished over the *kidnapping and murder of Charles Lindbergh's infant son*. The Lindbergh kidnapping was the biggest human interest story of the decade. In response, Congress passed the **Lindbergh Law**, which established the death penalty in certain cases of interstate kidnapping. Amelia Earhart became *the first woman to pilot an airplane across the Atlantic*. In 1937, Earhart was again in the news when her plane vanished somewhere in the South Pacific while making a round-the-world flight. No trace of Earhart or her plane was ever found.

On May 6, 1937, the German *zeppelin* (airship) the **Hindenburg** exploded and burned near Lakehurst, New Jersey, killing 36 people. Many considered the crash of the **Hindenburg** to be the *most dramatic event of the decade* because a radio reporter was on the scene to give a live broadcast of the accident.

### Challenges to the New Deal

In 1935, the Supreme Court began to challenge the New Deal. Most of the justices believed that the government had no right to interfere with private property and dictate

wages or prices. The Court declared the NRA (National Recovery Administration) unconstitutional because it attempted to regulate the supply and demand of goods, depriving the consumer of a just price.

**Packing the court.** Fearing that the Supreme Court would declare more of his New Deal programs unconstitutional, FDR asked Congress for the power to appoint six new justices—one for every justice over 70 years old. He said that the older justices were too conservative. By "**packing the court**" with younger, more liberal justices, President Roosevelt planned to gain a New Deal majority on the Supreme Court. Across the nation, people opposed the President's plan. Congress refused to approve it. Eventually, older, conservative justices either died or retired, allowing President Roosevelt to appoint more liberal judges who supported the New Deal.

**The "brain trust."** Many professors at Harvard and other universities promoted socialism in the mid-1930s. These social planners, known as the "**brain trust**," helped FDR organize his New Deal programs, including the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Agricultural Adjustment Act, and the Works Progress Administration. The "brain trust" reinterpreted the Constitution to mean that the government had broad powers to *provide* for people's needs.

When Secretary of Labor **Frances Perkins**, who supported the Social Security Act,

expressed concern that the act might be unconstitutional, Supreme Court Justice Harlan Stone said, “The taxing power of the Federal Government, my dear . . . is sufficient for everything you want and need.” In 1934, E. S. Corwin, a famous professor of law, insisted that the taxing and spending powers of Congress were not limited by the Constitution. Armed with these false interpretations of the Constitution, New Deal politicians proceeded to “tax and spend” as they pleased.

**New Deal failures.** Under the New Deal, many Americans feared that government was moving toward socialism, trying to control business, industry, and agriculture. People grew alarmed when New Deal politicians like New York Senator Robert Wagner proclaimed, “I do not think we will ever have industry in order until we have a *nationally planned economy*.” The American tradition of free enterprise (capitalism) seemed threatened. The great cost and long-term inefficiency of the New Deal programs brought much criticism. By 1937, unemployment was climbing again and farm prices were falling.

In 1938, Roosevelt was able to pass the **Fair Labor Standards Act**, which dictated that (1) no more than 40 hours of work per week be required of a worker. It also (2) established a minimum wage for union members and (3) abolished child labor. In 1939, after six years of government job programs, regulation, and deficit spending, over 9 million workers remained unemployed. The New Deal had done little to help the economy and, in some cases, had even prolonged the Depression. FDR’s programs marked the begin-

ning of government interference in many aspects of the economy and people’s everyday lives.

### Summary: Understanding the Depression Years

During the 1920s, many people had lived beyond their means. The few people who had engaged in foolish speculation on the stock market weakened the banking system, which led to the failure of many banks. The Federal Reserve also contributed to the confusion by mishandling the money supply. Those with money refused to spend it, and those who had lost their money had nothing to spend. As goods accumulated in factories, employers cut wages or laid off workers to keep from going bankrupt. Despite these hardships, families, churches, and private charities met the needs of the unemployed. Most people still had food, clothing, and shelter, and many even had money for entertainment.

But liberal politicians called for government relief and job programs. Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal program laid the foundation for a social welfare state by making more and more people dependent on the government. Government agencies and regulations slowly began to control the economy and handicap private businesses.

World War II would force the government to turn, once again, to individual initiative and private business. Only the American free enterprise system could produce the goods necessary to sustain and defend our great nation during time of war.

### CHECK UP

1. How did the National Labor Relations Act help labor unions?
2. Who was Gus Hall? What did he head in 1933?
3. What was the Good Neighbor policy?
4. What were the big news events of the 1930s? What was the most dramatic event of the decade? Why?
5. What was the “brain trust”?
6. What did the Fair Labor Standards Act do?

**Identify:** Social Security Act, John L. Lewis, CIO, NLRB, sit-down strike, closed shop, Lindbergh Law, “packing the court,” Frances Perkins


 CHAPTER 19 REVIEW

**PEOPLE** *Know the following individuals and be able to explain their importance to American history.*

1. Herbert Hoover
2. John Steinbeck
3. Franklin Delano Roosevelt
4. Eleanor Roosevelt
5. John Maynard Keynes
6. John L. Lewis
7. Gus Hall
8. Amelia Earhart

**TERMS** *Define the following terms.*

1. speculation
2. Great Depression
3. hobos
4. Dust Bowl
5. American Red Cross
6. New Deal
7. bank run
8. bank holiday
9. Emergency Banking Relief Act
10. fireside chats
11. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)
12. gold standard
13. deficit
14. 21st Amendment
15. Tennessee Valley Authority
16. Agricultural Adjustment Act
17. National Recovery Administration
18. Works Progress Administration
19. Civilian Conservation Corps
20. Social Security Act

21. National Labor Relations Act
22. Committee of Industrial Organizations
23. Good Neighbor policy
24. Lindbergh Law
25. *Hindenburg*
26. "brain trust"
27. Fair Labor Standards Act

**EVENTS** *Memorize each date and event.*

**October 29, 1929**—(Black Tuesday) The stock market crashes, beginning of the Great Depression.

**1929–1939**—The Great Depression

**CRITICAL THINKING** *On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions using complete sentences.*

1. What brought about the stock market crash? How did easy credit contribute to the Depression?
2. What did President Hoover believe was the best method to help those in need? How did families, charities, and local churches help?
3. Why did many want to create a crisis in America and make the Depression seem worse than it was? What book promoted socialism in its portrayal of the "Okies"? How did the Russians respond to the movie based on this book?
4. What type of economics did President Roosevelt follow?
5. How was the Works Progress Administration different from today's welfare programs?



# A World at War 1939–1953

*World War II (1939–1945)*

*Cold War Begins (1946)*

*Korean War (1950–1953)*



## HIGHLIGHTS



- Steps to World War II
- Results of Socialism and Evolutionary Thought
- World War II in Europe and Asia
- Spread of Communism in Eastern Europe
- Cold War against Communism Begins
- Korean War

During the Great Depression, conditions in Europe and Asia were much worse than those in America. The United States was a rich nation compared to other countries in the world. Severe economic hardships—especially in Germany, Italy, and Japan—made the people of these nations easy prey for dictators who promised better times.

### *Steps toward Another World War*

#### **Socialism in Germany and Italy**

World War I left Italy with a war debt that crippled the nation's economy. When socialist **Benito Mussolini**, leader of the Fascist party, came on the scene in 1922 promising economic recovery, the Italians gladly accepted his promises. Much like socialism, *fascism* meant government control of most political, economic, cultural, religious, and social activities. It allowed for some private enterprise but maintained heavy regulation over those businesses that were privately owned. As dictator,

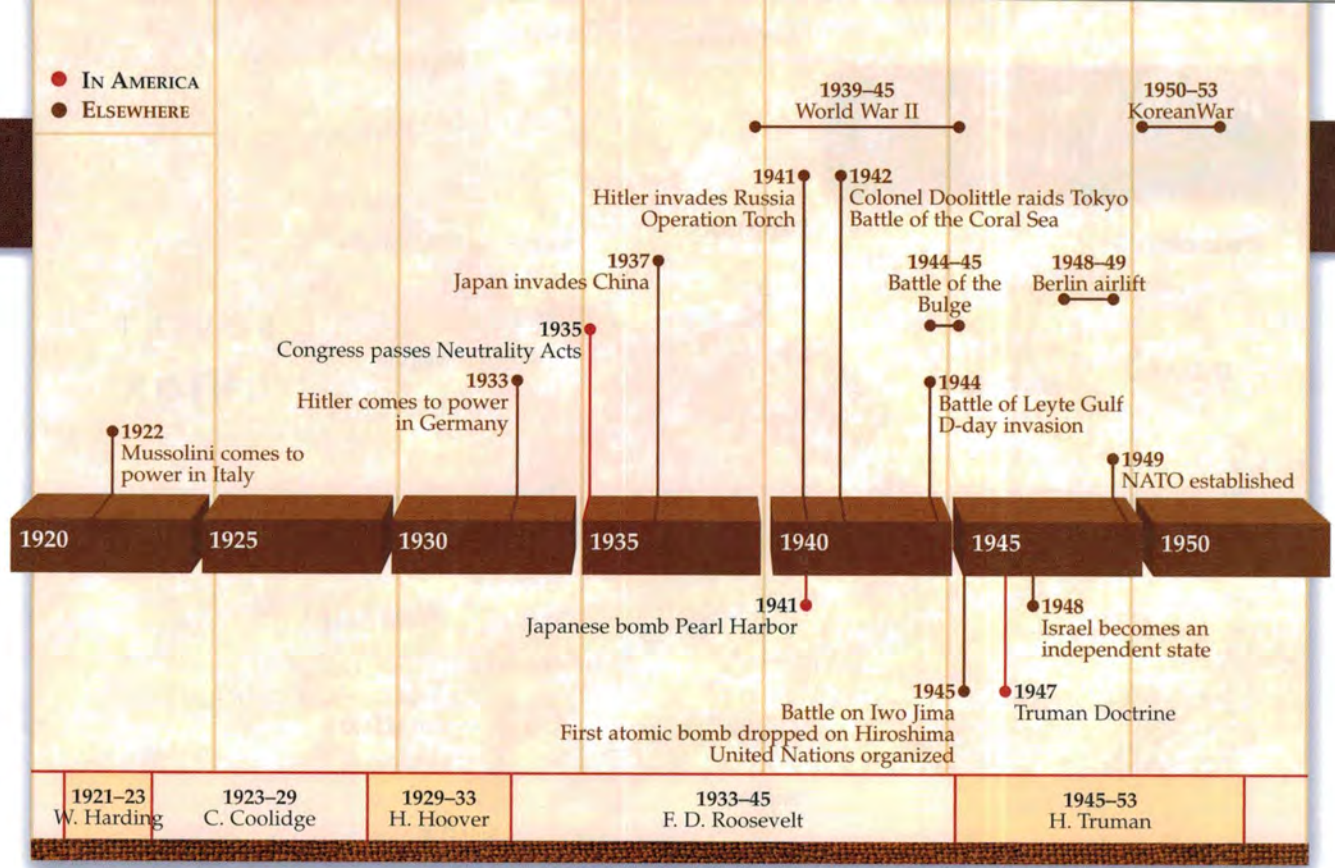


*Benito Mussolini*

Mussolini called for a revival of the Roman Empire through an invasion of North Africa, and he began to build a powerful army.

Germany also suffered great economic hardships after World War I; the Depression only made matters worse. Many Germans looked to the government for a solution. German socialist **Adolf Hitler** watched with interest as Mussolini rose to power in Italy. In 1933, Hitler and his **National Socialist (Nazi)** party came to power in Germany, promising the German people government job programs and other economic relief. Like the fascists in





Italy, the Nazis (socialists) soon took control of many factories and businesses throughout Germany and began to dominate other areas of life.

### Spiritual Emptiness

The people of Italy and Germany were fooled by the lies of Hitler and Mussolini because their economic troubles were compounded by *spiritual blindness*. The liberal theology in German universities and seminaries blinded many to biblical truths. Spiritual darkness prevailed in Italy, as well. In both countries, the Lutherans, Roman Catholics, and Jews who protested the socialist governments were terrorized, imprisoned, or murdered.

### Results of Socialism

Adolf Hitler convinced the German people that an international conspiracy of Jewish bankers, Western capitalists (mostly from Britain, France, and the United States), and Communists was out to conquer Germany. He then used the fear and distrust that



Adolf Hitler



he had created to turn Germans against their Jewish neighbors, many of whom owned profitable businesses. Hitler accused Jewish business owners of greed and selfishness and began to seize their property in the name of the German government. Before long, the Nazis controlled many businesses and factories in Germany and heavily regulated those allowed to remain in private hands. As a socialist, Hitler believed that the government should own the nation's industries and take responsibility for its people. *Hitler's creation of a socialist state gave him the power he needed to become the absolute dictator of Germany.* By embracing socialism, the German people lost their freedoms to a tyrant.

### Results of Evolutionary Thought

Hitler combined Marxist-socialism with Darwin's theory of evolution, proclaiming that the German people had evolved into a superior or **master race**. He called for a world war to kill off the weaker races (especially the Jews) and assure the "survival of the fittest" (the German people). Because many Germans believed the notion of evolution, they accepted Hitler's ideas. Soon public hospitals began to practice *euthanasia* (killing the terminally ill, the mentally retarded, and those with physical handicaps) and *abortion* (killing unborn babies). By the time World War II began, millions of "racially inferior" ethnic groups—Eastern Europeans, Gypsies, and Jews—were being rounded up

## GREAT AMERICANS

## Jesse Owens: 1936 Olympian Hero

In 1936, Berlin, the German capital, hosted the Olympics. Hitler launched a special program to train and select the best athletes to represent Germany. He was determined to prove the Nazi belief that the German people were racially superior. Meanwhile, a young black American named **Jesse Owens** trained in Decatur, Alabama. At the Berlin games, Owens won four gold medals in track and field for the U.S. Hitler was said to shake with rage at the mention of the U.S. black athlete who disproved the Nazi idea of German racial superiority.

and shipped to concentration camps, where the Nazis either worked them to death or murdered them outright in gas chambers. Germans who disagreed with Hitler were also persecuted. Hitler especially hated the Jews and had over **6 million Jews murdered** between 1934 and 1945. This horrible slaughter became known as the **Holocaust**.

## World War II (1939–1945)

### The Fall of Europe

**Hitler and Stalin invade Poland.** By May 22, 1939, Mussolini and Hitler had formed a military alliance known as the **Axis Powers**. Mussolini proclaimed that the entire world would turn on the *axis* between Rome and Berlin. Hitler then turned to the totalitarian dictator of the Soviet Union, **Joseph Stalin**, and made a pact with him, the **Nazi-Soviet Pact** of August 1939. In this pact, Hitler and Stalin agreed to jointly invade Eastern Europe and divide the spoils between them. On September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland from the west, while Stalin invaded from the east. By September 17, Poland had fallen to the Germans and the Russians. The invasion of Poland was the world's first experience of **blitzkrieg** [blīts'krēg/], a German word for **lightning war**. The Allied defenses crumbled against the lightning quick onslaught of Nazi tanks, planes, and motorized troop transports. After Hitler's war machine moved across Poland, it began to move across Europe and North Africa.

**The fall of Paris.** Because *France* and *Great Britain* were allied with Poland, they declared war on Germany on September 3. Hitler soon invaded and conquered Denmark, Norway, The Netherlands, and Belgium. By



*Fall of Paris*

late May 1940, his armies were marching across France. **Paris** surrendered without a fight in early June. The fall of Paris shocked most Americans, for the city had long been a center of Western culture. On June 10, Mussolini invaded southern France. Soon all of France had fallen to the Axis powers.

### **Battle of Britain**

With most of Western Europe in the grasp of the Axis powers, **Great Britain** stood alone as the last bastion of freedom in Europe. Determined to break the will of the British people, Hitler unleashed his air force bombers against London in July 1940. Britain prepared for the worst, and many London families sent their children away to safety in the country. For 3 months, the Germans bombed London mercilessly (10,000 bombs fell on the city in September alone). But despite great damage and loss of life, the people of London remained steadfast, hiding in bomb shelters during the air raids and cleaning up the debris when the bombers were gone.

**Staying neutral.** British Prime Minister **Winston Churchill** appealed to America for help, but not all Americans wanted to help Great Britain. Some wanted to adopt an **isolationist**, or “hands off,” policy with regard to world affairs. Charles A. Lindbergh, the

Winston Churchill



*Battle of Britain*

famous American pilot, formed what he called the “America First Committee,” dedicated to keeping America out of World War II. He wanted to build up American defenses and create a “Fortress America” to protect the United States. When America entered the war, however, Lindbergh enlisted and flew about 50 combat missions in the Pacific.

**America begins to aid Britain.** Millions of Americans watched newsreels of the damage in London and listened to the explosions and the air raid sirens on their radios, as American newscasters on the scene reported the horror of the **London “Blitz,”** or the **Battle of Britain**. Gradually, the tide of American public opinion turned against Germany. President Roosevelt responded by shipping weapons and food to Great Britain. Formally, the United States remained a neutral nation, but the American navy was soon protecting shipping convoys to Britain and firing on German submarines. By October 1940, the Royal Air Force had cleared the skies of German planes. The British had won the air war.

## America Enters the War

### America: Arsenal of Democracy

In 1940, President Franklin Roosevelt broke tradition and ran for a third term. He interpreted his victory as support for aiding Great Britain. In December 1940, Roosevelt asked the American people to transform their factories into a "great arsenal of democracy" by building weapons of war for the British, Free French, and other Allies to defeat the Axis powers. Congress passed the **Lend-Lease Act**, providing billions of dollars in generous loans that *allowed the Allies to purchase American weapons and food*. Suddenly, factories that had stopped or slowed down because of the Depression began to hum again with activity. American farmers now had a large market for crops and livestock.

### Hitler Invades Russia

On June 22, 1941, Adolf Hitler launched an invasion of Russia, turning against his totalitarian comrade-in-arms Joseph Stalin. This single event would be a determining factor in American history for the next 50 years. With Stalin's Communist empire at war with Germany, both Churchill and Roosevelt now considered Stalin their ally against Hitler. Though Stalin was a ruthless Communist, Hitler's Nazis had become a greater threat.

The United States sent billions of dollars worth of weapons and other supplies to Stalin, enabling the Communists to drive the Germans out of Russia. Unfortunately, this aid would later help Stalin enslave all of Eastern Europe after World War II. German and Soviet forces engaged in bitter combat, but Stalin suc-

ceeded in keeping Hitler out of the oil fields of the Baku Basin near the Caspian Sea. With little fuel for tanks and planes, Hitler's war effort would eventually grind to a halt.

**The Atlantic Charter.** Roosevelt continued to do all he could to help Great Britain resist the Nazi onslaught. In the summer of 1941, Churchill and FDR held a series of meetings on a ship off the coast of Newfoundland. Both leaders agreed to cooperate in resisting Nazi Germany and establish a postwar world order. They drew up a document known as the **Atlantic Charter**, which laid the foundation for the formation of the *United Nations*. The Atlantic Charter promised to continue the U.S. Navy's protection of American and British merchant ships. The United States was the chief supplier of war materials, medicine, and food to Great Britain.

**The Good Neighbor Policy.** FDR had secured good relations with Latin America even before his cooperation with Great Britain. In a series of agreements called the **Good Neighbor Policy**, Roosevelt agreed to consult the Latin American nations before any American involvement in the Caribbean or in Central or South America. When war finally came, the United States received a steady flow of vital war supplies from Latin America. Almost every nation in Latin America joined the Allied cause.

### Japanese Attack Pearl Harbor

In 1937, Japan had invaded China. When Nationalist Chinese leader **Chiang Kai-shek** asked the United States for military assistance, Roosevelt sent him aid and cut off all oil exports to Japan. By September 1940, Japan had joined the Axis Powers by making an alliance with

Attack on Pearl Harbor



Hitler and Mussolini. Hideki **Tojo**, the Japanese minister of war, insisted that neither the Japanese economy nor its growing navy could survive without imported oil. They would have to get their oil from Indonesia; but first, they would destroy the American navy, which might stand in their way.

Thus, in the early morning of **December 7, 1941**, the *Japanese made a surprise attack on the United States naval fleet* and airfield at **Pearl Harbor** on the Hawaiian island of Oahu.

On that quiet Sunday morning, some soldiers at Pearl Harbor were having breakfast, some were getting ready for church, some were away on shore leave, and a few were at their positions, cleaning their anti-aircraft guns as a matter of routine. The guns were clean, but the ammunition was locked below deck.

Just before 8:00, waves of planes swooped down out of the sky. One sailor thought they were army planes showing off. He could not believe his eyes when the lead plane released its bombs! Then a loud alarm shocked the sailor into reality—“Air raid! No drill!”

When the pilot of the lead plane, **Mitsuo Fuchida**, saw the battleships below him in neat, unprotected rows, he knew the attack had caught the American sailors by surprise. Plumes of dark smoke soon billowed upward into the sky as deadly flames licked across the decks of the American ships.

For two hours, Japanese bombs, torpedoes, and machine-gun fire rained down on Pearl Harbor. The United States lost more ships in those hours than it had lost during World War I. One battleship, the U.S.S. *Arizona*, sank with over 1,000 men onboard. (Today, a memorial stands over their watery grave at Pearl Harbor.) The Navy lost 18 ships, including eight battleships; 170 airplanes were destroyed on the ground. American aircraft carriers were at sea that morning and escaped the bombing. Over 3,500 American sailors were killed or wounded. Confident of victory, Japan immediately declared war on the United States and Great Britain.

Millions of people crowded around radios to hear the news of the terrible bombing

of Pearl Harbor. For years afterward, most Americans could recall exactly where they were and what they were doing when they first heard the news. Many families, for the first time, located on a map the distant island of Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands. Suddenly, Americans realized that the United States had to get involved in World War II.

On **December 8**, President Roosevelt asked Congress for a **declaration of war**, “Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a day which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.” Congress responded with an overwhelming vote for war. Three days after the United States declared war on Japan, *Germany* and *Italy*, allies of Japan, *declared war on the United States*.

### The Grand Alliance

On January 1, 1942, the United States and 26 other nations signed the *Declaration of the United Nations*. This was the first time in our history that the United States made a formal military alliance with other nations. All of the allies agreed to form a **Grand Alliance**, coordinating their military and economic efforts to defeat the Axis powers.

### CHECK UP

1. Describe the conditions in Europe that led to World War II.
2. What political parties came to power in Italy and Germany? Who were their leaders?
3. Who was Jesse Owens?
4. What was the Holocaust?
5. Who made the Nazi-Soviet Pact with Hitler? What country did they agree to invade in 1939?
6. How did the Lend-Lease Act help the Allies?
7. What laid the foundations for the United Nations?
8. When did the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor? Who led the attack?

**Identify:** master race, euthanasia, abortion, Axis Powers, blitzkrieg, fall of Paris, Winston Churchill, Battle of Britain, Good Neighbor Policy, Chiang Kai-shek, Grand Alliance

## War Efforts in America and Europe

### Defense Work on the Home Front

Within one year of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, American factories were out-producing the combined war production of Germany and Japan, where resource shortages, aerial bombardment, and socialist inefficiency hindered production. American industry shook itself from its Depression-era slumber. America's economic surge encouraged private enterprise to research and develop *weapons of war*.

**American manufacturers get involved.** Within six months of Pearl Harbor, private companies had transformed their factories from civilian to wartime production. **Henry Ford** in Detroit built what one man called "the most enormous room in the history of man," producing one B-24 Liberator bomber every hour. By 1943, American factories were producing 86,000 planes a year.

In California, **Henry Kaiser** won a government contract to build "**Liberty ships**" to supply the troops in Europe and the Pacific. His shipyard soon became an incredible assembly line of mass production, with welders swarming like ants over giant steel hulls. Some



Navy veterans complained that Kaiser was not building ships in the careful and traditional way from the keel up, but, rather, in separate, numbered, interchangeable sections which whizzed crazily about overhead, suspended from huge electric cranes. Although some of the earlier ships were too hastily constructed and had problems, Kaiser perfected the mass production of supply ships.

### **Women work to defend country.**

Throughout the country, people found work in defense factories; many women were hired for the first time. With most of the men away at war, several million women took the job of "**Rosie the Riveter**" in plants that manufactured goods for war. New electronic components and the developing field of nuclear science demanded less heavy work and more mental effort, patience, and manual dexterity. The American and British computer scientists who broke the German and Japanese military codes relied on large numbers of female technicians. Women also found themselves driving tractors on farms or managing businesses.

**Women in the armed forces.** In order to free more men for combat duty, Congress authorized women to join the armed forces. This was the first time women received full military



*Men and women at work in factories and shipyards*

status. Most of the 350,000 women that joined the armed services belonged to the **Women's Army Corps (WACS)** or to the women's branch of the navy, known as the **WAVES**. Women even served as test pilots, although none of them were allowed to fly combat missions. In April 1943, women physicians were introduced into the armed services. Many women who served as doctors and nurses in the medical corps risked their lives treating wounded soldiers in the combat zones.

**Victory gardens and volunteerism.** World War II altered the daily lives of the American people in many ways. Over 20 million Americans planted **victory gardens**, growing their own food so that more farmers' crops could be sent to troops overseas. Goods were also rationed; each family received a **ration book** containing stamps for the purchase of tires, sugar, meat, and other scarce items. As a rule, three gallons of gas and two pounds of meat a week were permitted. Neighborhood youth had **scrap drives** to gather such diverse items as kitchen fat, tin foil, cans, paper, rubber, scrap iron, and other items needed for the war effort. Millions of Americans bought **war bonds** to finance the war; many school children held fundraisers to buy bonds.

Both men and women volunteered to serve as air raid wardens, volunteer police and firemen, plane and submarine spotters, and hospital assistants. Cities and towns held practice air raids and participated in black outs, dimming lights along the coastal areas after sunset. Many gave blood to help wounded soldiers. Local papers and radio stations praised the efforts of Americans united to win the war.

### The U.S. Military in Europe

**GIs go to Europe.** Responding to Winston Churchill's call for help, President Roosevelt made the war in Europe his first priority and appointed **General Dwight D. Eisenhower** to be the *Allied commander in Europe*. The Allies established their headquarters in London and began to plan the invasion of Nazi-occupied Europe. Soon thousands of American soldiers

were on their way to the European theater of war. More than 15 million men and women joined the American armed services during the war. The abbreviation **GI** ("government issue") became the affectionate nickname for the average American soldier.

**North Africa and oil.** The German war machine could not function without adequate supplies of oil, gasoline, and aviation fuel. British forces, with American help, stopped the Germans from sweeping into the Middle East and getting the rich oil supply of that region. German tanks, or **panzers**, had conquered most of North Africa and were on the verge of seizing Egypt and the Suez Canal when they literally "*ran out of gas*" in the deserts of Libya. In November 1941, some 300,000 American troops landed in Morocco and Algeria as part of **Operation Torch**. German general **Erwin Rommel**, known as the *Desert Fox*, was caught in Egypt between the Americans to the west and the British to the east. Without petroleum supplies, German forces in North Africa surrendered in May 1943.

**Patton lands in Sicily.** With Africa cleared of the German threat, British and American forces could invade Italy. In July 1943, the British forces and the American 7th Army under the command of **General George S. Patton, Jr.** (1885–1945), invaded Sicily. Using the island as a springboard, the Allies



General Patton



# WWII IN EUROPE AND NORTH AFRICA (1942-1945)



- Allies
- Axis Powers
- Axis Advances
- Axis Controlled Nations
- Neutral Nations
- Allied Advances
- Major Battles

began their march up the Italian boot. By 1943, the Italian people had overthrown and imprisoned Mussolini. They rightly suspected that the Italian dictator was being used by Hitler to protect his southern flank. Many Italians were upset by the Nazi persecution of the Jews, Gypsies, and other groups. As the Americans made their way up the Italian peninsula in their drive toward Rome, the Italians welcomed them as liberators. But much hard fighting would follow, for fresh German troops soon arrived to stop the Allied advance.

**Italian-American contribution.** Because Germany controlled Italy, Italian Americans were eager to help liberate their ancestral homeland. Many had relatives in Italy, and there was no shortage of American GIs who could speak Italian and help the Italian underground resist the German occupation. When the Allies finally liberated Rome in June 1944, it was a day of great celebration for the Italian people. With Rome secured, the Allies began their plan to recapture Paris.

**Nisei patriots.** There was never any doubt as to the loyalty of Italian-Americans and German-Americans during World War II because of the obvious cruelty of Hitler's dictatorship. It was a different case with the Japanese-American population on the West Coast of the United States. Because emotions

ran high after the treacherous bombing of Pearl Harbor, many **Nisei**, (*second-generation Japanese-Americans*) were uprooted from their homes and sent to detention camps throughout the Western states. To prove their loyalty to America, many sons of the families who were sent to these camps volunteered for combat duty in Europe. The Nisei saw combat in both Italy and France, and many received medals for their bravery. The Nisei regimental combat team emerged from the war as *the most decorated unit in the entire United States Army*.

## War in the Pacific Theater

### Japanese Expansion

**MacArthur escapes.** While fighting in North Africa and Europe, the United States also waged war with Japan in the Pacific. After attacking Pearl Harbor, the Japanese swept across other Pacific Islands. The defenders of the island of **Guam** could not hold out against the overwhelming force of the Japanese. In the **Philippines**, a small, heroic force of men under **General Douglas MacArthur** fought bravely until forced to surrender the islands to the Japanese.

President Roosevelt ordered General MacArthur to leave the Philippines to avoid capture. As MacArthur reluctantly left the islands where many of his men were prisoners behind enemy lines, he said, *"I shall return."* He would keep that promise after three years of bitter fighting in the Pacific.

*Nisei patriots*



*Douglas  
MacArthur*

**Bataan.** After American forces on Bataan and Corregidor islands surrendered to the Japanese (April 9–May 6, 1942), they were forced to walk many miles to prison camps. This march came to be known as the “**Bataan Death March**” because the Japanese shot or bayoneted those prisoners with disease, wounds, hunger, or fatigue who fell out of line along the way.

### The Doolittle Raid

**Targeting Tokyo.** In the first days after Pearl Harbor and the fall of the Philippines, Americans were discouraged. The Japanese clearly had the upper hand as they swept across the islands of the South Pacific. Then, in April 1942, a Japanese fishing boat crew witnessed an incredible sight. The U.S.S. *Hornet*, a giant aircraft carrier, had somehow slipped within 600 miles of the Japanese islands. The Japanese fishermen immediately radioed the news back to Japan. On April 18, a squadron of 16 American B-25 bombers led by **Colonel Jimmy Doolittle** left the *Hornet* and headed for **Tokyo**.

When the planes arrived over Tokyo Harbor, thousands of unsuspecting Japanese were spending a warm spring day at the beach. Like the American sailors at Pearl Harbor, they were caught completely off guard. They had been told that it was impossible for the United States to bomb Japan. Soon they heard sounds of bombs exploding over factories and oil refineries in Tokyo.

**Jacob DeShazer.** After dropping their bombs, the American planes had just enough fuel to fly to the Chinese mainland and seek the shelter of Chiang Kai-shek’s freedom fighters. One man who volunteered for the Doolittle raid

was **Jacob DeShazer**, a wiry young man with a broad smile and a quick temper. When his plane ran out of fuel, “**Jake**” and four crewmen were forced to parachute. DeShazer was captured and imprisoned by the Japanese, who tortured and mistreated him until the war’s end.

During DeShazer’s imprisonment, a Japanese guard shoved a tattered Bible under the young pilot’s cell door. He read it, memorized key passages, and on June 8, 1944, accepted Christ as Savior. The Lord put within DeShazer’s heart a love for his Japanese captors. After the war, DeShazer became an evangelist and returned to Japan as a missionary.

**A turning point.** The Doolittle raid proved to be a turning point in the war because it caused the Japanese military to spread their navy in an ever-widening arch across the Pacific. By overextending their navy, the Japanese left many weak links in their defensive chain. They also called some troops home in case of invasion, further weakening their defense.

### American Naval Victories

**Important battles.** The U.S. Navy began to take advantage of the thinly spread Japanese navy, poking holes in Japan’s defensive ring. In May 1942, the American Pacific fleet met the Japanese navy at the **Battle of Coral Sea**, the first naval battle in which the enemy ships never saw each other. The Battle of Coral Sea was fought entirely by planes launched from aircraft carriers. The United States won this crucial battle and followed it up with a victory at the **Battle of Midway**, the turning point in the battle to control the Pacific. American losses were slight, but the Japanese lost four large aircraft carriers.

*Battle of Midway*





**General MacArthur returns.** On October 19 and 20, 1944, American troops under the command of General Douglas MacArthur landed in the Philippines. General MacArthur had kept his promise to return and liberate the islands. He was joined by Filipino freedom fighters who had resisted the Japanese occupation forces. In the ensuing **Battle of Leyte Gulf**, Japan lost almost all of its remaining ships and planes.

**No oil for Japan.** The Japanese could have replaced weapons of war, but they had run out of fuel. American submarines were sinking Japanese oil freighters, and the Japanese were losing control of the rich Indonesian oil fields that they had seized at the beginning of the war. Without oil and aviation fuel, the Japanese military was doomed.

**A new strategy.** With the Japanese navy and air force weakened and corralled, the American army began a strategy known as "**island hopping**," which meant *occupying an island, using it as a base to prepare for an assault on the next island, and moving steadily toward Japan*. Like chess pieces on a chessboard, the islands fell, but not without long, hard fighting on such islands as **Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Tinian, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa**.

**Navajo Code Talkers.** American intelligence officers broke the Japanese military code, but the Japanese were never able to break the American code, which helped assure American victory. The American military used their code to relay information to American units in the Pacific. The men who

relayed the messages often risked their lives, but they had no trouble remembering the code, because it was their native tongue. The **Navajo Indians** of the American Southwest had an unwritten tribal language that the

Japanese did not know. By the end of the war, **400 Navajo Code Talkers** were relaying vital information to the American armed forces. The code talkers helped assure an American victory in the Pacific.

### CHECK UP

1. Who perfected the mass production of supply ships? What were his ships called?
2. How did women contribute to the war effort?
3. List ways Americans worked together on the home front to win the war.
4. What was Roosevelt's first priority in the war? Whom did he appoint as supreme Allied commander?
5. What American general led in the invasion of Italy? When was Mussolini overthrown?
6. What American general led in the defense of the Philippines? What did he promise the Filipino people before he left?
7. What was the purpose of Jimmy Doolittle's raid?
8. What was unusual about the Battle of Coral Sea? Why were the battles of Midway and Leyte Gulf important?
9. What was the American attack strategy in the Pacific called? What does it mean?
10. How did the Navajo Indians contribute to the defeat of Japan?

**Identify:** Henry Ford, "Rosie the Riveter," ration book, GI, panzer, Operation Torch, Erwin Rommel, Nisei, Guam, "Bataan Death March," Jacob DeShazer

## World War II Ends

### Wrapping up the War in Europe

With the fall of Rome in June 1944, and the success of Soviet troops in regaining lost territory, General Dwight D. Eisenhower prepared for the **D-Day** invasion to regain France and eventually take Germany. On **June 6, 1944**, thousands of American, British, and Canadian troops hit the heavily fortified beaches of **Normandy** in northern **France**, launching the largest amphibious assault in history. Shiploads of men crossed the English Channel, while planes and gliders carried troops deep into France. The initial invasion force consisted of 176,000 soldiers, 4,000 ships, and 11,000 planes. Within a few weeks, about 1 million men were on the ground

fighting in northern France. On August 24, Free French and American forces liberated Paris.

The liberation of Paris provided a tremendous boost to the morale of the Allied troops, and most Americans on the home front strongly

*Troops landing in Normandy*





*The Fighting Red Tails*

supported the Free French forces of **General Charles De Gaulle** and the French Resistance, which had opposed the Nazis within France.

***The Fighting Red Tails.*** In desperation, Nazi leaders ordered German scientists to step up the research and production of new weapons, including *rockets* and *jet fighters*. But the German jets soon encountered a group of black American fighter pilots called the **Fighting Red Tails**, who became the first pilots to shoot down the new German jet fighters. They were commanded by **Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.** His father, **Benjamin O. Davis, Sr.**, became the first black American to achieve the rank of brigadier general in the U.S. Army.

***Russian drive to Berlin.*** After the D-Day invasion, the Russians launched a great offensive in the east, and the Germans began to retreat from Eastern Europe. Stalin boasted that his troops would soon be at the gates of Berlin, the German capital. At this point, General Patton told General Eisenhower that the war could be over by the end of 1944, if American troops would invade through southern Germany. Many German generals appeared ready to surrender to American troops for fear of a Soviet invasion, and Patton wanted to keep the Russians out of Berlin, because he did not trust Stalin. But Eisenhower refused to give Patton the support he needed for an invasion.

***Stalin's war prize.*** Some historians believe that Eisenhower did not want to risk more American lives in an early, all-out invasion;



*Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Sr.*

others believe that he had already promised Stalin the city of Berlin as a prize of war. The Soviet dictator argued for vengeance against the Germans because Russia and the Ukraine had suffered much at the hands of the Nazis. President Roosevelt believed that Stalin was a “democratic socialist” like himself, with no intention of enslaving Eastern Europe, but history proved him wrong.

***Victory in Europe.*** Battered by round-the-clock bombing raids, the Germans found themselves caught between British, Canadian, and American troops on the west and Soviet troops on the east. The German empire was all but finished. From December 1944 through January 1945, the *Germans launched their last great offensive in the West*, known as the **Battle of the Bulge**. After much fierce fighting, General Patton's Third Army beat them back.

Hitler's war machine ground to a halt as the Nazis finally exhausted their supplies of oil and aviation fuel. One German general later recalled that in the last days experimental jet aircraft had to be hauled out to the runway by teams of cows because of the fuel shortage. *Hitler retired to his underground bunker and committed suicide on April 30, 1945, and Germany surrendered on May 7, 1945.* The Allies declared May 8 **V-E Day** (Victory in Europe Day). After the war, some Nazi leaders went on trial for their war crimes at Nuremberg, Germany. The **Nuremberg Trials** sentenced 10 Nazis to death by hanging.

### Wrapping up the War in the Pacific

Meanwhile, heavy fighting continued in the Pacific. In February 1945, American Marines landed on the tiny island of **Iwo Jima**, where the Marines encountered fierce resistance. The Japanese soldiers, believing that their emperor was a god, displayed a fanatical willingness to “die for the emperor” rather than surrender. One of the most famous photographs of World War II shows a group of heroic Marines raising the American flag on Mount Suribachi [sōōr’i·bā’chê], the highest point on Iwo Jima.

**Kamikazes.** By April 1945, United States forces had reached the island of **Okinawa**, only 350 miles from the Japanese mainland. The Japanese still showed no willingness to surrender; 5,000 **kamikazes** [kă’ mī·kă’zêz], *suicide planes loaded with explosives*, crashed into American ships, killing hundreds of American sailors. Many American lives were lost, but the Japanese suffered greater losses.

**The atomic bomb.** President Roosevelt had been reelected to a fourth term as President in 1944. Not in good health, he died of a stroke while vacationing at Warm Springs, Georgia, on April 12, 1945. Vice President **Harry S. Truman** became President. General MacArthur and others told President Truman that only an immediate and unconditional surrender on the part of Japan would prevent the loss of millions of lives. The Allies pleaded with the military leaders of Japan, but the Japanese leadership insisted that their people would rather die than surrender. Finally, President Truman made the painful decision to use the **atomic bomb** in order to avoid greater bloodshed.

The United States possessed this powerful new weapon as a result of the **Manhattan Project**, the *largest research and scientific effort of its day*. During the 1930s, the Germans took an early lead in atomic research, but as Hitler and his Nazi regime intensified their persecution of Jews and other groups, many of Germany’s most talented nuclear physicists fled the country.



Raising the U.S. flag on Iwo Jima

One of these émigrés, the German-born Jewish physicist **Albert Einstein** (1879–1955), wrote a letter to President Roosevelt in 1939, warning him that the Germans might produce an atomic weapon and urging that the United States should begin research in this area. Many scientists, among them **Enrico Fermi** (1901–1954), who fled Fascist Italy in 1938, **Edward Teller** (1908–2003), a Jewish émigré from Hungary, and **J. Robert Oppenheimer** (1904–1967), an American-born, Jewish physicist, helped in the development of the atomic bomb.

**Hiroshima and Nagasaki.** In order to save the lives of American soldiers and countless Japanese, President Truman decided to use the atomic bomb instead of invading Japan. On August 6, 1945, the **first atomic bomb** was dropped on the city of **Hiroshima** [hē’rō·shē’mà]. A single B-29 bomber dropped the atomic bomb, packing the explosive power of 13,000 tons of TNT. Within a few moments after the bomb exploded, 92,000 Japanese were dead or missing, and the city was totally destroyed. The Japanese military leaders still refused to surrender. A second bomb was dropped three days later on the

city of **Nagasaki** [nä'gá·sä'kê]. After this attack, the Japanese government agreed to surrender unconditionally—only preserving the right to keep or discharge their emperor.

**The Japanese surrender.** On September 2, 1945, **V-J Day** (Victory in Japan Day), General Douglas MacArthur accepted the surrender of the Japanese military on the deck of the battleship U.S.S. *Missouri* anchored in Tokyo Bay. In a speech to the men of the U.S.S. *Missouri* and visiting dignitaries, General MacArthur marked the end of the long World War—“Today the guns are silent.” More than 400,000 Americans died as a result of WWII. Worldwide, total casualties approached 60 million dead and millions more wounded. General MacArthur noted that the problem of war and violence had at its root the spiritual failure of men and their need for a spiritual rebirth.

**Bibles and missionaries for Japan.** General MacArthur became the military governor of Japan. Although the Japanese people felt utterly humiliated in their defeat, MacArthur had great respect for them and encouraged relief efforts and economic redevelopment. He realized that Japan's real need was moral and religious. MacArthur wrote:

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The more missionaries we can bring out here [to Japan], and the more occupation troops we can send home the better.

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At his request, the Pocket Testament League distributed 10 million Japanese Bibles. Many Japanese people gathered eagerly to receive a copy of God's Word. For a short while, there was a spiritual awakening in Japan.

**Brothers in Christ.** One of the most remarkable events in Japan after the war was the conversion to Christ of *Mitsuo Fuchida*, the commanding pilot of the Japanese planes that bombed Pearl Harbor. Fuchida came to know Christ as his personal Savior through the ministry of *Jacob DeShazer*. In the years immediately after the war, it was said that next to General MacArthur, Jacob DeShazer and his wife were the best known Americans living in Japan.



*Japanese surrender in Tokyo Harbor*

## Roosevelt's Problems at Yalta

**Churchill's caution.** As early as 1943, President Franklin Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill had talked about what would happen in Europe and Asia after the defeat of Nazi Germany and Japan. Churchill suspected that Stalin might try to move Communist troops into the areas liberated from Germany and Japan. But FDR accused Churchill of trying to hold on to the British Empire, while Stalin urged nationalist and socialist revolutions in the African and Asian colonies. FDR and his advisers believed that democratic socialism was the solution to the problems of the lesser developed nations of the world.

**Roosevelt's mistake.** Roosevelt supported central government control and saw Stalin as a peace-loving, democratic socialist. Of course, Stalin encouraged such thinking, but many Americans warned FDR to be careful with Stalin. In a meeting at **Yalta**, a seaside resort on the Russian coast of the Black Sea, FDR, who was by this time very ill, let Stalin take advantage of him. It was later revealed that one of the President's closest advisers at Yalta, **Alger Hiss**, was a Communist party organizer in the United States.



It was not widely known at the time, but Stalin's Communists had murdered far more people than Hitler's Nazis. Stalin was actually the biggest mass murderer in history. In the late 1920s and early 1930s, over 10 million people who resisted Communism were starved to death, executed, or forced into Siberian exile. In the 1940s an untold number of Christians, Jews, and rival political and military leaders were tortured and killed by Stalin's secret police.

**Tired of war.** Great Britain had been economically and physically exhausted by war; thus only the United States could stop the advance of Communism. But certain political advisers to the American President were tired of fighting and willing to make a deal with Stalin. Politicians who supported the New Deal programs sympathized with the socialist cause and thus were more likely to overlook the past deceit of the Soviet Communists.

**Concessions to Stalin.** In return for Stalin's promise to enter the war against Ja-

pan, and to compensate (repay) him for damage done to Russia by the German invasion, Roosevelt agreed to give the Soviet dictator a large chunk of Poland and allowed him to encourage a pro-Communist government in Poland itself. Thus, Roosevelt abandoned the Free Polish government-in-exile in London.

Roosevelt also betrayed the Nationalist Chinese leader **Chiang Kai-shek**, who bravely fought both Communist terrorists and the Japanese, by allowing the rich province of **Manchuria** to remain under Soviet control and by letting the Communists have **Mongolia**. Finally, Roosevelt promised Stalin that all American troops would be withdrawn from Europe within two years of the imminent Nazi defeat. The agreed troop withdrawal was later cancelled when it became clear that Stalin's Red (Soviet Communist) Army was not going to leave Eastern Europe and stood ready to march into Western Europe.

### CHECK UP

1. What happened on June 6, 1944? What was this attack called?
2. Who were the Fighting Red Tails? Who led them?
3. What was the last great German offensive in the West? When was the battle?
4. When did Germany surrender? When was V-E Day proclaimed?
5. Who authorized the use of the atomic bomb? What was the code name given to the atomic bomb?
6. Who was involved with the development of the atomic bomb? Where and when was the first bomb used?
7. What did MacArthur say the real need in Japan was?
8. How did Roosevelt view Stalin? What happened at Yalta?
9. What happened to Poland, Manchuria, and Mongolia as a result of the Yalta conference?

**Identify:** General Charles De Gaulle, Nuremberg Trials, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Nagasaki, V-J Day, Alger Hiss, Chiang Kai-shek

The "Big Three" at Yalta—Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin



## *Cold War Begins*

### **Americanism Versus Communism**

With Europe weakened by the destruction of war, the stage was set for a Soviet takeover and the rise of Communism as a world power. A **Cold War**, a *conflict between the ideologies of Americanism* (individual responsibility, capitalism, and Biblical moral values) *and Communism* (atheistic, oppressive, socialist Marxism) produced conflicts throughout the world. The rising military power and aggression of the Soviet Union and other Communist nations often caused the **war of ideas** to flare into “hot wars,” as in Korea and Vietnam.

Americanism sees the government as the protector of human life, private property, and the family. Under Americanism, people are free to make their own choices and are responsible for their everyday lives. They are free to worship God as they choose. Communism views the government as the controller of people’s lives. Communist leaders insist that the individual become completely subject to the government (or state). If individuals are not willing to surrender their freedoms and possessions to the state, the Communist government uses physical and psychological force or terror to control the people. Communist countries are *atheistic*; they deny the existence of God and persecute those who believe in God.

**Iron curtain.** By 1946, it was clear that the Communist leaders of the Soviet Union had no intention of withdrawing the Red Army from Eastern Europe. While addressing an audience in Missouri, Winston Churchill spoke of an “**iron curtain**” of Communist slavery that had descended on the peoples of Eastern Europe. The Soviets openly stated that their goal was to conquer the world; indeed, by the 1980s, about 1/3 of the world would be enslaved by Communism.

**Communist slavery.** Many who openly disagreed with Communism were sent to the slave labor camps. Ordinary people could own little private property and needed the

government’s permission for practically everything. Only the small ruling class of Communist leaders had any privileges. A person living in a Communist country must have the government’s permission to move from one apartment to another or to travel within the country. Few are allowed to travel outside the country. Housing is poor, food is scarce, medical care is inadequate, abortions are encouraged, children must go to state controlled nurseries and schools, working conditions are harsh and unsafe, and no one can marry or get a job without state approval. In short, Communism is oppressive; it is a slavery of the mind, body, and soul.

The Communists persecuted Christians by destroying churches, killing church leaders, and putting parents in jail for sharing the Bible with their children. In spite of great hardships, many Christians continued to stand for the gospel. Christians who suffered behind the Iron Curtain were some of the great heroes of modern times.

**The Truman Doctrine.** President Truman immediately took steps to check Communist expansion. When the Soviets threatened to enslave the peoples of Greece and Turkey in 1947 and move troops into the oil-rich Middle East, President Truman announced the **Truman Doctrine**, *pledging American help for any free nation threatened by Communist takeover.*

**The Marshall Plan.** Three months later, Secretary of State **George C. Marshall** proposed a European recovery plan to combat postwar poverty and unrest, which the Communists were exploiting. This plan to rebuild Europe, known as the **Marshall Plan**, was originally intended to alleviate suffering in Eastern Europe as well as the West, but the Communists would have nothing to do with it. Thus, Eastern Europeans suffered under the slavery of Communism, while Western Europe recovered under the Marshall Plan. The American people gave billions of dollars’ worth of credit, food, and supplies to the peoples of Western Europe to rebuild their countries and get their economies going.



### Truman's Presidency

The economic transition from war to peacetime met with some labor difficulties. With the war finally over, war veterans and civilians alike wanted to spend their money on consumer goods. But the factories that had boomed with wartime production were in the process of changing from defense to civilian production—assembly lines that made tanks had to be refitted to make cars. This transition slowed production, creating a shortage of goods. With a shortage of consumer goods and an increase in demand, prices began to rise while wages remained the same. Some workers led strikes for higher wages, but strikes only forced factories to shut down, making the shortages even worse.

After the elections of 1946, the Republicans controlled Congress. In order to get the economy moving again, Congress passed the **Taft-Hartley Act** in 1947. This law weakened the power of labor unions. Among other provisions, Taft-Hartley outlawed the *closed shop*. Workers no longer had to join a labor union in order to be hired. *Union shops*, in which workers must join a union after being hired, were permitted. But union shops could be outlawed

within a state by the passage of *right-to-work* laws. Finally, striking workers were required to go back to work if the President issued an injunction against a strike that was a threat to the health and safety of the nation. Labor unions no longer had the power to order as many strikes, and factories could produce more consumer goods.

**Truman defeats Dewey.** In the Presidential election of 1948, President Harry Truman faced the Republican Governor of New York Thomas E. Dewey. Because Dewey was more popular than Truman, most political experts predicted that Dewey would win the election. However, Truman surprised everyone by taking his campaign to the people. He boarded a train and traveled 31,000 miles, giving over 350 speeches across the country. Truman was the first candidate to campaign by going directly to people in every part of the nation.

On election day, the *Chicago Daily Tribune* published an early edition bearing the headline, "Dewey Defeats Truman." When the votes were actually counted, *Truman* had won. The political experts had been wrong. At a victory celebration, the amused victor Truman held up the front page of the *Chicago Tribune*

## PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

**Harry S. Truman (1884–1972)****Years of Presidency:** 1945–1953**Vice President:** none (1st term), Alben William Barkley (2nd term)**Political party:** Democratic**State of residence when elected:** Missouri**Remembered for his Fair Deal social programs and for the Truman Doctrine****Major events during Presidency:** Korean War; Israel becomes a nation (1948); invention of first general purpose computer (1946); transistor (1947), and polio vaccine (1955)*33rd President*

for all to see. The incident became one of the biggest blunders in our political history.

**The Fair Deal.** To continue FDR's New Deal programs, Truman established his own program, which he called the **Fair Deal**. He expanded the Social Security system but failed to pass a minimum wage requirement because Republican congressmen opposed further government regulation of the economy. Truman also ended racial segregation in the armed forces.

### The Berlin Airlift

The city of Berlin, Germany, lay in ruins after the war. It was now deep within the Soviet-controlled zone in East Germany, for Germany had been divided into two sections: (1) the eastern  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the nation (**East Germany**) became part of the Soviet empire, and (2) the western  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the country (**West Germany**) was placed under the protection of the United States and Great Britain. The city of Berlin in East Germany was also divided. The Soviets occupied **East Berlin**, and American, British, and French troops protected **West Berlin**. Determined to control West Berlin, the Soviets blocked all rail, water, and road routes into the city. The people of West Berlin faced the prospect of starvation. The Soviets even denied medical supplies to the hospitals.

Communist leaders had little respect for human life; they tortured and murdered many of their own people in the Soviet Union. The U.S. military came to the rescue in the winter of 1948–1949 with the **Berlin Airlift**, as huge American transport planes landed in West Berlin every 45 seconds, carrying food and supplies to sustain the city. It was the greatest airlift in history and greatly impressed the Soviets, who were forced to admit the superiority of the American air force.





Berlin Airlift

The airlift represented America's great military power and its compassion for the free people of Europe. The Soviets eventually lifted their blockade, and the city of West Berlin developed a prosperous and free way of life. The West Germans were grateful to the United States and pledged to develop a free and peaceful nation closely allied to America.

Meanwhile, life in East Berlin and the rest of Eastern Europe became harsh and economically backward under Communist rule. Almost all natural resources of the region went to build up the Soviet military, or to prop up Communist terrorist groups around the world. The waste, inefficiency, and forced labor of Marxist-socialism led to a declining standard of living throughout the Soviet empire. While Western Europe quickly recovered from the war and grew into modern and prosperous countries, Communist Eastern Europe and Russia could barely achieve the standard of living found in the United States in the 1920s and 1930s.

### The United Nations

The *Grand Alliance* drawn up among the Allied nations in 1942 served as the basis for a new world organization when in 1945, world leaders organized the **United Nations (UN)** to promote peace among the nations of the

world. However, the United Nations adopted socialist policies. General Douglas MacArthur, who had called for a spiritual rebirth of Japan at the end of World War II, remained one of the staunchest foes of the socialist policies adopted by the United Nations.

Though the *United States provides much of the financial aid to keep the UN going*, it has little to say in how the United Nations is run. More than half of the UN member nations have a population smaller than **New York City**, the site of the UN building. Yet the *vote of each small country counts as much as the vote of a major country* like the United States, which bears the largest financial load to keep it operating. Whenever the UN is called upon to halt aggression in some part of the globe, the United States sends the most troops.

Since World War II, *many nations in the UN have been decidedly anti-American*. Over the years, Communist countries have convinced many Third World nations (poor and undeveloped nations) that Communism (or socialism) is the answer to their problems and that the United States is their enemy.

### Israel: A Haven for the Jews

Since World War I, waves of Jewish settlers had been immigrating to Palestine. By the 1930s, the growth of Nazi power in Germany and an increase in anti-Semitism throughout Europe had prompted a sharp rise in the number of Jews seeking refuge from persecution. But it was not until the dreadful reality of the Holocaust was known that the rest of the world recognized the need for a Jewish homeland. In 1948, the Jewish community in Palestine, most of whom were Holocaust survivors from Europe, proclaimed the independent state of **Israel** as a haven for Jews around the world. With the memory of Nazi persecution fresh in the minds of these Jewish survivors, the nation of Israel began to build an army to protect itself. The United States became a strong ally of Israel and defended its right to exist as an independent state in the Middle East.

## EUROPE AFTER WWII



### Military Alliances

In the face of Soviet threats and aggression, several Western European nations, Canada, and the United States established a military alliance known as **NATO**, the *North Atlantic Treaty Organization*, in 1949. The United States committed itself to defend any NATO nation threatened by Communist invasion. Later, President Eisenhower formulated plans to defend Southeast Asia from Communism by establishing **SEATO**, the *Southeast Asia Treaty Organization*. Over a period of almost 50 years, NATO hindered the spread of Communism in Europe. The strength and success of NATO played a major role in the official collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

### Korean War (1950–1953)

#### A Divided Korea

At the end of World War II, the small Asian country of Korea was divided between the Soviet Union and the United States. In **North Korea**, the Soviets set up a *Communist government*. In **South Korea**, the United States allowed the people to hold elections and set up a *free republic*.

Communists made it clear they desired to gain control of other countries, and in **1950**, North Korea invaded South Korea. By summer, most of South Korea had fallen. When North Korea refused to withdraw, the United Nations sent an army to defend South Korea.

Although American soldiers made up most of this army, 15 other nations also sent troops to help the South Koreans.

### MacArthur: “No substitute for victory”

At first, things went badly for the outnumbered UN forces as the Communists swept across South Korea. As commander of the troops in South Korea, General Douglas MacArthur ordered his men to make a last stand in the **Pusan Perimeter**, in the far southeastern corner of Korea. Meanwhile, MacArthur caught the North Koreans by surprise, landing American troops at **Inchon**, near the South Korean capital of Seoul, northwest of the Pusan Perimeter.



The Americans quickly recaptured Seoul, cut the North Korean supply lines, and joined the South Korean and American troops who had broken out of the Pusan Perimeter. North Korean forces disintegrated, and their resistance began to collapse. By October, MacArthur had entered North Korea. When the Chinese Communists began to send troops into North Korea, MacArthur asked President Truman for permission to invade China and wipe out Communism once and for all in that part of Asia.

President Truman believed in a foreign policy known as **containment**, which *committed American troops to stay on the defensive and simply keep Communism from spreading* rather than helping nations that had already fallen to Communism become free again. Thus, Truman ordered MacArthur to return to South Korea and let the Communists keep North Korea. Congress supported the President, opposing an invasion of Communist China.

General MacArthur told the President that containment was a weak policy that encouraged Communist aggression. He insisted that *“there is no substitute for victory.”* Because of MacArthur’s criticism, President Truman released MacArthur from his command. The United States then withdrew from North Korea, leaving the North Koreans enslaved under a cruel Communist dictatorship.

The **Korean War** lasted for **three years**, until a truce (agreement) to stop fighting was signed. In this agreement, North Korea remained under Communist control, and South Korea remained free. Over 33,000 American soldiers died in the defense of freedom during the Korean War.

### Summary: In Defense of Freedom

After World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union embarked on a “Cold War” of ideas in which the principles of American free enterprise (capitalism) battled the oppressive, state-control philosophy of Marxist Communism. Sometimes this Cold War would lead to open conflict, and blood would be shed for

the cause of freedom. Many nations would fall to Communism in the years ahead, but others

would adopt the American system and develop thriving economies.

### CHECK UP

1. What was the Cold War?
2. What is life like in a Communist country?
3. Who was George C. Marshall? What was the purpose of the Marshall Plan?
4. How was Germany divided after the war? How was Berlin divided? What was the Berlin Airlift?
5. Where is the United Nations headquartered? What is unusual about voting in the UN?
6. What does NATO stand for? Why was it formed?
7. What type of governments did North and South Korea have?
8. Who led UN forces in the Korean War? Name the famous landing that caught the North Koreans by surprise.
9. What was Truman's policy in Korea called? How did MacArthur want to end the war?

**Identify:** "iron curtain," Truman Doctrine, Taft-Hartley Act, Fair Deal, 1948, SEATO, 1950, Pusan Perimeter, Korean War

## CHAPTER 20 REVIEW

**PEOPLE** *Know the following individuals and groups and be able to explain their importance to American history.*

1. Benito Mussolini
2. Adolf Hitler
3. Joseph Stalin
4. Winston Churchill
5. Chiang Kai-shek
6. Hideki Tojo
7. Dwight D. Eisenhower
8. George S. Patton, Jr.
9. Douglas MacArthur
10. Charles De Gaulle
11. Harry S. Truman
12. Albert Einstein
13. Enrico Fermi, Edward Teller, J. Robert Oppenheimer
14. Alger Hiss

**PLACES** *Know the following places and their significance.*

1. Pearl Harbor
2. Normandy
3. Hiroshima and Nagasaki
4. East Berlin, West Berlin
5. Yalta

**TERMS** *Define the following terms.*

1. Fascist party
2. Nazi party
3. Holocaust
4. World War II
5. Allied Powers
6. Axis Powers
7. Nazi-Soviet Pact
8. blitzkrieg
9. Battle of Britain
10. Lend-Lease Act
11. Atlantic Charter
12. Good Neighbor Policy
13. WACS, WAVES
14. GI
15. Nisei
16. Battle of Coral Sea
17. Battle of Midway
18. island hopping
19. Navajo Code Talkers
20. D-Day
21. Fighting Red Tails
22. Battle of the Bulge
23. kamikazes
24. Manhattan Project



## CHAPTER 20 REVIEW

25. Cold War
26. “iron curtain”
27. Truman Doctrine
28. Marshall Plan
29. Taft-Hartley Act
30. Berlin Airlift
31. United Nations
32. NATO, SEATO
33. Korean War
34. containment

**EVENTS** Memorize each date and event.

1939–1945—World War II

December 7, 1941—Pearl Harbor

May 8, 1945—V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day)

September 2, 1945—V-J Day (Victory in Japan Day)

1948—Israel becomes a nation-state.

1950–1953—Korean War

**MAP SKILLS** Use the maps on pp. 385 and 388 to answer the following questions.

1. What African country was an Axis-controlled nation?
2. Name the three battles centered in Russian cities that stopped the German advance into Russia.
3. How many Axis soldiers were captured at the Battle of Tunis in 1943? Where did the Allies advance from Tunis?
4. What body of water did the Allies cross to liberate France? What was the name and date of the battle?
5. What side did Turkey and Spain take during the war?
6. What Alaskan island did Japan occupy?
7. Name the southernmost battle in the Pacific. What country lies just southwest of the battle?
8. On what islands was the Death March to Camp O'Donnell?
9. What two island battles were closest to the mainland of Japan?

**CRITICAL THINKING** On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions using complete sentences.

1. How did the spiritual emptiness in Germany lead many to believe the lies of Hitler? Whom did Hitler blame Germany's problems on? How did Hitler's belief in evolution lead to the murder of millions?
2. How did Americans work together on the home front to help the war effort? How does this reflect on American unity and patriotism of the time?
3. Why did Japan resort to using kamikazes in the war? Would the Japanese have surrendered if America did not use the atomic bomb? Explain your answer.
4. Why was America able to develop the atomic bomb before the Germans?
5. What caution did Churchill give about Stalin? How did Roosevelt feel about Stalin? What was the truth about Stalin?
6. Compare Americanism to Communism.
7. What policy did America hold to in the Korean War? Was this policy effective? How did MacArthur view the situation? Explain your answer.



# Time for Freedom and Responsibility 1950–1963

## *America in the Fifties* *The Kennedy Years*



## HIGHLIGHTS



- Progress and Prosperity in the 1950s
- President Dwight D. Eisenhower
- Civil Rights Movement
- President John F. Kennedy and the New Frontier

The United States emerged from World War II as the most powerful and prosperous country in the world. After the war, many young couples bought houses and started families. As her birthrate soared, America experienced a **baby boom**. This rapid growth of families greatly increased the need for goods and services. Living in a country that rewarded hard work with increased wages and profits, parents worked hard to provide for their children. Americans soon became the most productive workers in the world, and the economy thrived. By the 1950s, America had made a truly remarkable economic transition, with the promise of more progress to come.

A strong moral and spiritual foundation undergirded America's prosperity. Americans still practiced the Protestant work ethic, taking pride in their work and striving for excellence. The moral values of biblical Christianity provided a just standard of law, order, and mutual respect, which in turn increased material prosperity.

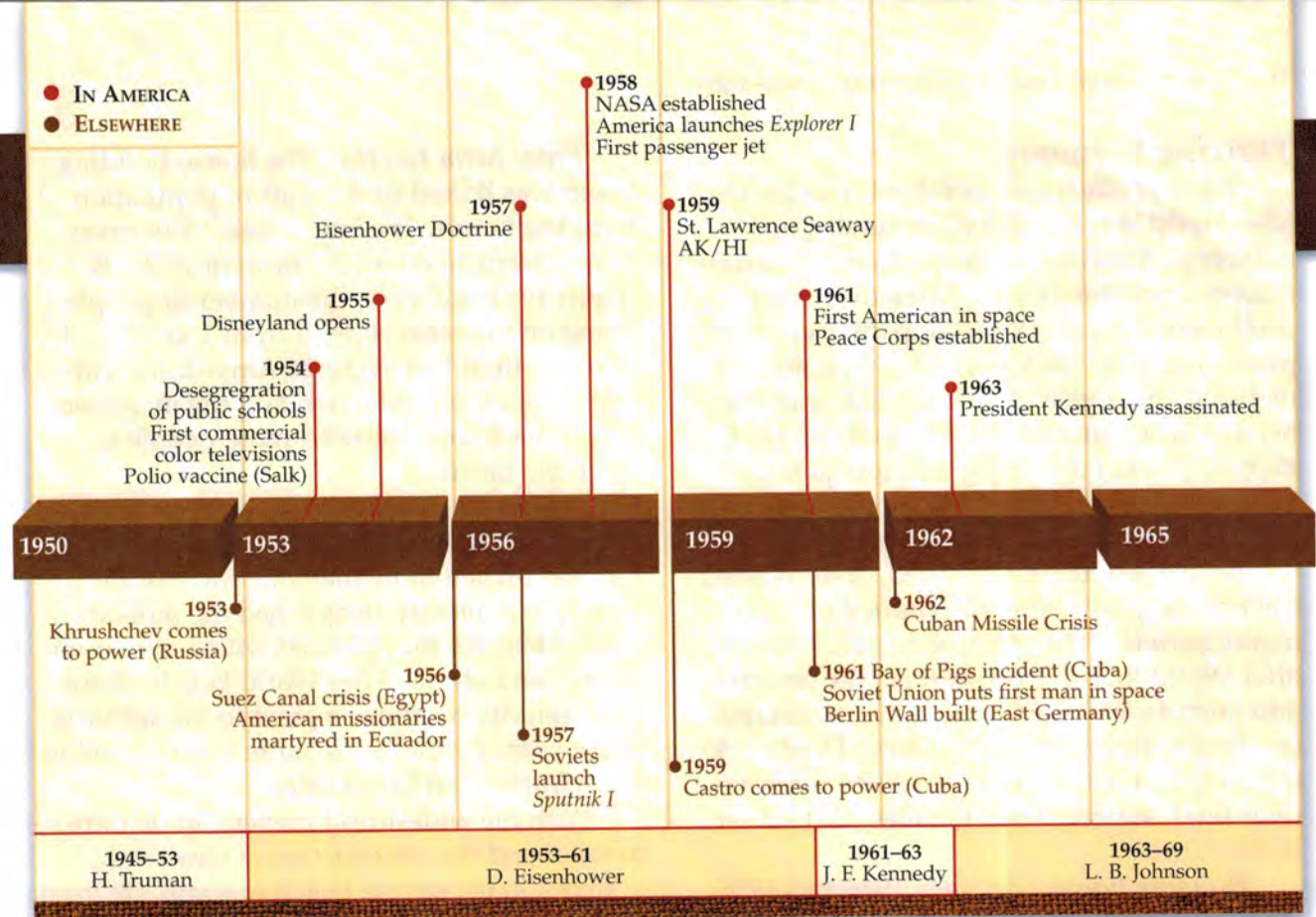
### *Progress and Prosperity* *in the 1950s*

#### **Moral Strength**

*Respect for Christianity.* During the 1950s, church attendance continued to play a prominent role in the life of the community. Though not everyone attended church, most people respected the biblical teachings of law, order, and moral decency. Local governments often required stores to close on Sundays, and community activities were planned in many areas not to interfere with church services. School days often began with prayer and Bible reading, and parent-teacher meetings and civic organizations usually opened with prayer.

Evangelists conducted crusades throughout the nation. Young evangelist **Billy Graham** (1918–) held large tent meetings in the Los Angeles area in the late 1940s; several prominent entertainers attended his meetings and “hit the sawdust trail.” Graham received national news coverage, which led to large televised crusades, making him one of the best known and respected persons in America and the world.

American missionaries labored around the world, and many Americans supported missionaries through their local church. Foreign missions received national attention when, in 1956, five young American missionaries were killed by Auca Indians in the



jungles of Ecuador. The news media gave the story prominent coverage. **Elisabeth Elliot**, wife of martyr **Jim Elliot**, wrote a book about this missionary endeavor entitled *Through Gates of Splendor*. Most Americans admired the courage and determination of Christian missionaries.

*Jim Elliot, missionary martyr slain in Ecuador*



**Strong families, little crime.** Families were strong during the 1950s. Most couples considered divorce a tragedy and made every effort to stay together and work through their difficulties. In small towns, people could leave their houses and cars unlocked. Children played in local parks without fear; in the larger cities, crime was primarily restricted to the back alleys. People considered the occult, illegal drugs, pornography, homosexuality, and other immorality to be disgraceful sins. Gambling was illegal in most places.

**Sanctity of life.** Courts punished criminal offenders; people knew that if they broke the law, severe penalties would follow. Because people believed in the sanctity of human life, most states practiced capital punishment (the execution of those guilty of murder). Most people believed that God instituted capital punishment (Gen. 9:5, 6) to discourage murder and to teach mankind the value of human life. **Abortion** (the killing of babies before birth) was illegal throughout the United States.

## Thriving Economy

The war effort and increased world trade after World War II revived the American economy. American factories made a relatively smooth transition from military to civilian production. Ford Motor Company went from producing tanks back to producing automobiles. The threat of Communism and the need to keep our armed forces built up kept defense plants busy. New technologies, developed during World War II, made American industry the most efficient in the world.

People worked hard, saved, and invested their money, providing the *capital for economic growth*. Thus the productive years after World War II brought forth the research and later development of jet aircraft, computers, lasers, and medical wonders. Hardworking Americans had the resources to improve their lives, support their families, and invest in the future.

**Housing boom.** Between 1946 and 1956, the construction of new homes boomed. Congress had passed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act, or the **GI Bill of Rights**, which made low-interest government loans available to veterans for the purchase of homes, farms, and businesses, or for college tuition. Some 12 million men and women had served in the armed forces and qualified for these benefits. As returning veterans married and started families, the demand for new homes skyrocketed.

**Mass-produced houses.** Levitt & Sons introduced mass production of low-cost housing in the 1940s with the development of **Levittown** [lěv'it·toun], a community of 6,000 homes on the outskirts of New York's Long Island. Like Henry Ford, the Levitts increased production and cut cost by mass producing homes in an assembly-line fashion. At \$8,000, Levitt's homes were easily affordable, and veterans could rent a home until they were ready to buy because the GI Bill made financing easy. Soon, other builders were using Levitt's mass-production methods to build suburban developments from Illinois to California.

**From farm to city.** The house-building boom was linked to the shift of population from the farm to the city. Nearly 1 in every 3 Americans lived on the farm in 1930. Between 1940 and 1970, the number of people living on the farm slipped from 1 in every 4 to fewer than 1 in every 20 Americans. Advances in crop production and the increased use of machinery allowed more people to leave the farms.

**From city to suburb.** By the late 1950s, most families owned a home and a car. Many families owned more than one car. For the first time in history, people had the mobility to go wherever they pleased with a minimum of time and effort. After World War II, about 1 million city residents moved to the **suburbs** every year. By the 1960s, more people lived in the suburbs than in the cities.

With the widespread ownership of automobiles and the construction of new road systems, many people began to **commute** from their suburban home to an office or factory in the city. As the suburbs continued to grow, they added industrial parks, recreation facilities, and shopping malls. Large cities with suburban areas became known as **metropolitan** areas.

**Supermarkets and better health.** Before the 1950s, fresh vegetables had been available only during the short local growing season. Foods like oranges and bananas were considered luxuries in most places. Now better and faster transportation brought fresh fruits, vegetables, meat, and dairy products to new

*Levittown, a suburb of New York City*





1950s automobiles had a sleek, contemporary style.

**supermarkets** in cities and towns. New technology increased the production of food and led to better ways of preserving food, such as freezing.

Advances in medical technology contributed to better health. The **polio vaccine**, developed by **Dr. Jonas Salk** in the 1950s, ended the spread of polio, a disease that paralyzed parts of the body. Vaccines were later developed against measles, mumps, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, and other diseases.

### Technology Changes American Life

**Plastics and polyesters.** The 1950s saw the development of a variety of synthetic (manmade) materials ranging from polyesters to plastics. With the introduction of new “wash and wear” **polyester** fabrics in brilliant, nonfading colors, people began to dress in brighter colors. Durable plastics began to

Homes took on a contemporary look.



replace glass, metal, and wood items in everyday use. A tough, easy-to-clean plastic called **Formica** covered kitchen and bathroom countertops and tables in a variety of colors. The colors of household appliances also changed. Before the 1950s, telephones came in one basic color—black—and kitchens and laundry rooms featured only white appliances. By the 1960s, many homes featured brightly colored appliances, wall-to-wall carpeting, draperies, paints, and tiles.

**Time for leisure and recreation.** New technologies in the workplace allowed many Americans to work fewer hours per week. New **automatic** washers and dryers and dishwashers made chores at home less time consuming, allowing more leisure time for sports and entertainment. Major-league sports continued to grow in popularity.

**Television.** In the 1950s, almost every American home added a new piece of furniture to their living room—the **television set**. Soon, television replaced the newspapers, radio, and magazines as the major source of news. By the end of the 1950s, most Americans relied on the three major television broadcasting networks, **NBC, CBS, and ABC**, for their main source of news and information. Early black-and-white television sets had small screens and offered only a few channels. *Color sets* did not become widespread in American homes until the 1960s.

Television became a main source of entertainment.



**Tourism.** Increased leisure time and vacations became standard for the average American; thus **tourism** became a *major industry* in the 1950s. Many of the 70 million American tourists visited national parks like Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon, and the Great Smoky Mountains. Others saw the scenic grandeur of the West, or historic places along the east coast for the first time, or visited Civil War battlefields such as Gettysburg, Shiloh, or Lookout Mountain. Travel created a greater feeling of national pride and unity.

Before World War II, few Americans had the time or money to travel overseas by steamship. After the war, many veterans hoped to return to foreign shores as tourists rather than soldiers. By the 1950s, propeller-driven airplanes made travel easier and less expensive. In 1950, for the first time, more people traveled overseas by air than by sea. In 1958, the first passenger jet, the **Boeing 707**, was introduced.

Walt Disney, the creator of many famous cartoon characters, built the *first theme park*, **Disneyland**, in Anaheim, California, in 1955. Later, entertainment theme parks would spring up in several parts of the country.

### CHECK UP

1. Who was Jim Elliot? What book was written about his missionary endeavor? Who was the author?
2. What is capital punishment? On what Bible verse is this idea based?
3. What made Levitt & Sons famous? What was Levittown?
4. Where were industrial parks built? What was featured in these parks?
5. What was polio? Who developed the polio vaccine?
6. Name the three major television networks in the 1950s.
7. What was introduced in 1958 that changed the way people traveled?

**Identify:** baby boom, Billy Graham, GI Bill of Rights, suburbs, commute, metropolitan, polyesters, Formica, Disneyland

## President Eisenhower: Peace through Strength (1953–1961)

**Alliances for freedom.** General **Dwight David Eisenhower**, Commander of the Allied Forces in World War II, became President of the United States in 1953, defeating the Democratic candidate, Governor Adlai Stevenson of Illinois. During the campaign, enthusiastic Eisenhower supporters wore “I Like Ike” buttons. Most Americans liked and trusted President Eisenhower. His main goal was to ensure American economic prosperity while building up our defenses against Communism. By the 1950s, the Soviet Union had enslaved all of Eastern Europe in an oppressive, atheistic, Communist society with little personal freedom and only the bare necessities of life. To prevent the spread of Communism, Eisenhower strengthened the military alliances of **NATO** (the North Atlantic Treaty Organization) and **SEATO** (the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization). Communism would have enslaved all of Europe, Asia, and Latin America had it not been for America’s military alliances with the rest of the free world.

## McCarthy Era

During the Cold War between the United States and Soviet Union, acts of Communist *espionage* (spying) were more widely investigated. State Department official **Alger Hiss**, adviser to President Roosevelt at Yalta, was convicted of *perjury* (lying under oath) in 1950. Hiss had passed State Department secrets to a Soviet agent. His guilt probably would have remained undetected had it not been for the testimony of **Whittaker Chambers** (1901–1961), a former Communist party member and Soviet spy. Chambers turned against Communism when he realized its true nature. He explained:

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The Communist vision is the vision of man without God. It is the vision of man’s mind displacing God as the creative intelligence of the world.

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## PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

**Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890–1969)****Years of Presidency:** 1953–1961**Vice President:** Richard M. Nixon**Political party:** Republican**State of residence when elected:** New York**Remembered for** commanding Allied forces for invasion of Europe in World War II**Major events during Presidency:** first American satellite launched; St. Lawrence Seaway opened; new states—Alaska and Hawaii (1959)*34th President*

Chambers led investigators to a pumpkin patch on his farm, reached into a pumpkin, and pulled out microfilmed copies of secret State Department documents, which he had received from a spy ring of which Alger Hiss was a member.

Americans were shocked to learn that *the Soviets had an atomic bomb by 1949*. The Soviets obtained atomic secrets from a number of atomic scientists who were either Communists or socialists. In 1951, an engineer and his wife, *Julius and Ethel Rosenberg*, were tried and convicted of treason for leaking vital atomic bomb secrets to Russian agents. The Rosenbergs were executed in 1953.

In February 1950, **Senator Joseph P. McCarthy** (1908–1957) of Wisconsin charged that the U.S. State Department had been infiltrated by large numbers of Communist spies. Between 1951 and 1954, Senator McCarthy conducted investigations into Communist activities within the federal government. He also discovered teachers, writers, and actors who were, or had been, members of the Communist Party in America (CPA). By 1952, McCarthy had evidence of several Communist spy rings operating within the U.S. government. FBI director **J. Edgar Hoover** revealed that federal employees had been allowed into top secret facilities even though the FBI warned of their Communist activities.

Early in 1954, McCarthy began an investigation of Communist activity in the U.S. Army. Because the Senate decided to allow television coverage of the Army-McCarthy hearings, millions of Americans were able to watch these hearings. Although many Americans supported Senator McCarthy, liberals, the press, and labor union leaders denounced “McCarthyism” and accused him of conducting a “witch hunt.”

The power of television was so great that McCarthy’s sarcastic manner and stern face gave him a poor public image. Many who watched the hearings saw him as a bully rather than a patriotic American. The main points of his message were never disproved or denied and were later verified to be true, but public hearings and attacks from news reporters hurt McCarthy’s image with many people, and in December 1954, the Senate denounced McCarthy.

**American and Soviet Relations**

**The 1955 Summit.** The death of Joseph Stalin in March 1953 left the Soviet leaders in a brutal struggle for power. After eliminating many of his rivals, a new Russian strongman, **Nikita Khrushchev** (1894–1971), came to power. Under Khrushchev, the Soviets changed their aggressive tactics in an attempt to win over the peoples of Asia and Africa. They pretended to support “*peaceful coexistence*” with the non-Communist world and insisted that Communists and capi-

talists could live together side by side. Alarmed at the growing threat of nuclear weapons, President Eisenhower agreed to meet Khrushchev in Geneva, Switzerland, for a “summit” conference—a meeting of top world leaders. The **1955 Geneva Summit** was the *first face-to-face meeting between a Soviet Premier (leader) and a U.S. President since World War II*. Eisenhower and Khrushchev discussed ways to stop the nuclear arms race, but the Soviet leader had no real intention of stopping his country’s arms buildup.

**U-2 incident.** In 1958, Khrushchev threatened to send Russian troops into West Berlin, but he backed down when Eisenhower warned that America would defend the city from attack. President Eisenhower agreed to another summit in Paris in May 1960. As the President and his advisers journeyed to Paris, an American spy plane or “U-2” was shot down over Russia. Khrushchev used this incident to cancel the summit and continue the Soviet arms buildup.

**The Suez Canal crisis.** Cold War tensions spilled over into the Middle East. In 1955, the Egyptian leader Colonel *Gamal Abdel Nasser* sponsored Arab terrorist raids across Israel’s border. When the Soviet Union encouraged Nasser to get rid of Western influence in Egypt, Nasser *seized the Suez Canal from Great Britain in 1956*. Because Britain and France relied on the

canal for trade, they joined Israel in a war with Egypt. In October 1956, Israeli troops captured the Sinai Peninsula, and the British and French regained the Suez Canal. When the Soviet Union threatened to come to the aid of Egypt, the UN arranged for the withdrawal of the Israeli, French, and British armies and dispatched a peacekeeping force.

**The Eisenhower Doctrine.** In 1957, Congress adopted the *Eisenhower Doctrine*, which gave the President the power to use force if necessary against Communist aggression in the Middle East. When the Soviet Union and Egypt threatened Lebanon, the Lebanese government asked President Eisenhower for help. Ten thousand American marines soon landed in Lebanon to protect American lives and preserve Lebanese independence.

**Free enterprise for a strong America.** Under President Eisenhower, free enterprise (capitalism) thrived. In 1956, the Federal Highway Act provided funds for interstate highways. Soon road crews were constructing great roadways, linking the states with an **Interstate Highway System**. Many Americans took to the new highways and toured the country in the late 1950s.

The completion of the **St. Lawrence Seaway** in 1959 opened up the Great Lakes region







to *ocean shipping*, fostering closer relations between the United States and Canada. Also in 1959, **Alaska** and **Hawaii** became the 49th and 50th states of the Union.

**The Space Age.** When the Soviets launched *Sputnik I*, the first space satellite, in October 1957, American scientists scrambled to meet their challenge, beginning the *space race*.



Explorer I

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**), founded in 1958, launched America's first satellite, *Explorer I*, in January 1958. Private research and tax revenue generated by healthy private businesses enabled President Eisenhower to bring the United States into the Space Age.

### *Freedom and Opportunity for All Americans*

The years after World War II brought greater opportunities for all ethnic groups. Minority peoples had served their country well during the war by working and fighting for freedom. Many Americans saw that the time had come to end racial prejudice. The first group to achieve more opportunities were black Americans, who wanted to guarantee a better life for themselves and their children under the legal protection of the Constitution.

## Jackie Robinson and the Brooklyn Dodgers

**Jackie Robinson** (1919–1972), a young man from a sharecropper's farm in Georgia, signed on as a player for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947 and became the *first black major-league baseball player*. He led the way for many other black athletes to become major-league sports stars. Jackie Robinson was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962. Black athletes became role models for millions of young Americans.



Jackie Robinson

## The Voice of Marian Anderson

The acceptance of singer Marian Anderson into the world of the arts was a milestone in racial progress. She received many awards, including the prestigious Spingarn medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. In 1961, the American Institute of Public Opinion listed her as one of the world's 10 most admired women.

When Marian Anderson was only 6 years old, her talent in the choir caused Philadelphia's



Marian Anderson

Union Baptist Church to establish a trust fund, known as "Marian Anderson's Future," to pay for her professional training. By 1939, she was recognized throughout Europe as one of the **greatest opera singers** of the age. Yet in that same year, officials in Washington, D.C., denied her the privilege of singing at Constitution Hall because she was black. Instead, Marian Anderson stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial on Easter Sunday morning of 1939 to sing for 75,000 Americans of all races and walks of life.

Marian Anderson used her talent and influence to peacefully bring about change, and Americans responded to her personal appeal. Although a master of the classical opera, she always included Negro spirituals in her musical performances.

## Martin Luther King and Civil Rights

In the 1950s and 1960s, black Americans made considerable political and economic gains through the **civil rights movement**. When a public school in Topeka, Kansas, denied admission to 7-year-old Linda Brown because she was black, court proceedings resulted in a **1954 Supreme Court ruling** known as *Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka*, which called for the desegregation (racial integration) of all public schools.

In December 1955, a black woman named **Rosa Parks** boarded a city bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Weary from a long day of work as a seamstress, Parks took the first available seat at the front of the bus. At that time, all public facilities in the city were segregated, and black people had to sit in the back of the bus. At the next stop, the bus driver called the police, and Parks was arrested.

A young black minister, **Martin Luther King, Jr.**, stepped forward to help Rosa Parks by helping to organize a boycott of the city bus system. Soon, the bus company was losing money because no black citizens would ride the bus. In 1957, the Supreme Court ordered Montgomery to desegregate its bus system. Martin Luther King's civil rights campaign soon spread nationwide.

Some communities did not obey the Supreme Court order to desegregate their schools. In 1957,

## John F. Kennedy (1961–1963)

### JFK Becomes President

At the end of President Eisenhower's second 4-year term, Republicans chose Vice President **Richard M. Nixon** to run against Democratic candidate **John Fitzgerald Kennedy (JFK)**. Television played an important role in the 1960 Presidential campaign between Richard Nixon and John Kennedy. In a series of four televised debates, Nixon and Kennedy faced each other before the cameras while the nation watched. Viewers observed that Kennedy appeared more energetic, youthful, and handsome than his Republican opponent. He also looked relaxed and friendly, while Nixon seemed nervous. As 70 million people watched the debates, many undecided voters switched to Kennedy as a result of his appearance on television. Most people who listened to the debates on the radio said that Nixon actually won the debates, but television had a greater impact.

Kennedy won the 1960 Presidential election by 118,000 votes—the closest Presidential race of the 20th century up to that time. Some urged Nixon to contest the vote because of illegal voting practices in some Democratic districts, but Nixon declined. With  $\frac{1}{10}$  of 1 percent more of the popular vote, John F. Kennedy became the *first Roman Catholic President of the United States*.

### Foreign Policy under JFK

As a result of **Cold War tensions** between the United States and the Soviet Union, foreign events soon took center stage in the Kennedy Administration.

**Communism in Cuba.** In 1959, the Communist dictator **Fidel Castro** took control of Cuba by deceiving the Cuban people into believing that he would liberate the working class from the dictator Fulgencia Batista [bä·tēs'tä]. Those who believed Castro followed him in overthrowing Batista's regime. Once in power, Castro admitted he was a Communist and quickly set up a Communist dictatorship in Cuba. Many freedom-loving Cubans escaped

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Governor Orval E. Faubus of Arkansas ordered the Arkansas National Guard to bar black students from Little Rock's Central High School. President Eisenhower promptly sent 1,000 federal paratroopers to Little Rock to guard nine black students as they entered the local high school.

Martin Luther King helped form the **Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)** in 1957. This group pledged itself to *nonviolent resistance* in the struggle for civil rights. They planned marches and demonstrations to protest racial segregation.

### CHECK UP

1. What was President Eisenhower's main goal? What military organizations did he strengthen?
2. How did Whittaker Chambers describe the Communist vision?
3. Who conducted investigations into Communist activities in the government?
4. Who called for "peaceful coexistence" with non-Communist countries?
5. Why did Congress adopt the Eisenhower Doctrine?
6. Who launched the first space satellite? How did NASA respond?
7. Who were key people in the civil rights movement? What court case brought about the desegregation of public schools?
8. What was the SCLC?

**Identify:** Alger Hiss, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, J. Edgar Hoover, Interstate Highway System, St. Lawrence Seaway, Alaska and Hawaii, Jackie Robinson, Marian Anderson

## PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

**John F. Kennedy (1917–1963)****Years of Presidency:** 1961–1963**Vice President:** Lyndon B. Johnson**Political party:** Democratic**State of residence when elected:** Massachusetts**Remembered for the mysteries surrounding his death****Major events during Presidency:** Vietnam War; Cuban Missile Crisis; first American to orbit the earth*35th President*

to the United States. In April 1961, an American-trained force of *Cuban freedom fighters* invaded Cuba at the **Bay of Pigs**. President Kennedy promised to give these brave men American air cover and support, but at the last minute he backed away from his promise. The invasion failed, and Kennedy lost much public support. Conservatives became concerned that Cuba could be used as a launching pad for Communist attacks on America.

**The Berlin Wall.** After the failure at the Bay of Pigs, Soviet leader Khrushchev decided to renew his threats to invade West Berlin. Kennedy told Khrushchev that the United States would use armed force to keep West Berlin free from Communism. The President called up 145,000 National Guardsmen and military reservists to strengthen American defenses and asked Congress for more money to build weapons.

West Berlin was a sore spot for the Soviets. Over 4,000 East Germans per week were escaping to freedom in West Berlin, making Communism look bad in the eyes of the world. The economy of East Germany could not afford to lose any more skilled workers to the West. On August 13, 1961, the Communists “solved” their problem by putting a barbed wire fence between East Berlin and West Berlin. Guards patrolled the area with orders to shoot anyone who tried to cross over to freedom. Later, a

solid cement block wall arose—the **Berlin Wall**, a grim monument to the failure of Communism. President Kennedy increased the number of American troops in West Berlin. In June 1963, he visited West Berlin and personally assured the people that the United States would protect them from Communist aggression.

**More trouble in Cuba.** President Kennedy decided that he must take a firm stand against Communism if America was to remain strong. In October 1962, the President ordered a naval blockade around Cuba to keep the Soviet Union from shipping missiles and nuclear warheads to the island. With Cuba only **90 miles** from Florida, Soviet missiles in Cuba posed a grave threat to the United States.

At first, the Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev refused to back down, and the **Cuban Missile Crisis** had the entire world on the brink of nuclear war. But President Kennedy remained firm, and the United States, thanks to wise military planning and economic prosperity, had a clear weapons advantage over the Soviet Union. Kennedy forced the Communists to stop sending nuclear weapons and to remove the nuclear weapons already in Cuba. In return, he promised that no American President would ever invade Cuba and deliver it from Communist control.

**The hot line.** The tension between the United States and the Soviet Union reached a

fever pitch during the Cuban Missile Crisis. In 1963, both nations installed a **hot line**, providing instant communication between the U.S. President and the Soviet Premier. This hot line included the “red phone,” to be carried wherever the President went.

### The Peace Corps

In 1961, President Kennedy established a government program known as the **Peace Corps**, which sent out volunteers, mostly college students, to improve the health and farming practices of poor rural villages around the world. By 1965, there were 10,000 Peace Corps volunteers working in 46 countries. Unfortunately, some Peace Corps volunteers also introduced state-sponsored birth control, distrust of Christian missionaries, disregard for private property, and dependence on government socialism.

Many Peace Corps workers served in Latin America. Following up on FDR’s Good Neighbor policy, President Kennedy also established the **Alliance for Progress** in 1961. Every country in the Western Hemisphere, except Communist Cuba, joined in an attempt to encourage democracy and investment in Latin America. Kennedy believed that poverty

made these countries vulnerable to Communism. The United States spent several billion dollars on this program, but progress was slow. Foreign aid could not solve the spiritual problems which lay at the root of Latin America’s economic and political difficulties.

### The Civil Rights Movement

**Methods of protest.** In 1960, many department stores had lunch counters where customers could get a quick snack while shopping. These lunch counters were segregated in the South, with certain sections reserved for whites only. Black college students began to stage **sit-ins** at these lunch counters in the sections reserved for whites. Store owners also discovered that black shoppers would not spend their money in a store with segregated facilities. By 1963, lunch counters, theaters, and hotels had been desegregated.

To protest segregation at bus stations, many black and white college students took **freedom rides** throughout the South. Upon their arrival at a bus station, the freedom riders refused to obey the signs for segregated toilets, water fountains, and waiting rooms. In 1961, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy ordered the Interstate Commerce Commission

## KEY CONCEPTS

### Political Parties

John F. Kennedy represented the liberal wing of the Democratic party that promised more economic prosperity.

A **liberal** in American politics is a person who believes that the government should have more control over people’s lives, that the government through taxes should provide more of people’s needs, and that biblical, traditional values are not strong considerations. A **conservative** is a person who believes that the government’s main responsibility is to protect people and

property from crime and from foreign invaders, give people freedom to handle their own economic responsibilities, and conserve the traditional, biblical standards of right and wrong upon which America was built.

The difference between liberals and conservatives is not necessarily linked to a political party label. In America, Democrats have tended to be more liberal and Republicans more conservative, but there are liberals and conservatives in both parties.

to ban segregation in any facilities used by interstate buses.

Others protested segregation in colleges and universities. In the fall of 1962, black **James Meredith** attempted to enroll at the all-white University of Mississippi. When white extremist groups threatened Meredith's life, President Kennedy sent 5,000 troops to the campus, enabling Meredith to register as a student. Across the South, most blacks and whites continued to work for desegregation and equality.

**"I have a dream!"** Perhaps the most dramatic moment of the civil rights movement came in 1963 when Martin Luther King, Jr. addressed some 200,000 people from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, calling for an end to discrimination:

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I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

... I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

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## Space and Sports

**Space program.** JFK was a close friend of **Werner von Braun**, the world's foremost rocket scientist, and actively supported the space program. After the Soviet Union put the first man in space in 1961, Kennedy committed the United States to land men on the moon by the end of the decade. In 1961, **Alan B. Shepard, Jr.** became the *first American to fly in space*, and in 1962, **John Glenn** became the *first American to orbit the earth*.

**Sports and health.** President Kennedy also launched a national campaign of exercise and **physical fitness**. The President, despite severe back problems, exercised regularly and played touch football. With more people riding in cars and school buses, and more watching television for long hours, the nation needed a stronger in-

terest in physical fitness. To encourage fitness, President Kennedy gave special recognition awards. Schools began to stress physical fitness, and communities organized sports for youth and adults. Major-league sports became a large, profitable business in the 1960s.

**Historic preservation.** The *White House* did not become a noted tourist attraction until First Lady **Jacqueline (Jackie) Kennedy re-decorated** it. Jackie Kennedy is responsible for collecting many of the antique furnishings in the White House. She also encouraged the restoration of other historic buildings that reflect our national heritage.

## JFK's New Frontier

**Expansion of welfare programs.** Under President Kennedy, the government expanded many welfare programs, increasing the influence of liberal politicians. JFK's welfare program, which he called the **New Frontier**, continued FDR's New Deal program. Because it is human nature to try to get something for nothing, many people took advantage of government handouts. As the number of welfare recipients increased, the government had to borrow more and more money to fund welfare programs.

Money for government welfare programs comes from taxes paid by working citizens; thus, millions of employed Americans faced even higher taxes. Though welfare programs of the New Frontier spent large amounts of money trying to solve the problems of poverty, many people remained locked in poverty and remained dependent on government money.

As the government raised taxes to pay for welfare programs, the economy suffered because people had less money to spend, save, and invest. By selling government bonds, known as **Treasury Bills**, the government began a huge borrowing program in which it borrowed money from the American people. In the past, most government money had been used to pay for roads, bridges, military defense, etc., but this money went to welfare programs. By the mid-1960s, our

government would be operating on credit. By living beyond its means and borrowing large amounts of money, the government created a *false prosperity*.

The greatest growth in government welfare and regulatory agencies came during the 1960s.

### President Kennedy's Assassination

On November 22, 1963, President Kennedy and his wife Jackie visited **Dallas, Texas**. As the Kennedys rode in a motorcade through Dallas, **Lee Harvey Oswald shot and killed the President**. Millions of Americans watched the

tragedy unfold on national television. Authorities soon captured Oswald, but as they transferred him to another jail, Oswald was shot by **Jack Ruby**, who claimed to be avenging the President's death.

John F. Kennedy's sudden death at the hands of an assassin made him seem to be a martyr. The youthful energy and charm of the Kennedys had captured the imagination of many Americans, and the nation felt his loss deeply. Within hours of JFK's death, Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson was sworn in as President.

### CHECK UP

1. Explain why John F. Kennedy beat Richard Nixon in the 1960 Presidential election.
2. What happened at the Bay of Pigs on April 17, 1961?
3. How did Kennedy handle the Cuban Missile Crisis?
4. Explain how segregated lunch counters and bus stations were desegregated.
5. What is the difference between a liberal and a conservative in politics today?
6. What happened when James Meredith attempted to enroll at the University of

Mississippi? How did Kennedy handle this situation?

7. What did President Kennedy call his social welfare program? How did it affect the economy?
8. Explain what happened on November 22, 1963. Who killed Kennedy's assassin?

**Identify:** Fidel Castro; the Berlin Wall; hot line; Peace Corps; Alliance for Progress; Werner von Braun; Alan B. Shepard, Jr.; John Glenn; Jacqueline Kennedy; Treasury Bills

## CHAPTER 21 REVIEW

**PEOPLE** *Know the following individuals and be able to explain their importance to American history.*

1. Billy Graham
2. Jim Elliot
3. Dr. Jonas Salk
4. Dwight D. Eisenhower
5. Alger Hiss
6. Whittaker Chambers
7. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg
8. Joseph P. McCarthy
9. J. Edgar Hoover
10. Nikita Khrushchev
11. Gamal Abdel Nasser
12. Jackie Robinson
13. Marian Anderson
14. Rosa Parks
15. Martin Luther King, Jr.
16. John F. Kennedy
17. Fidel Castro
18. James Meredith
19. Werner von Braun
20. Alan B. Shepard, Jr.
21. John Glenn
22. Lee Harvey Oswald
23. Jack Ruby

CHAPTER 21 REVIEW (CONT.)

**PLACES** *Know the following places and their significance.*

1. Disneyland
2. Alaska
3. Hawaii

**TERMS** *Define the following terms.*

1. baby boom
2. capital punishment
3. GI Bill of Rights
4. Levitt & Sons
5. Geneva Summit
6. U-2 incident
7. Suez Canal Crisis
8. Eisenhower Doctrine
9. Interstate Highway System
10. St. Lawrence Seaway
11. NASA
12. *Explorer I*
13. civil rights movement
14. *Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka*
15. Southern Christian Leadership Conference
16. Bay of Pigs
17. Berlin Wall
18. Cuban Missile Crisis

19. Peace Corps
20. Alliance for Progress
21. New Frontier
22. Treasury Bills

**EVENTS** *Memorize each date and event.*

1958—*Explorer I* is launched.

1962—Cuban Missile Crisis

1963—President Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas, Texas.

**CRITICAL THINKING** *On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions using complete sentences.*

1. What was family life like in the 1950s? How did most Americans view Christianity and church?
2. How did the civil rights movement begin? How did most Americans respond to the civil rights movement?
3. How did the Eisenhower Doctrine express American determination to halt Communist aggression?
4. Why was the Peace Corps formed? What were some negative things that some members of the Peace Corps taught?
5. Compare a liberal politician in America with a conservative politician.





# Troubled Times for America 1963–1979

## *Vietnam War (1965–1973)* *The Sixties and Seventies*



## HIGHLIGHTS



- Rebellion in the 1960s
- President L. B. Johnson and the Great Society
- Vietnam War
- America's Decline in the 1970s
- Presidents Nixon, Ford, and Carter

### *The Rebellious Sixties*

#### **Fruits of Humanism in America**

By the early 1960s, the teachings of humanist philosopher **John Dewey**, the father of **progressive education**, had permeated public education. Dewey was a leader in the *secular humanist movement*, which put man in place of or above God. Moral absolutes, such as those once taught in the *McGuffey Readers*, were replaced by humanistic ideas such as encouraging children to “follow their animal instincts” and to practice permissive “self-expression” in the classroom.

**O’Hair’s campaign against God.** In 1962, the Supreme Court removed prayer from public schools, and in 1963, it banned Bible reading from the public schools. These decisions came about largely through the efforts of **Madalyn Murray O’Hair**, an *atheist* and *Communist* who used her teenage son, William, to protest daily Bible reading and prayer in the public schools of Baltimore, Maryland. A liberal Supreme Court ruled that even voluntary Bible reading

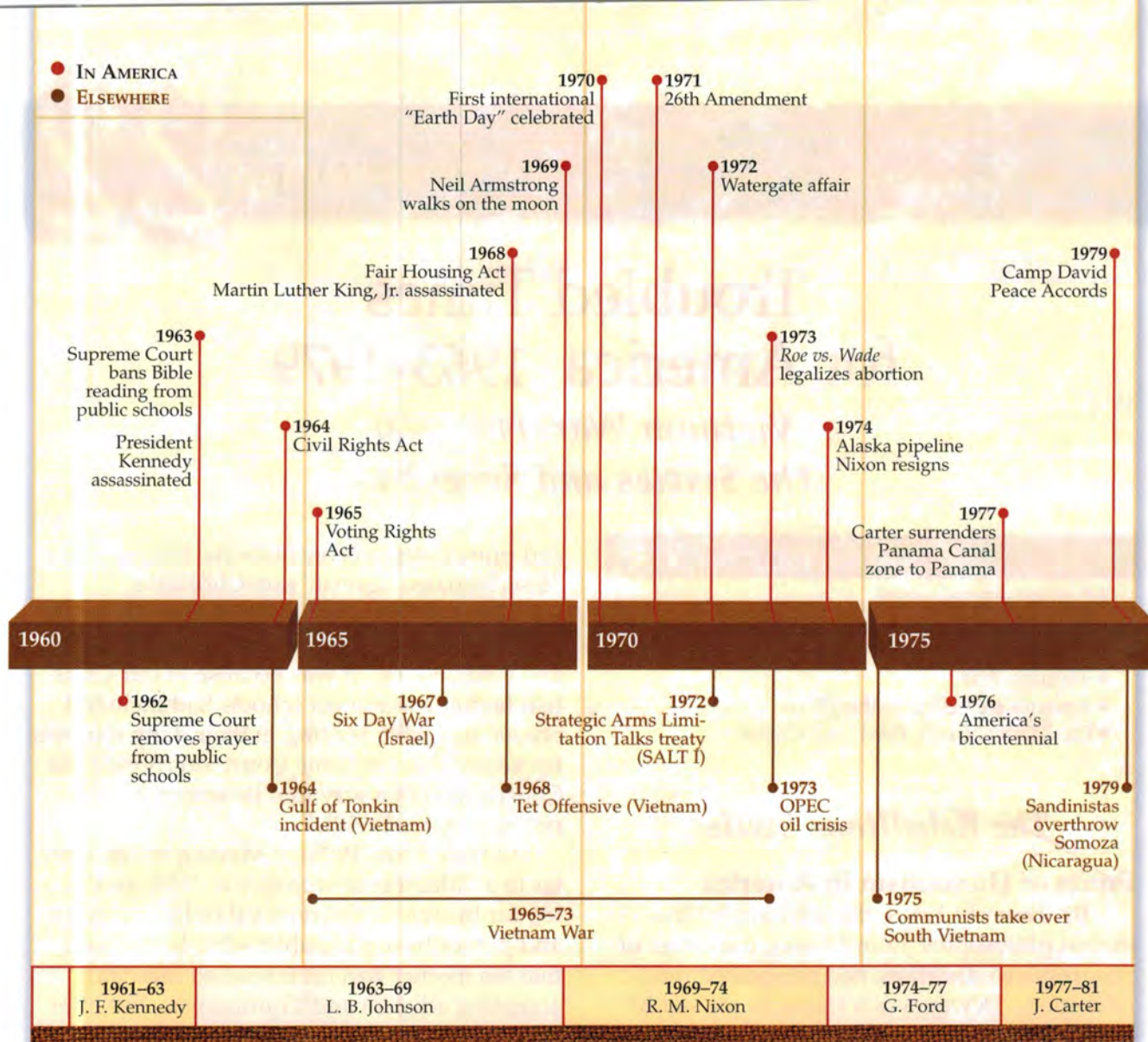
and prayer were unconstitutional because they “discriminated against” non-Christians.

The Founding Fathers who wrote the Constitution had great respect for both prayer and God’s Word. It was because of our Christian heritage that most schools had included prayer and Bible reading in their daily routines for years. The Supreme Court interpreted the Constitution in a way that its writers would not have agreed with.

O’Hair’s son, William Murray, wrote a letter to a Baltimore newspaper in 1980, apologizing for his role in the removal of Bible reading and prayer from the public schools. He said that his mother had brainwashed him into accepting atheism and Communism, but after years of misery and despair, he had found faith in God. Now he prayed that God might somehow use his testimony to bring prayer back into the classroom.

**Moral decline.** As “progressive” educators removed godly values from the classroom, America’s youth became ripe for the *spirit of rebellion* that moved across the nation in the late 1960s, opening the door to drug abuse and sexual immorality. As discipline, dress codes, and moral standards relaxed in the public school systems, test scores continued to decline. Rock music began to influence American culture through such popular musicians as *Elvis Presley*.

**Christian schools.** In response to the declining moral and academic standards in the



public schools, many parents enrolled their children in private Christian schools. Many Christian schools were started in the 1960s.

**ACLU.** Since the 1920s, a group of lawyers known as the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) had actively defended the extreme views of atheist, socialist, and Communist minorities. In the 1960s, the ACLU began to use the courts to force local communities to stop making references to biblical values in public life. They claimed that the U.S. Constitution established a "wall of separation" between church and state. Later the ACLU would have bronze copies of the Ten Commandments removed from walls in schools, village halls,

and county court houses, and some communities would be forced to ban public Christmas displays featuring the birth of Jesus. The ACLU would also later defend public displays of pornography as an expression of the First Amendment right to free speech.

### President Johnson and the Great Society (1963–1969)

In the Presidential election of 1964, Vice President **Lyndon Baines Johnson (LBJ)** of Texas ran against Senator **Barry M. Goldwater**, a conservative from Arizona. Goldwater opposed big government and urged a return to a Constitutional system of limited government.

## PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

**Lyndon B. Johnson (1908–1973)**

**Years of Presidency:** 1963–1969

**Vice President:** none (1st term), Hubert Horatio Humphrey (2nd term)

**Political party:** Democratic

**State of residence when elected:** Texas

**Remembered for his social welfare program, the "Great Society"**

**Major events during Presidency:** Vietnam War; assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.



*36th President*

Because the nation still mourned Kennedy's death, Johnson won the election by promising to continue the programs of the late President. LBJ lacked Kennedy's charm, but he was able to push many social welfare programs through Congress. President Johnson called his program the **Great Society**. FDR's *New Deal* (1930s), JFK's *New Frontier*, and LBJ's *Great Society* led to larger and larger social welfare programs, making the United States, in essence, a welfare state.

The Great Society became the largest public welfare program since the New Deal. As state and local governments accepted tax dollars from the federal government for new welfare programs, they surrendered their authority to Washington, D.C. For the first time, local school districts accepted money from the government. Great Society programs included the Job Corps, Headstart, and Medicare, which provided health care for older Americans.

### **The Civil Rights Movement Continues**

The Great Society focused heavily on civil rights. The **Civil Rights Act of 1964** *prohibited racial discrimination in public places*. Some states did not permit people to vote unless they paid a *poll tax* (fee), which many black people could not afford. The **24th Amendment**, ratified in 1964, *did away with all poll taxes*. The **Voting**

**Rights Act** of 1965 *required federal supervision of local elections*. The number of black people registered to vote increased by 40 percent. As part of the Great Society program, President Johnson created a new cabinet position, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (**HUD**), which poured large amounts of money into the **inner cities** to improve housing and living conditions. **Robert Weaver** became the *first black American cabinet officer* as the head of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. President Johnson also appointed the *first black Associate Justice of the Supreme Court*, **Thurgood Marshall**. As a young lawyer, Marshall argued the 1954 *Brown vs. the Board of Education* case before the Supreme Court.

Inner city sections where black people lived became known as ghettos in the 1960s. Frustration with poor living conditions, gangs, and crime led to a series of riots. The black ghetto of Watts in Los Angeles erupted with violence with 1965, and Detroit saw fires and looting in the summer of 1967. Congress responded by passing the **Fair Housing Act** in 1968, which *prohibited discrimination in renting or selling houses*. Despite the good intentions of these laws, many problems remained.

**Various reactions to civil rights.** During the civil rights movement, many Southerners resented federal officials telling their state and

local governments what to do. Most black and white Southerners had long lived together in harmony; they had been taught to accept segregation as a way of life. However, some people in both the North and South took the law into their own hands. A few belonged to *white supremacist* groups like the **Ku Klux Klan**, and a few belonged to *black supremacist* organizations. The most prominent black supremacist leader of the 1960s, **Malcolm X**, considered Martin Luther King, Jr.'s methods too peaceful and slow. Malcolm X wanted to assert what he called "Black Power," calling for the segregation, or complete separation, of the races to preserve black culture. Radicals like Malcolm X stood in direct opposition to the mainstream civil rights movement led by Martin Luther King, Jr., who supported desegregation (integration) of the races. In 1965, rival **Black Muslim** leaders hired gunmen who murdered Malcolm X. As time went by, many people forgot that Malcolm X had supported violence and racial separation, and he became a symbol of black pride.

**Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy.** Of all the black leaders in the civil rights movement, none has matched the stature of Martin Luther King, Jr. in people's minds. King insisted on **nonviolent demonstrations** to end discrimination. He once said, "Don't let anyone pull you so low as to hate them." Conservative black Americans supported what he stood for. Unfortunately, Communism and other radical ideas hurt the civil rights movement.

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s teaching that people should break the law in nonviolent ways to bring about change opened the door to other kinds of lawbreaking. When power-hungry individuals stirred up the people, riots terrorized black neighborhoods in the late 1960s. In 1968, while on a visit to Memphis, Tennessee, Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated by a gunman who used the violent atmosphere to justify his own racism. Today, people of all ethnic groups are striving to realize Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream that people be judged by their character rather than by the color of their

skin. It is a dream shared by all Americans of good will and is in accord with Romans 2:11, "For there is no respect of persons with God."

### Vietnam War (1965–1973)

While JFK was still President, the United States began sending soldiers to the Southeast Asian nation of **South Vietnam**. The Communist leader of North Vietnam, *Ho Chi Minh*, with the help of the Soviets and the Red Chinese, had begun a *guerrilla* war against the people of South Vietnam. In guerrilla warfare, small bands of men fight hit-and-run battles with a larger army.

Concerned Americans believed in the **domino theory** of Communism in the poorer



areas of the world. President Eisenhower had first used this term while referring to Southeast Asia. He said all of the countries there were like a row of standing dominoes. South Vietnam was the first domino, and the Communists were trying to knock it over. If South Vietnam fell, all of the others—Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Burma, Indonesia—would fall, too. Lesser developed nations were especially vulnerable to Communism. Foreign policy planners began to refer to the poorest nations as the “Third World.”

**The Gulf of Tonkin.** Communist guerrillas, called **Viet Cong**, terrorized innocent South Vietnamese villagers, forcing men, women, and children to help them. The Viet Cong sometimes equipped little children with explosives and sent them on suicide missions against unsuspecting American soldiers who had come to liberate the villages. In 1964, the North Vietnamese navy *allegedly* attacked American ships in the **Gulf of Tonkin**. President Johnson used this incident to obtain permission from Congress to increase our military presence in South Vietnam, which would put the United States at war in Vietnam.

President Johnson wanted to fight the Communists in South Vietnam, but Congress refused to allow American forces to take the offensive and invade Communist North Vietnam. Congress opposed a clear military victory, and the President himself wavered in

his commitment because he did not want military spending to interfere with social welfare programs.

Under President Johnson, the United States sent some 500,000 American soldiers to South Vietnam to defend freedom in a *no-win conflict* known as the **Vietnam War**. These men fought bravely, but they were not allowed to win. Conservative Americans felt that if the military had been allowed to fight the war as it should have been fought, fewer people would have been killed and Communism would have been defeated in that part of the world.

**The Tet Offensive.** Congress’s refusal to allow the American military to take an offensive position and fight to win was exposed in early 1968 when the Viet Cong began a series of devastating battles known as the **Tet Offensive**. As American and South Vietnamese troops suffered heavy casualties, it became clear that unless Congress allowed the troops to invade North Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia and wipe out the Communist guerrillas and their war factories, the Vietnam conflict would never end.

**Betrayals all around.** Although Congress refused to allow the needed military action, American and South Vietnamese forces managed to hold the Communists back. But Communist troops from North Vietnam continued to pour into the South, and European countries who sympathized with the Communists continued to supply North Vietnam with food and

## GREAT AMERICANS

### Chappie James: Vietnam War Hero

Of the black officers in the United States military, **General Daniel (“Chappie”) James** (1920–1978), from Pensacola, FL, distinguished himself in Korea and flew 78 combat missions in Vietnam. In 1974, he became the first black man in the history of the United States armed forces to achieve the rank of four-star general.



medical supplies. *Some conservatives felt that Communist sympathizers in high-ranking government positions were deliberately hindering the U.S. military's ability to achieve a victory in Vietnam.*

During the Vietnam years, patriotism hit an all-time low in America. Liberal and rebellious young people on college campuses across the United States demonstrated against the war. Some burned U.S. flags to demonstrate their defiance and hatred toward America. Many college students and professors openly avowed their Communist belief or sympathy. Frustrated with the slow progress of the war, many Americans began to oppose the struggle for freedom in South Vietnam.

**Rebellion, protests, and rock music.** As the war in Vietnam dragged on, college campuses were plagued with **riots, war protests, flag burning, and other anti-American activities**. Some young men dodged the draft (requirement of men to register and be available for military service) and refused to fight. They went to Canada or European countries to escape being drafted into military service.

Many young people turned to drugs and immoral lifestyles; these youth became known as **hippies**. They went without bathing, wore dirty, ragged, unconventional clothing, and deliberately broke all codes of politeness or manners. Rock music played an important part in the hippie movement and had great influence over the hippies. Many of the rock musicians they followed belonged to Eastern religious cults or practiced Satan worship.

*Hippies*



*Vietnam War protests*

### CHECK UP

1. What were John Dewey's beliefs concerning education?
2. What court decisions concerning public schools were made in 1962 and 1963? What atheist worked to remove all mention of God from public schools?
3. What was President Johnson's social welfare program called?
4. What civil rights acts were passed to ensure blacks the right to vote?
5. What precedents were set by Robert Weaver and Thurgood Marshall?
6. What did Malcolm X stand for? Who assassinated him in 1965?
7. What happened in 1964 to bring America into the Vietnam War? Who were the Viet Cong?
8. How did some Americans show their disapproval of the Vietnam War?

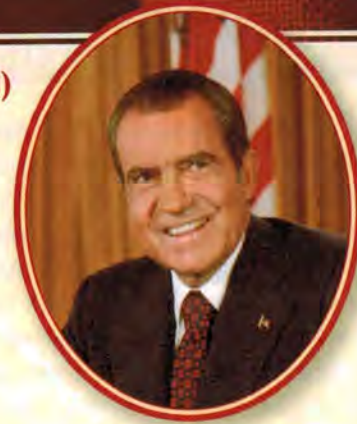
**Identify:** ACLU, Lyndon Baines Johnson, Barry M. Goldwater, HUD, ghetto, Fair Housing Act, domino theory, Third World, Chappie James, Tet Offensive, hippies

### *Into the Seventies*

#### **President Richard Nixon (1969–1974)**

In March 1968, President Johnson addressed the nation, saying that he wanted peace talks to end the Vietnam War. Toward

## PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

**Richard M. Nixon (1913–1994)****Years of Presidency:** 1969–1974**Vice Presidents:** Spiro Theodore Agnew (1st term and partial 2nd term), Gerald Ford (end of 2nd term)**Political party:** Republican**State of residence when elected:** New York**Remembered for being the only President to resign from office****Major events during Presidency:** Watergate affair; voting age lowered to 18; cease-fire between U.S./N. Vietnam and S. Vietnam; first men to walk on moon*37th President*

the end of his speech he made a surprise announcement—he was not going to run for reelection. With LBJ out of the running, several Democratic candidates contended for the Presidential election campaign. **Robert F. Kennedy**, JFK's brother, emerged as the strongest Democratic contender for the Presidency, but while campaigning in the 1968 Presidential primary in California, he was *assassinated* by **Sirhan Biashara Sirhan**. Thus, Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey ran against the Republican candidate **Richard M. Nixon**, and Governor **George C. Wallace** of Alabama ran on a third party ticket. Nixon, who had lost to JFK in 1960, won the Presidential election.

### The Environmental Movement

**Nature worship.** The Nixon era saw the rise of the environmental movement. God has built into the human heart an understanding that there is more to the universe than merely "matter in motion." Because everyone is inclined to worship something, **pantheism** (the worship of nature) has always appealed to mankind. In the 1970s, the spiritual emptiness brought about by evolution and other liberal ideas caused many people, including some scientists, to put their faith in a kind of pantheism called **New Age environmental-**

**ism.** In 1970, the first international "Earth Day" was celebrated. Earth Day continues to be a major celebration for the environmental movement.

**Conservation.** Most Americans were rightly concerned about clean air and water and wanted to practice wise stewardship of our nation's natural resources. They also realized that technology and development had improved their lives. They agreed with Teddy Roosevelt that preservation of the wilderness should be balanced with conservation practices.

**Political environmentalism.** But some radical environmentalists began to view mankind as the enemy of nature. They became more concerned with preserving nature than with nature benefiting mankind. Radical environmentalists seemed to worship nature.

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"Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, . . . they . . . changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things."  
Romans 1:21–23

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By the 1970s, **political environmentalists** had enough support to pass laws that

## America Puts a Man on the Moon

In 1969, astronaut Neil Armstrong became the *first man to walk on the moon*. Millions of people watched by live telecast as he stepped out of the lunar lander onto the dusty surface of the moon. His first words were, *“That is one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.”* The moon mission did not reveal clues to the origin of the universe as some had hoped it would. After almost a day of experimenting, collecting, and exploring, the astronauts returned as national heroes.



hurt private property owners and hindered the advance of technology. Building contractors, business owners, and home owners had severe restrictions placed on the use of their property as costly government inspections, licenses, fees, and regulatory agencies brought tight government controls.

### Abandonment of Vietnam

Nixon promised to get America out of Vietnam by training the South Vietnamese to fight for themselves, but most military men did not think his plan would work. In 1969, President Nixon began withdrawing American troops from South Vietnam, but in April 1970, he admitted that he had ordered American troops into Cambodia to destroy Communist bases there.

Vietnam War protesters accused the President of going back on his promise to get the troops out of Southeast Asia. Angry and violent demonstrations on college campuses led to the deaths of four students at **Kent State University** in Ohio and two students at **Jackson State College** in Mississippi.

President Nixon increased his efforts to end the war until a cease-fire was finally declared in January 1973. The Communists agreed to re-

turn all American prisoners of war; however, it is doubtful that all were returned. Many MIAs (soldiers missing in action) were never accounted for. Americans were alarmed to hear about the brainwashing tactics and inhumane tortures used by the North Vietnamese Communists on American prisoners of war. By March 1973, all American troops were out of Vietnam. More than 57,000 Americans lost their lives in the Vietnam War. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial, in Washington, D.C., commemorates each of these brave men by name.

**Fall of South Vietnam.** Without American support, South Vietnam fell to the Communists, who quickly extended their control to **Cambodia** and **Laos**. Despite the Communists' promise not to harm the people of South Vietnam, thousands were killed, imprisoned, and tortured. In Cambodia, the Communists sought to destroy families and private property by murdering over 2½ million men, women, and children.

**Voting age lowered.** One result of the Vietnam conflict was the **26th Amendment** (1971), which *lowered the voting age from 21 years to 18 years of age*. Eventually, the military draft ended, and only volunteers enlisted in the armed services.



### Other Foreign Affairs under Nixon

**SALT I.** President Nixon made several important agreements with Communist countries. His National Security Adviser **Henry Kissinger** (1923–) negotiated the cease-fire in Vietnam. Both Nixon and Kissinger insisted on a policy called **détente** [dâ'tânt'], a French word that means to “relax tensions.” President Nixon wanted détente with the Soviet Union. In 1972, Nixon and Kissinger agreed to the **Strategic Arms Limitation Talks treaty** (SALT I) with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev [brëzh'nyef: 1906–1982]. Under this treaty, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed to limit the production of nuclear arms; however, the Soviets did not keep the treaty.

**Nixon visits Communist China.** While the United States withdrew from Vietnam, Henry Kissinger began negotiations with the Communists in Red China. Nixon and Kissinger believed that cooperation between the United States and Red China would weaken the Soviet Union's influence in the world. The two men played a very dangerous game of pitting one Communist power against an-

other. But to please China, the United States had to abandon the Free Chinese of Taiwan. In February 1972, President Nixon visited Communist China and set the stage for future relations, trade, and military planning with that nation.

**The Middle East.** Hostilities between the Israelis and the Arabs continued in the Middle East. While President Johnson was still in office, Egypt, Jordan, and Syria had attacked Israel in June 1967. Israel won a strong victory in the **Six-Day War**, capturing the Sinai Peninsula, the West Bank of Jordan—including Jerusalem—and the Golan Heights in Syria. Humiliated by their defeat, the Arabs turned to the Soviet Union for more arms, and the United States responded by sending weapons to Israel.

On October 6, 1973, Egypt, Syria, and Jordan again attacked Israel. The Arabs showed their contempt for the Jews by attacking on the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur. With their new Soviet weapons, the Arabs appeared to be winning, but President Nixon arranged for an emergency shipment of Ameri-



*Nixon and  
Brezhnev at  
SALT I talks (1972)*

can arms to Israel. In the **Yom Kippur War**, the Israelis drove the Egyptians back and prepared to invade Egypt. **Henry Kissinger**, who was now Secretary of State, arranged a truce, and the UN sent forces to patrol the borders between Egypt and Israel.

**OPEC oil crisis.** Concern for the environment was especially strong in regard to exploring new sources of oil. Vast amounts of oil had been discovered along Alaska's North Slope in 1968, but environmental extremists prevented oil companies from obtaining government approval to develop these reserves. In the early 1960s, the oil-producing nations of the Middle East had formed **OPEC** (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries), a monopoly designed to control the supply and price of their oil. When, in 1973, the United States rushed to Israel's defense against Arab aggressors in the Yom Kippur War, OPEC cut off all oil exports to the United States. Because America had grown dependent on imported oil, the **Arab oil embargo** sent the American economy into a serious recession. Communists worldwide began to predict the downfall of the United States and other Western economies.

**The Trans-Alaska Pipeline.** In the face of this emergency, Congress acted in 1974 and permitted several large oil companies to build the 800-mile-long **Trans-Alaska Pipeline**, extending from the North Slope to the southern shore of Alaska. The first oil was shipped to California, via the pipeline and the port of Valdez, in 1977. The pipeline decreased America's dependence on foreign oil somewhat, but the actions of OPEC continued to affect the American economy.

### Domestic Developments under Nixon

**The Nixon economy.** During the oil embargo, OPEC had raised the price of oil from \$2 to \$11 a barrel. Thus, when the embargo ended in 1974, the United States faced higher prices for oil than ever before. As the price of oil continued to climb, the American economy slowed down and entered a **recession**. Even

before the price of oil increased, government spending on the *Vietnam War and welfare programs had run up a huge national debt*. To cover this debt, the government printed more money, decreasing the value of the dollar and causing prices to go up (inflation). President Nixon tried to control inflation by **wage and price controls**, freezing wages and prices for a 90-day period. But when the controls were lifted, inflation continued.

**Court-ordered busing.** The effort to end segregation continued in the 1970s. One very controversial way to end segregation in the schools involved court-ordered busing of students from one school district to another. Parents of all races and ethnic groups were upset that their children no longer attended neighborhood schools. Nixon opposed the busing policy, but Congress voted to continue court-ordered busing.

**A liberal Supreme Court.** The Supreme Court made several liberal decisions in the early 1970s, indicating the moral decline of the nation as a whole. In 1972, the Court ruled against capital punishment, the death penalty for murder. With few exceptions, most states

*Trans-Alaska Pipeline*



abolished the death penalty. Soon, crime began to increase across the nation.

In 1973, just one year later, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of abortion, the killing of babies before birth. The *Roe vs. Wade* decision legalized abortion in the United States, sparking debate and protest around the country.

### The Watergate Affair

In the Presidential election of 1972, Nixon won reelection in a landslide victory over Democratic candidate Senator **George McGovern** of South Dakota, who carried only one state, Massachusetts. Nixon's apparent success in ending America's involvement in Vietnam made him popular with many people. *George Wallace* ran again as a third-party candidate, but an assassination attempt forced him to drop out of the campaign.

Shortly after his reelection, President Nixon began to face problems within his administration. Vice President **Spiro Agnew** resigned from office in 1973, after he admitted to taking bribes and evading his income taxes. By the summer of 1974, several of President Nixon's closest advisers had been convicted of criminal charges involving an illegal break-in of the Democratic National Headquarters in 1972, during Nixon's campaign for reelection. Because the incident occurred in the Watergate building in Washington, D.C., it became known as the **Watergate affair**.

The seven men involved in the Watergate burglary were hired by the Committee for Reelection of the President to look for confidential files that could be used to embarrass the Democrats in the fall election. President Nixon had not known about the break-in, but when his closest aides told him about it, he decided to cover it up. In January 1973, the burglars and two of their directors were brought to trial and found guilty.

Although one of the burglars told the court that the White House was involved, President Nixon still denied any knowledge of a **cover-up**. He even appointed a special prosecutor, Archibald Cox, to see if anyone at the White

House knew about Watergate. By May 1973, the Senate had begun investigative hearings on Watergate. The key question was, "What did the President know?" As the hearings progressed, former Nixon aide John Dean testified that several White House officials were guilty of "dirty tricks" to discredit the Democratic opponents of President Nixon. He also said that the President was guilty of covering up the Watergate affair.

One committee witness revealed that all conversations with the President had been secretly taped. But when the Senate Committee and Archibald Cox asked for the tapes to be released, President Nixon refused, arguing that the tapes contained top secret matters of national security. When Special Prosecutor Cox told Nixon that the investigators needed to hear the tapes, the President fired him. By now, it looked as if Nixon had something to hide. When he finally released the tapes, investigators found that someone had erased 18½ minutes on one of them.

By the spring of 1974, Nixon's former Attorney General John Mitchell and two of the White House aides closest to the President had been accused of taking part in the cover-up. Both were later convicted of obstructing justice and served prison terms. The House Judiciary Committee asked for more tapes. If the House did not get them, the Judiciary Committee would begin impeachment hearings to remove President Nixon from office. Nixon kept the tapes and provided written transcripts of the recording, but the transcripts were incomplete and the committee wanted to hear the omitted material. The Judiciary Committee recommended to the House of Representatives that Nixon be impeached because he had misused Presidential power and obstructed justice. Within days, the Supreme Court ruled that all the tapes be released to the investigators. Rather than release the tapes, President Nixon admitted that the recordings provided evidence of a cover-up. He avoided impeachment and possible conviction by resigning as President on August 9, 1974. **Richard Nixon** was the first President to resign from office.

### CHECK UP

1. Who won the Presidency of 1969? Whom did he defeat?
2. How did political environmentalists hurt private property holders and hinder the advance of technology in the 1970s?
3. Explain what happened at Kent State University and Jackson State College.
4. When was a cease-fire in Vietnam declared? What happened to South Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos?
5. What were some of the highlights of the Nixon administration? Who was his National Security Adviser? What foreign policy did they pursue?
6. What does OPEC stand for? What was its purpose? What was built in 1974 to help decrease American dependence on Arab oil?
7. How did President Nixon try to control inflation? Did it work?
8. What decision was made by the Supreme Court in *Roe vs. Wade*?
9. What was the Watergate affair? What happened to President Nixon's political career as a result of Watergate?

**Identify:** Robert F. Kennedy, Sirhan Biashara Sirhan, pantheism, New Age environmentalism, Neil Armstrong, Six-Day War, Yom Kippur War, George McGovern, Spiro Agnew

## Economic Struggles and International Strife

### President Gerald Ford (1974–1977)

Upon Nixon's resignation in August 1974, Vice President **Gerald R. Ford** became President. Wanting to leave the Watergate affair behind him and get on with the nation's business, President Ford pardoned Richard Nixon for any offenses he might have committed. President Ford wanted to cut back on government spending and social welfare, but Congress refused to cooperate, and the economy suffered.

**South Vietnam falls.** In 1975, the Communists took over all of **South Vietnam**. A terrible bloodbath of Communist-inspired murder and torture followed in the neighboring nation of Cambodia; the Communists soon took control of Laos, as well. About 130,000 Vietnamese managed to escape Communism by fleeing in boats to the United States.

**Franchises and chain stores.** The face of American towns and cities gradually changed as chain stores and franchise businesses multiplied across the country. (A franchise is a permit to market a product or provide a service in a given area.) **Chain stores** such as *Kmart* and

### PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

## Gerald R. Ford (1913–2006)

**Years of Presidency:** 1974–1977

**Vice President:** Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller

**Political party:** Republican

**State of residence when elected:** Michigan

**Remembered for** being the only President who never won a national election

**Major events during Presidency:** U.S. bicentennial (200th birthday) in 1976; *Vikings I* and *II* land on Mars



38th President

## LESSONS FROM HISTORY

## Alexander Solzhenitsyn: Russian Exile and Author



The Russian writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn [sôl' zhe·nēt'sîn], who was deported from the Soviet Union for opposing Communism through his writings, came to live in the United States in 1976. While imprisoned in a slave labor camp in Russia, he had written several novels, including *One Day in the Life of Ivan* (1962) and *The Gulag Archipelago, 1918–56*, in which he exposed the human cruelty of the Communist system. His works were published in the Free World, without Communist approval. When they became famous, the Communists exiled him.

Solzhenitsyn had profound things to say to the people of America. When asked why the evil system of Communism was in the world today he replied, "Men

have forgotten God; that's why all this has happened."

Commenting on the decline of morality and traditional values in the United States, Solzhenitsyn said,

Evil makes its home in the individual human heart before it enters a political system.

Atheist teachers in the West are bringing up a younger generation in a spirit of hatred of their own society.

All attempts to find a way out of the plight of today's world are fruitless unless we direct our consciousness, in repentance, to the Creator of all.

later *Wal-Mart* became common. Wal-Mart's founder, **Sam Walton**, started with one small store in Arkansas. As his store prospered, he opened others until Walton became one of the wealthiest men in the world.

The golden arches of **McDonald's** also became a popular American landmark. Most Americans could afford the inexpensive hamburgers and French fries sold by this *fast food* chain, making it a favorite for families with children.

**Sunbelt states.** During the 1970s, people from Midwestern and Northeastern states moved to the warm and sunny climate of the **Sunbelt**—places like Florida, Texas, Arizona, or California. A large number moved to the Sunbelt to retire. Others found work there because the area encouraged industry with lower taxes and less labor union activity.

**1976 bicentennial.** The highlight of the 1970s was the *bicentennial celebration* of 1976. Cities and towns across the nation observed

our country's 200th birthday with patriotic celebrations, reviving a spirit of patriotism in America. Some hoped that our nation would regain her earlier strength.

### President Carter (1977–1981)

**The best intentions.** By 1977, Americans were ready for a change and elected **James (Jimmy) Carter**, a farmer and former governor of Georgia who had no ties to Washington politics. Jimmy Carter was the *first man from the Deep South to win the Presidency since Zachary Taylor* in 1848. Carter's active involvement in his church as a Sunday school teacher showed that he was a man of good intentions, but he often lacked discernment of character and failed to recognize the sinful nature of man. This weakness quickly became evident in his foreign policy and his confidence in the United Nations.

**Giving up the Panama Canal.** In 1977, President Carter followed the desire of the

United Nations and negotiated the surrender of the *Panama Canal Zone* to the military dictator of Panama. This gave Communists around the world the idea that the United States had given up on its policy to protect Central America from Communism, which led to increased terrorism in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

**Energy and economic woes.** By 1977, many Americans wanted to end the nation's dependency on imported oil. President Carter encouraged the development of **solar energy** (energy from the power of the sun). *Atomic power plants offered a solution to the energy problem*, but many environmental groups opposed nuclear development. In 1979, an accident at the nuclear power plant at **Three Mile Island**, near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, gave the environmentalists the "support" they were looking for. Although no one was injured in the accident, part of the plant was contaminated with radioactive material and the entire facility closed down. Careful safety precautions and advanced technology made it impossible for a reactor to explode or contaminate a wide area, but environmentalists insisted that nuclear plants were dangerous. With new environmental regulations, the atomic energy program was cut back, and private industry stopped building nuclear plants.

**Runaway inflation.** Under President Carter, the government continued to print more money to pay for social welfare programs. As the government spent more than it took in, it created a serious **budget deficit** and encouraged inflation. The price of oil also encouraged inflation. From 1977 to 1981, OPEC increased the price of oil by 250 percent. In addition to gas for cars and trucks, Americans bought many plastic and chemical products made from petroleum (oil). As prices for oil rose, the price of consumer goods also increased.

Labor unions demanded more pay to offset the rising cost of living, but labor productivity fell as union workers received more pay for less work. All of these factors contributed to a high rate of inflation which hurt the economy. The inflation rate had reached record levels by 1980. America was in serious financial trouble.

**Troubles in Nicaragua.** In 1979, a group known as the **Sandinistas** overthrew the dictatorship of *Anastasio Somoza* in Nicaragua. The Somoza family had ruled Nicaragua for many years, and their corrupt policies had hurt the Nicaraguan people. The Sandinista movement originally included many sincere people who wanted to end dishonesty in the government, but radicals within the movement organized a Communist guerrilla army, armed with weapons from the Soviet Union and Cuba and staged an uprising, forcing Somoza to flee the country.

## PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

### James E. Carter (1924–)

**Years of Presidency:** 1977–1981

**Vice President:** Walter Frederick Mondale

**Political party:** Democratic

**State of residence when elected:** Georgia

**Remembered for** negotiating the Camp David Accords between Israel and Egypt

**Major events during Presidency:** Surrender of Panama Canal; Iran hostage crisis



*39th President*

Once the Sandinistas were in power, the United States urged them to allow free elections and set up a democratic government, but the Communists seized control and eliminated the conservative Sandinistas. Some were killed, while others fled the country, lived in fear under the Communists, or joined a resistance movement of freedom fighters known as the **Contras**.

**Many troubles.** In 1979, President Carter announced the signing of the **SALT II agreement**, an attempt to establish equality in missile systems between the United States and the Soviet Union. But while the treaty waited for Senate approval, trouble erupted in the Middle East and Asia.

Many nations had begun to regard the United States as a weak nation. In 1979, a revolution deposed the anti-Communist **Shah of Iran**. Iranian rebels under the **Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini**, a Muslim religious leader, captured the American embassy in Tehran, the Iranian capital, and took American diplomatic personnel hostage. President Carter and Congress failed to help the Shah restore his government and secure the release of the American hostages.

*Ayatollah Khomeini*



*Carter with Begin and Sadat at Camp David (1979)*

By 1980, the United States had reached a historic low in its ability to defend freedom, encouraging the Soviet Union to invade the nation of Afghanistan. The Senate rejected the SALT II agreement, and President Carter learned a lesson—Communists cannot be trusted.

**Treaty between Egypt and Israel.** At the **Camp David Peace Accords (1979)**, President Carter persuaded the leader of Egypt, Anwar Sadat, and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin to agree to a peace treaty. *For the first time in over 2,000 years, Jews and Arabs sat down together and negotiated a peace treaty.*

### **Summary: From the '50s to the '70s**

Throughout the *1940s and 1950s*, the moral restraints of biblical values had provided a system of law and order that Americans honored. Because "Righteousness exalteth a nation," America enjoyed great progress and prosperity during this time. In the *1960s and the 1970s*, however, the nation began to decline both spiritually and economically. As the philosophy of secular humanism spread, a spirit of rebellion swept across America, encouraging alcohol and drug abuse and immorality among the nation's youth. Declining moral standards led to a breakdown of families and a decrease in patriotism. Economic troubles accompanied America's moral failure, for a vast welfare system had developed, making many people dependent

on the government and burdening hard-working Americans with excessive taxes. Taxes and government regulations on business further hindered economic growth, while inflation continued to rise. By 1980, America was in desperate need of new leadership. Without a return to

traditional values, biblical morality, and responsible government, the nation would continue to decline. Thus, as the Presidential election of 1980 approached, many conservatives and Christians began to take political action.

### CHECK UP

1. Who became President when Nixon resigned? How did he put Watergate behind him?
2. Name several franchise chains that grew in the 1970s.
3. Who became President in 1977? Where was he from?
4. What type of power did President Carter promote? What happened at Three Mile Island? What did this do to the atomic energy program?
5. Who overthrew the Somoza family of Nicaragua?
6. What happened in Iran in 1979?
7. What foreign policy success did President Carter achieve at Camp David? How was this a historic event?

**Identify:** South Vietnam, Sunbelt, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, 1976, Panama Canal Zone, Contras, SALT II, Anwar Sadat, Menachem Begin

## CHAPTER 22 REVIEW

**PEOPLE** *Know the following individuals and be able to explain their importance to American history.*

1. John Dewey
2. Madalyn Murray O'Hair
3. Lyndon Baines Johnson
4. Robert Weaver
5. Thurgood Marshall
6. Malcolm X
7. Martin Luther King, Jr.
8. Daniel "Chappie" James
9. Robert F. Kennedy
10. Sirhan Biashara Sirhan
11. Richard M. Nixon
12. Neil Armstrong
13. Henry Kissinger
14. Spiro Agnew
15. Gerald R. Ford
16. James "Jimmy" Carter
17. Alexander Solzhenitsyn

18. Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini
19. Anwar Sadat and Menachem Begin

**PLACES** *Know the following places and their significance.*

1. Gulf of Tonkin
2. Three Mile Island

**TERMS** *Define the following terms.*

1. progressive education
2. ACLU
3. Great Society
4. Civil Rights Act of 1964
5. 24th Amendment
6. HUD
7. Vietnam War
8. domino theory
9. "Third World"
10. Viet Cong
11. Tet Offensive
12. New Age Environmentalism



## CHAPTER 22 REVIEW

13. 26th Amendment
14. détente
15. Strategic Arms Limitation Talks treaty (SALT I)
16. Six-Day War
17. Yom Kippur War
18. OPEC
19. Arab oil embargo
20. Alaska Pipeline
21. *Roe vs. Wade*
22. Watergate affair
23. SALT II
24. Camp David Peace Accords
25. Iran hostage crisis

**EVENTS** *Memorize each date and event.*

- 1962—Supreme Court removes prayer from public schools.
- 1963—Supreme Court bans Bible reading from public schools.

1965–1973—Vietnam War

1974—Watergate affair

1975—South Vietnam falls to Communists.

**CRITICAL THINKING** *On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions using complete sentences.*

1. Why did the Christian school movement begin? How did John Dewey and Madalyn Murray O'Hair contribute to public education's decline?
2. Who were key leaders in the Civil Rights movement? What did these leaders believe?
3. Why did the U.S. military command say the Vietnam conflict would never end? How did many in America react to the Vietnam conflict?
4. How can extreme environmentalism hurt American growth and prosperity?



# Which Way, America? 1980–2000

## — The Reagan Era and the '90s —



### HIGHLIGHTS



- President Ronald Reagan
- Conservative Movement of the 1980s
- End of Cold War
- Persian Gulf War
- President George Bush
- President Bill Clinton
- America's "Melting Pot"

Americans approached the Presidential elections of 1980 feeling that something had to be done to restore the United States' image at home and abroad. The hostages were still being held in Iran, and Communism was spreading throughout the world, especially in Latin America. Burdened by heavy taxation and welfare spending, the country suffered from rampant inflation and economic recession. President Carter had failed both in foreign and domestic affairs, and the nation was ready for a change.

### *A Return to Peace through Strength*

#### **President Ronald Reagan (1981–1989)**

*Patriotic revival.* As the election approached, the Republican party chose **Ronald Reagan**, former governor of California, to oppose Democratic President Jimmy Carter. Reagan, a popular movie actor from 1937 to 1957, was already well known to many Americans. He told the people that he wanted to return America to her traditional values and to restore her military strength at home and abroad. He expressed a special concern for the problem of abortion, saying,

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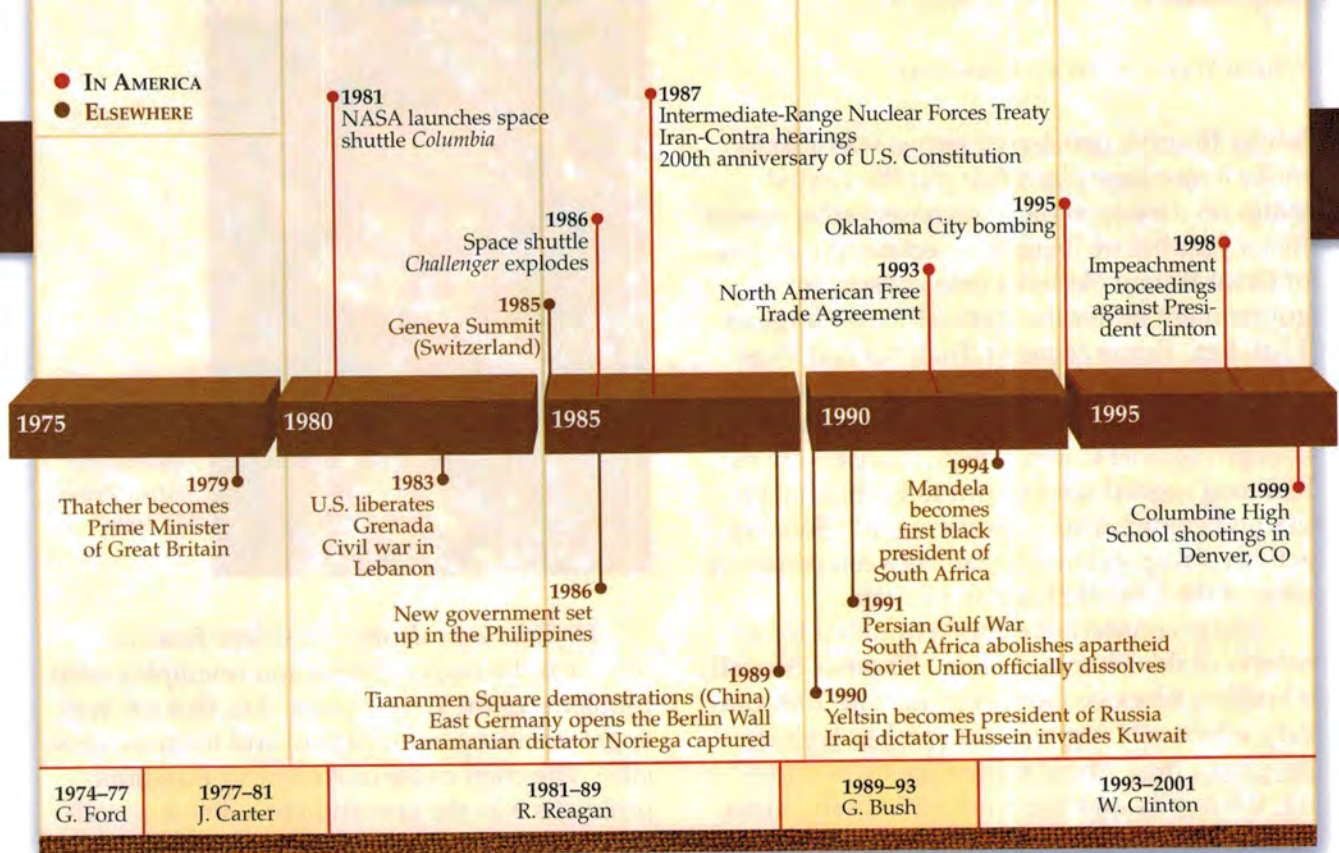
We cannot diminish the value of one category of human life, the unborn, without diminishing the value of all human life.... There is no cause more important.

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Ronald Reagan emphasized the need for America to rebuild her defenses and to take a strong stand against Communism around the world. He promised to revive America's strength, dignity, and pride. Many referred to him as the *Great Communicator* because of his effective speaking ability.

*Political action groups.* Many Christians became more actively involved in the political process as the election approached by educating people on the issues, encouraging people to vote, and taking responsibility to vote themselves. They called for a return to traditional values, knowing that without such a change, America stood in danger of being washed away by a tide of runaway inflation, immorality, crime, drug abuse, and Communism. Several conservative *political action groups* formed to support candidates for public office. The **Moral Majority**, the largest of these groups, and other politically influential people, including Constitutional lawyer **Phyllis Schlafly** [shlāf'lē], backed Ronald Reagan for President.

*Reagan becomes President.* Ronald Reagan won the election by a landslide, receiving 483 electoral votes to Carter's 49. At the age of 69, he was *the oldest man to be elected President* of the United States. Reagan was inaugurated on January 20, 1981, the same day that the 52 American hostages in Tehran, Iran, were released after 444 days of captivity. The Iranians released the hostages for fear that President



Reagan would keep his promise to use military action to free them.

In his first inaugural address, Ronald Reagan described the economic plight of our nation.

These United States are confronted with an economic affliction of great proportions. We suffer from the longest and one of the worst sustained inflations in our na-

*President Ronald Reagan*



tional history. . . . Idle industries have cast workers into unemployment. . . . Those who do work are denied a fair return for their labor by a tax system which penalizes successful achievement and keeps us from maintaining full productivity. . . . But great as our tax burden is, it has not kept pace with public spending. For decades we have piled deficit upon deficit, mortgaging our future and our children's future for the temporary convenience of the present. To continue this long trend is to guarantee tremendous social, cultural, political, and economic upheavals.

On March 30, 1981, just 2 months after his inauguration, President Reagan was shot by a young man named John Hinckley, Jr., while walking from a Washington hotel to his car. Hinckley fired several shots from a revolver, hitting the President and three other men. After being rushed to surgery, Reagan made a rapid recovery and was soon back at work in the Oval Office.

***The conservative movement.*** Ronald Reagan, the first President since Dwight Eisen-

hower to serve two 4-year terms, was able to make long-range plans that put the United States on a more stable and conservative course. Just a year before Reagan's election, the people of Great Britain elected a new conservative government under the leadership of **Margaret Thatcher**. Prime Minister Thatcher and President Reagan shared the same vision of strong traditional values, limited government, and strength against Communism. Conservatives had long argued for a return to traditional values and common-sense government. Soon an active correspondence began between conservatives in the United States and Britain.

Many conservative thinkers called for a reform of the welfare system. **Thomas Sowell**, a brilliant black economist of the late 20th century, effectively argued that careless welfare programs hurt ethnic minorities by destroying the family and the work ethic in the inner cities. Sound conservative thinking flourished during the Reagan years, complimented by a strong foreign policy.

**Reaganomics.** Reagan stressed that: (1) budgets should be balanced, (2) the money supply should be stable—many wanted it to be backed by gold—and (3) trade and business should be free from government regulation. Critics labeled these concepts "**Reaganomics**," not realizing that Reagan's ideas were part of the traditional principles that had made America great.

*Thomas Sowell*  
U.S. conservative



*Margaret Thatcher*  
conservative  
British Prime  
Minister

**Deficits and debts.** President Reagan inherited the high inflation and unemployment problems of the Carter years. His first job was to get inflation under control and to create new jobs. The chief cause of America's economic problems was the government's deficit spending. The federal government had a **budget deficit** because it had long *spent more money than it received in taxes* and borrowed to cover the difference. It borrowed this money from private citizens and foreigners who earned interest on these loans. During the Carter years, as the government continued to print more money to meet its obligations, *inflation soared*. When American industry could not get the money, or capital, needed for new investment and technology, *unemployment increased*. After having 12 yearly deficits in a row the United States had a huge **national debt** (the *total* amount owed from past deficits) of over a **trillion** dollars. President Reagan fought inflation and unemployment by reducing government spending and decreasing taxes, giving private individuals more money to invest in the economy. *He cut \$35 billion out of the federal budget for 1981.*

**Cutting taxes and creating jobs.** President Reagan's popularity with the American people convinced Congress to enact the largest tax cut in American history—25% over a 3-year period. Because the average American had more money to spend, the economy began to grow, creating more jobs. *By the end of 1982, unemployment had dropped from 11% to 5%.*

The inflation rate also dropped dramatically—from 12% (1980) to 4% (1984). Some of this drop was due to the falling price of oil. President Reagan lifted government price controls on domestic oil and gas, causing an increase in the supply and giving companies incentive to drill for more oil. New energy-saving technology also cut down on the amount of oil and gas needed to heat buildings and run cars.

**Federalism.** The system of government in which decision making is equally shared among national, state, and local governments is called *federalism*. President Reagan wanted the individual states to assume more responsibility for government programs. This policy, called the **New Federalism**, met with limited success, however, because many people still wanted to depend on the federal government to solve their problems.

**Defeat of the ERA.** In 1982, the **feminist** movement made a final push to add the **Equal Rights Amendment** (ERA) to the Constitution. The feminists claimed that the new law would ban discrimination on the basis of sex and called for unrestricted abortion and a role for women in military combat units. Homosexuals began supporting the ERA when feminists agreed that banning discrimination on the basis of sex included sexual orientation. Phyllis Schlafly, who led the opposition to the amendment, insisted that it would lead to the destruction of the family and wipe out special protections already given to women. Congress had already passed the amendment, but it had to be ratified, or approved, by 38 of the 50 states. By June 30, 1982, the deadline for the ERA's ratification, only 35 states had approved it.

### **President Reagan's Second Term**

**The election of 1984.** In the Presidential election of 1984, Ronald Reagan ran against Democrat candidate Walter Mondale, former Vice President under Jimmy Carter. Reagan won the election with a popular vote in 49 of the 50 states.

**Reagan's dilemma.** Despite his efforts, President Reagan was not able to balance the

federal budget. In 1985, Congress passed the *Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act*, designed to balance the federal budget with across-the-board spending cuts over a period of 5 years, but Congress failed to discipline its spending. By 1986, the yearly *deficit* stood at \$200 billion, and the national *debt* stood at \$2 trillion.

**Black Monday.** On October 19, 1987, known as Black Monday, the value of American stocks dropped by \$500 billion. Because the banking system remained sound, the market *recovered its value within 2 years*. But investors were clearly nervous about the long-term effects of the budget deficit and the *trade deficit* (importing or buying more goods than exporting or selling).

**Education.** In the 1980s, the quality of American public education continued to decline and police walked the halls of many public schools to prevent theft, drug use, and violence among students. Some parents enrolled their children in private and Christian schools simply to protect them from physical harm. Others began to practice *home schooling*. Conservative educator and philosopher **William J. Bennett**, the *Secretary of Education* under Ronald Reagan, made strong arguments for the return of morality and discipline to the classroom.

**More and better jobs.** President Reagan attempted to cut welfare spending and reduce government regulation in business, but he faced much opposition from Congress. He did succeed in cutting business taxes, however. When business owners pay fewer taxes to the government, they have more money to build new offices and factories and thus produce more jobs. More and better jobs were produced during the Reagan administration than at any other time in America's history. The Reagan years were the longest period of continuous economic growth since World War II.

**Remaining competitive.** When people have jobs and can keep most of their money rather than having it taxed away, they have the freedom to spend or invest. This financial freedom allows people to be more self-sufficient, instills a sense of responsibility, and

rewards their efforts to better themselves. When people have money to spend and invest, the economy thrives, technology advances, and jobs remain secure, giving American businesses an advantage in the world marketplace. *Under President Reagan, lower taxes and less government regulation benefited all Americans.*

## New Technologies

**Computer science.** One of the fastest-growing industries in the 1980s was computer technology. At first, International Business Machines (**IBM**) dominated the computer industry; but hundreds of new computer firms soon began competing with IBM and with each other. The computer industry was greatly helped by the development of **microchips**, tiny electronic components which made it possible to build smaller computers. Whereas the earliest computers filled entire rooms with miles of wiring and tubes which cost millions of dollars, the new computers were small and less expensive. By the 1980s, **hand-held calculators** could solve more problems than earlier computers that weighed 30 tons.

**Medical wonders.** New medical technology improved people's health. The average **life span**, which had been 49 years in 1900, increased to about **73 years** by the 1990s. Computer-guided **scanners** permitted physicians to view the inside of the human body and to diagnose medical problems without exploratory surgery. Physicians in rural areas could transmit information to large medical centers in cities and seek the expert medical opinion of specialists hundreds of miles away.

Although great advances were made in the area of **organ transplants** (body parts taken from donors), computer technology opened up a new alternative—**bionic medicine**, the science of man-made organ and limb replacements, including such things as **heart pacemakers** and **miniature implants** to stimulate hearing, touch, and even vision. The new science of **biotechnology** developed as scientists

began to alter the genetic structure of plants, animals, and humans.

**Lasers.** Lasers went from being a space-age wonder to a practical tool in the 1980s. In supermarkets, clerks used lasers to read computer-coded price tags. Laser technology proved very useful in medicine, industry, and the military. For years, surgeons had used fine knives called scalpels to cut into the body, but lasers made it possible to direct beams of highly concentrated light into the body to vaporize diseased tissue or weld together parts of the human eye. Factories used lasers to cut, weld, measure, and carry telephone messages. Military applications included laser-guided missiles and other weaponry. By the 1990s, many Americans would be using lasers every day in such familiar devices as CD and DVD players.

**Computer electronics.** Computers also transformed homes in the 1980s. Appliances began to “think” with tiny computer chips, monitoring temperature, speed, and other factors in everything from dishwashers to microwave ovens. Computer voices reminded people to buckle car seat belts, turn off lights, and add bleach to the wash.

*Advanced medical technology*



## PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

**Ronald Reagan (1911–2004)****Years of Presidency:** 1981–1989**Vice President:** George H. W. Bush**Political party:** Republican**State of residence when elected:** California**Remembered for** being the most conservative President in half a century and for his great speaking ability, for which he was called the “Great Communicator”**Major events during Presidency:** Iran-Contra hearings; explosion of space shuttle *Challenger**40th President*

**Remote controls** were used to open garage doors, activate lawn sprinklers, select and record television programs on **video-tapes**, and check telephone **answering machines**. Also common were **cellular phones**, **FAX machines**, and **PCs (personal computers)**, which were used to organize everything from recipes to finances.

**Robotics.** In industry, computers took over many jobs, including many that were difficult and dangerous to perform. A new science called **robotics** produced machines that could handle hazardous chemicals, assemble everything from cars to computers, lift goods onto assembly lines, and package them for shipment. The process of increasing efficiency through the use of self-regulating machines is known as **automation**. Automation not only lowered the cost of many goods, but it opened up new markets that employed people in more satisfying and productive jobs.

**The Information Age.** Telecommunications satellites in space enabled the average American to access live television broadcasts from around the world through **satellite dishes**. Perhaps the most exciting development in telecommunications came with the introduction of **fiber optics**. Laser beams traveling down thin glass threads (optical fibers) could now carry thousands of tele-

phone signals, television broadcasts, or computer information. A **new information superhighway** began to develop, linking the home, office, laboratory, and factory to all manner of services and information. The American citizen was now influenced more than ever before by the power of the electronic media. Many described this new era of technology as the **Information Age**.

*The space shuttle lifts off Kennedy Space Center in FL*

**Space shuttle Columbia.** In 1981, NASA launched the **first space shuttle**, the *Columbia*, a reusable “space plane” that could carry satellites, telescopes, and other cargo into space and return to Earth like a plane. American technology had triumphed again. The space shuttle program thrived until 1986, when the *Challenger* exploded shortly after launching from Cape Canaveral, Florida. All seven crew members were killed. The explosion of the *Challenger* shocked the nation and slowed down the space program for several years.

### CHECK UP

1. What did Ronald Reagan stand for? What were his goals for America?
2. How did Christians across the country help Reagan win the Presidency? Why?
3. Who became prime minister of Great Britain in 1979? What were her Conservative views?
4. What did Thomas Sowell believe about welfare?
5. What did Reaganomics stress?
6. What were many public schools like in the 1980s?
7. Name several breakthroughs in medical technology.
8. What advancements were made in computer electronics and communication? What is automation?

**Identify:** Great Communicator, Moral Majority, Phyllis Schlafly, New Federalism, IBM, microchips, life span, scanners, robotics, fiber optics, Information Age, space shuttle

### Standing up against Communism and Terrorism

**Strong foreign policy.** President Reagan restored the strength of the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force, enabling the nation to exercise peace through strength. He believed in stopping Communism before it could attack and enslave a country, an idea which became known as the **Reagan Doctrine**.

**Poland.** In 1980, the people of Poland began to protest the tyranny of Communism in their land. Polish nationalists, calling them-

selves the **Solidarity** movement, decided to stand up to the Soviets. In response, the Communists declared **martial law** (military rule) in Poland, and rounded up members of Solidarity to be imprisoned, tortured, and executed. President Reagan denounced this action and expressed support for Solidarity.

**Liberation of Grenada.** In 1983, President Reagan learned that the Cuban dictator *Fidel Castro* planned to take over the island nation of **Grenada** in the West Indies and use it as a military base to invade the mainland of South America. Castro thought that the United States would be too cowardly to resist his plans to conquer Latin America.

A small force of Cuban military men had already arrived in Grenada when the Grenadians and other Caribbean islands called on the United States for help. To prevent a full-fledged Communist invasion, President Reagan sent American troops to Grenada to defend the people. The Grenadians gratefully welcomed the American soldiers to their island. With the help of armed forces from neighboring islands, the Americans quickly rounded up the advance

Troops in Grenada





guard of Cubans and shipped them back to Cuba, saving Grenada and the continent of South America from a Communist invasion.

**El Salvador.** The Soviets and Cubans continued to stir up rebellion and bloodshed in Central America during the 1980s. In addition to large amounts of military and economic aid, President Reagan sent 50 military advisers to the Central American nation of **El Salvador** to prevent a Communist takeover there.

**The South Korean airline tragedy.** In September 1983, a South Korean passenger airliner apparently strayed into Soviet airspace. The Soviets, claiming it was a spy plane, shot it down, killing 269 people, including 60 Americans. President Reagan announced further defense buildups to combat the Communist threat. Soon American weapons were shipped to Afghanistan to help the freedom fighters there resist Soviet forces. The tide of battle turned against the Communists as Afghan freedom fighters began to use American high-tech weapons. **Stinger** missiles supplied by the CIA virtually destroyed the Soviet's fleet of combat helicopters.

**Lebanon.** When a civil war between Arab terrorists and Israeli and Syrian forces threatened to destroy the nation of Lebanon in the early 1980s, the Lebanese government asked the United States, France, and Italy to send in a peace-keeping force to restore order. However, in October 1983, Muslim terrorists drove an explosive-laden truck into the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon. The truck blew up, killing 241 Americans, and the United States withdrew its troops from Lebanon.

**Libyan raid.** Many Muslim terrorists were trained in Libya, where dictator Colonel **Muammar Al Qaddafi** [kə·dă'fē] sponsored international terrorism. In 1986, a bomb exploded near an American military base in West Berlin, killing one American soldier and wounding 50 other people. When President Reagan discovered that Qaddafi was behind this and many other attacks, he promptly sent American warplanes to bomb targets in Libya. After the air strike, the number of terrorist incidents decreased.

**Philippines.** Communist guerrillas made things difficult for the government of the Philippines under President **Ferdinand Marcos**. The toll of government corruption and the expense of fighting the Communists finally led to the collapse of the Marcos government. Rather than support Marcos, the U.S. Congress decided to let him go to Hawaii as a political *exile*. The Filipinos set up a new government under Corazon Aquino in 1986, but their struggle for political stability continued.

**Iran-Contra.** Also in 1986, a group of terrorists supported by Iran seized six Americans in Lebanon and held them hostage. President Reagan agreed to sell some arms to the Iranians if they would help release the hostages, and the **Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)** arranged to use the proceeds (money from the sale) to support the Contra freedom fighters in Nicaragua. Meanwhile, Congress decided to negotiate a peace settlement with the Communists in Nicaragua and outlawed all help to the Contras. Still concerned about the Communist threat in Nicaragua, **Colonel Oliver North** and others arranged the transfer of Iranian funds to the Contras. The **Iran-Contra** hearings in 1987 investigated these events. The Congressional investigating committee said that North had violated the law, but later court trials failed to convict him. Millions of Americans watched

*Colonel Oliver North at Iran-Contra hearings*



the Iran-Contra trials on television. Many believed Colonel North to be a patriotic American who stood up to Communism when Congress refused to do so. Others felt that North was a lawbreaker.

**The INF Treaty.** The new Soviet leader, **Mikhail Gorbachev** [mī·kāl' gôr'bə·chôf': 1931–] met with President Reagan in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1985, and later in Iceland, to discuss a mutual limitation of nuclear arms; as a result, they signed the **Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty** in 1987. The Soviets had placed medium-ranged nuclear missiles in Eastern Europe, and the United States had responded by placing missiles in Great Britain and Germany. Under the INF Treaty, Reagan and Gorbachev agreed to remove their medium-range missiles from Europe.

### The Constitution's 200th Birthday

In 1987, the United States celebrated 200 years of constitutional rule. The Constitution of the United States is one of the *world's greatest documents*. Except for additional amendments, the Constitution remains the same document penned by our Founding Fathers.

### The Decline of the Soviet Union

**Problems caused by Communism.** The Presidency of Ronald Reagan set into motion a chain of historic events. Under his leadership, America strengthened her defenses and pursued research in space-age technology with renewed vigor.



Although the Soviet Union strove desperately to keep up, several obstacles stood in its way. (1) The inefficient system of Communism itself hindered progress because it gave the Communist people little incentive to work hard or improve their skills. (2) The Soviet government spent so much time and resources building weapons that it could not provide basic food, shelter, and clothing for its people, although powerful members of the Communist party enjoyed a high standard of living. (3) The Communists also gave vast amounts of aid to terrorist groups around the world, creating severe financial problems within the Soviet Union. Thus, the “**Evil Empire**,” as Ronald Reagan called it, began to collapse.

**Reagan's challenge.** In 1987, President Reagan visited the city of West Berlin. With the ugly concrete blocks and barbed wire of the Berlin Wall behind him, Reagan addressed a crowd of West German citizens. Motioning toward the Wall of Shame behind him, the President issued a challenge to the Communist leader of the Soviet Union **Mikhail Gorbachev**: “Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!”

**Frightened Communists.** Reagan knew that America's progress in the development of *laser weaponry* alarmed Gorbachev. The Soviet leader was especially concerned about a program called the **Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)**, a system of space-age weaponry designed to destroy enemy missile warheads in flight. *President Reagan had equipped the*

Reagan speaking in Berlin (1987)



*Sandra Day  
O'Connor  
Supreme  
Court justice*



*American military with technological marvels that the bankrupt Soviet economy could not match.*

**Steps toward peace.** Desperate to save the Soviet Union from complete collapse, Mikhail Gorbachev agreed (1) to reduce Soviet weapons strength, (2) to free the enslaved nations of Eastern Europe, and (3) to stop encouraging revolution and bloodshed throughout the world. In return, the United States and other free nations promised to help the Soviet Union rebuild its economic and political system on a democratic, free enterprise model—a plan the Soviets called **Perestroika** [pĕr'ē·stroi'kə], which means “restructuring.” The Communists also adopted a foreign policy known as **Glasnost** [glās'nōst], which means “openness,” claiming that they wanted world peace and had no plans to conquer other countries. However, conservatives in the United States noted that Communist terrorists continued to receive Soviet aid on a reduced scale.

### **The Reagan Legacy**

During his Presidency, Reagan appointed two conservative justices to the Supreme Court, as well as many Federal District Court justices,

who began to interpret the Constitution of the United States more in line with the traditional values of the Founding Fathers. One of Reagan's appointees, Justice **Sandra Day O'Connor**, became the *first woman justice to serve on the high court.*

The President's buildup of American military defenses aided in the collapse of Soviet Communism, and his support of private enterprise caused an economic boom that further weakened the appeal of Communism around the world. As President, Ronald Reagan represented (1) traditional values, (2) less government regulation of private property, and (3) a return to patriotism and military strength.

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### **NATURAL DISASTERS**

- May 1980 **Mount St. Helen's**  
*volcano erupts in Washington*
  - Sept. 1989 **Hurricane Hugo hits**  
*South Carolina and West Indies*
  - Oct. 1989 **San Francisco earthquake**
  - Aug. 1992 **Hurricane Andrew hits**  
*southern Florida*
  - June–Aug. 1993 **Great Flood of 1993**  
*Mississippi River flooding affects 9 states*
  - Jan. 1994 **Los Angeles earthquake**
- 

*Aftermath of Los Angeles earthquake*



**CHECK UP**

1. What was the Reagan Doctrine? How was it applied in Grenada?
2. Where was Ferdinand Marcos president? Why did he go into exile?
3. How was Colonel Oliver North involved in Iran-Contra? Why were arms sold to Iran?
4. Who became the Soviet leader in 1985?
5. Who signed the INF Treaty in 1987? What was the purpose of this treaty?
6. Why was the Soviet Union unable to keep up with American progress?
7. What was Ronald Reagan's challenge to Mikhail Gorbachev in 1987?
8. What was the SDI program?
9. What did Ronald Reagan represent as President?

**Identify:** Solidarity, martial law, El Salvador, Stinger missiles, Muammar Al Qaddafi, CIA, "Evil Empire," Perestroika, Glasnost, Sandra Day O'Connor

***In Reagan's Shadow*****President George H. W. Bush (1989–1993)**

The American people overwhelmingly elected Reagan's Vice President, **George H. W. Bush**, to the Presidency in 1988 over Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts. Former Senator Dan Quayle of Indiana became the new Vice President. President Bush promised to continue the direction that Ronald Reagan had begun.

**Foreign Policy**

**China.** In the spring of 1989, university students in China challenged the Communist regime. A million students and workers gathered in Beijing's (Peking) **Tiananmen Square** in a great demonstration for freedom. To express their desire for freedom, the demonstrators erected a large replica of the Statue of Liberty. The world watched and waited to see how the Chinese government would respond. As many expected, *the Communists sent soldiers to crush the freedom demonstrations* in Tiananmen Square.

Many people were killed, and others were jailed. Once again, the world was reminded of the cruel oppression of Communism.

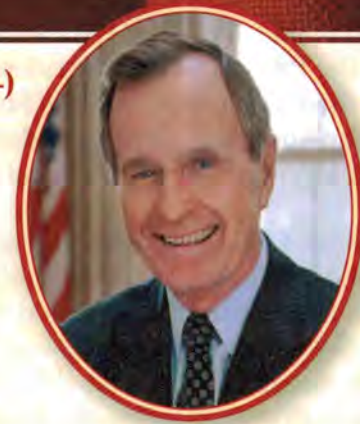
For many years, China had received Most Favored Nation (MFN) trading status, meaning that the United States extended certain trading privileges to China in exchange for the same. After the massacre in Beijing, Congress passed an amendment to withhold MFN status from China. But President Bush believed that the best way to combat Communism in China was through free trade. Thus, Bush continued to grant China MFN trading status in spite of Congressional opposition, *overlooking the Communist tyranny and violation of human rights by the Chinese government*.

**Central America.** In late 1989, President Bush ordered American troops into Panama. The unpopular dictator, **Manuel Noriega** [nôr-yā'gä] not only terrorized the people of Panama but also smuggled illegal drugs into the United States. After American forces captured Noriega and brought him to the United States for trial, the people of Panama held elections for a new leader. By the early 1990s, the financial inability of the former Soviet Union to support Communist terrorists led to a degree of peace and stability in Central America, especially Nicaragua and El Salvador.

*Vice President Dan Quayle  
and President George H. W. Bush*



## PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

**George H. W. Bush (1924–)****Years of Presidency:** 1989–1993**Vice President:** James Danforth Quayle III**Political party:** Republican**State of residence when elected:** Texas**Remembered for** waging war on drugs; improving America's foreign relations**Major events during Presidency:** collapse of Communism in Soviet Union; tearing down of Berlin Wall; Persian Gulf War*41st President*

**South Africa.** In 1989, the South African government released the Communist leader **Nelson Mandela** from prison. Mandela toured the United States in the summer of 1990, claiming to be a moderate socialist. The news media portrayed him as a hero and focused national attention on **apartheid**, South Africa's policy of racial segregation, overlooking the Communist movement that Mandela led. Many nations, including the United States, had imposed *economic sanctions* on South Africa to discourage this policy, preventing trade with that nation. Under pressure from within and without, South Africa finally abolished apartheid in 1991. President Bush lifted economic sanctions, and trade with South Africa resumed.

### **The Collapse of the Soviet Empire**

**The Iron Curtain is lifted.** By 1989, the Communists had lost control of Eastern Europe. Solidarity gained control of the Polish parliament in June; Hungary declared its independence in October; and Czechoslovakia rose up against the Communists in November. East Germany also opened the Berlin Wall in November 1989; millions of Berliners took to the streets to celebrate as young Germans beat sections of the wall down with sledge hammers. In December, Romania overthrew its Communist dictator.

**East and West Germany reunited in October 1990.** By then, every East European nation considered itself independent of the Soviet Union.

**Troop reductions in Europe.** Meanwhile, the United States and the Soviet Union had agreed to a limited troop withdrawal from Europe. Soon Russia withdrew troops from Eastern Europe, and the United States withdrew troops from Western Europe. In the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), signed in 1991, the United States and the Soviet Union also agreed to destroy some of their nuclear weapons.

**Collapse of the Soviet Union.** In May 1990, **Boris Yeltsin**, a reformer, had become the President of the Russian republic, and by July he had resigned from the Communist Party. Fearful of losing its grip over the Russian people, the Communist Party attempted a military *coup* (revolt) against Yeltsin in August of 1991. The coup failed and by December 1991, eleven of the former Soviet Republics banded together to form the Commonwealth of Independent States. The Soviet Union had ceased to exist as a nation.

### **The Persian Gulf War: Operation Desert Storm (1991)**

In August of 1990, **Saddam Hussein** [sä·däm' hōō·sān'], dictator of **Iraq**, invaded

the tiny, oil-rich kingdom of **Kuwait**. Hussein planned to make all of the Arab nations surrounding the Persian Gulf subservient to him. President Bush compared Saddam Hussein to Adolf Hitler—both dictators were determined to conquer innocent people and steal their wealth.

Europe and Japan feared Hussein because he threatened their supply of oil, while the other Arab nations and Israel feared that they would be the next victims of Hussein's aggression. After Israeli secret agents discovered that Hussein was close to developing an atomic bomb, President Bush convinced the United Nations to send troops to liberate Kuwait and protect the other Arab nations.

**Operation Desert Storm begins.** As in past actions of the United Nations, the United States provided most of the military muscle. About 500,000 American troops, including air force and navy units, had been shipped to Saudi Arabia to liberate Kuwait by early 1991. Once President Bush obtained the support of Congress, **Operation Desert Storm** began. UN forces took the offensive and began round-the-clock bombing of Iraqi troop positions. New technology, including highly accurate "smart bombs" and cruise missiles, enabled

the air force to select and destroy military targets without harming the civilian population of Iraq. Using the "high-tech" weapons developed and stockpiled during the Reagan Administration, American and UN forces overwhelmed the Iraqi military.

**Great American generals.** Bush insisted that the war in the Persian Gulf be directed by military men rather than by politicians. He knew that soldiers knew better than politicians how to fight and win a war. Thus President Bush placed **General Colin Powell** in command of Operation Desert Storm. As Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Powell was second in military command only to the President. He now became the spokesman for the military, explaining to the American people exactly what UN forces were doing in the Middle East. At all times, he insisted on taking the offensive and pushing toward total victory to liberate Kuwait with the loss of as few lives as possible. *For the first time since World War II, Congress followed the counsel of a military commander.*



General Colin Powell



General Norman Schwarzkopf with troops in Saudi Arabia

Because General Powell had to remain in Washington, D.C., **General Norman Schwarzkopf** [shwôrts/'kôf] was appointed to lead the troops into combat. General Schwarzkopf inspired great devotion and bravery in his men. He kept the American public and the world aware of the daily events of the war through *television briefings*, beamed by satellite into every corner of the world. He often stated that his main goal in combat was to "minimize risks and save soldiers." Unlike the Vietnam War, the Gulf War had the support of the American people. Patriotism and national unity in America reached an all-time high since World War II.

***Invasion and victory.*** On February 24, 1991, American, British, and French forces, assisted by Saudi and Egyptian forces, invaded Iraq, while Israeli forces stood ready to assist. The army of Iraq crumbled before General Schwarzkopf's brilliant moves on the battlefield; thousands of Iraqi troops surrendered or fled the Allied advance.

Within a few days, Kuwait had been liberated and Saddam Hussein had retreated to a bunker in Baghdad. President Bush did not pursue Hussein any further, because the primary objective, the liberation of Kuwait, had been achieved. Operation Desert Storm was a great triumph for the American military and the cause of freedom. The war lasted only 2½ months—from January 16 to April 6, 1991—making it the shortest war our nation has ever fought. After the brilliant success of Operation Desert Storm, many Americans hailed Bush as a great leader.

### A New Justice

In 1991, President Bush nominated federal judge **Clarence Thomas** to the Supreme Court to replace the retiring Thurgood Marshall. Many liberals opposed the appointment of Thomas because of his conservative views. After much controversy, the Senate confirmed his appointment to the Court.

### Peacekeeping in Somalia

Meanwhile, a civil war in the East African nation of **Somalia** caused widespread starva-

tion among the people of that land. In 1992, televised reports of this horrible situation prompted Congress to send American troops to end the fighting and feed the people. Most Somalians welcomed the troops, but Somali **warlords** (military dictators) resented the presence of U.S. armed forces.

### A Growing National Debt

Although the United States was burdened with a staggering national debt, Congress continued to spend. In 1989, the national debt had totaled \$3 trillion; by 1992, it totaled \$4 trillion. Government spending was out of control, because Congress refused to cut spending. Thinking that the collapse of the Soviet Union signaled a "new world order" for world peace, President Bush cut the defense budget, but this did little to help the national debt and threw many people out of work.

To make matters worse, the **Savings and Loan scandals** cost the taxpayers \$500 billion when careless speculation and illegal accounting procedures led to a number of bank failures, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) was obligated to bail them out.

Seeing no other alternative, President Bush finally agreed to raise taxes in order to keep the government from going further into debt. But it soon became evident that the extra tax revenue would not be used to reduce the national debt, because Congress continued to



*Clarence Thomas*  
Supreme Court  
justice

increase government spending. Many conservatives felt that Bush should have known that raising taxes only encourages more government spending.

### The Media Create a “Crisis”

President Bush sought reelection in 1992 on a platform of traditional values, free enterprise, patriotism, and a strong military defense. He also promised to lower taxes if re-elected. Democratic candidate **William (Bill) Clinton**, governor of Arkansas, and independent candidate **Ross Perot**, a billionaire from Texas, campaigned on an imaginary economic crisis. In reality, the economy was strong and healthy, but the liberal media helped Clinton and Perot create a “*climate of economic crisis*,” warning the American people that only a major change in leadership could save the nation from economic disaster.

#### CHECK UP

1. Who was elected President in 1988?
2. What Communist leader toured America in 1990?
3. Who was Boris Yeltsin? What became of the Soviet Union?
4. Why was Operation Desert Storm such a dramatic success?
5. Who did President Bush choose to direct the war in the Persian Gulf?
6. Who was Clarence Thomas? Why did some oppose his appointment?
7. How did the media influence the election of 1992?

**Identify:** Manuel Noriega, Saddam Hussein, Iraq, Kuwait, Norman Schwarzkopf, Somalia, Savings and Loan scandals, Bill Clinton, Ross Perot

## The '90s Inherit the Legacy of the '60s

### President Bill Clinton (1993–2001)

Concerned by propaganda of an “economic crisis,” many Americans were persuaded that the country needed a change in leadership.



*Bill Clinton gives victory speech after his election.*

Consequently, Democrat **Bill Clinton** won the election of 1992 with a minority of the popular vote. Only 43% of the votes were cast for Clinton; the remaining 57% of the vote was divided between President George Bush and the independent candidate Ross Perot, who campaigned as a conservative. When the election results came in, telecasts showed Perot and his staff celebrating Clinton’s victory. By splitting the conservative vote, Perot helped put Clinton, a strong liberal, into the White House.

**Hillary Rodham Clinton**, who had campaigned with her husband, declared that she intended to share the responsibilities of the Presidency with him. She promised to be as influential as Eleanor Roosevelt, who helped bring about Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal.

With the election of Bill Clinton, the children of the rebellious '60s came to political power, and their values began to influence the lives of many Americans. The Clintons represented the youth of the '60s in many ways. Like a few other young men during the Vietnam War, Bill Clinton had dodged military service and participated in anti-war demonstrations in Great Britain. His wife Hillary



## PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

**William J. Clinton (1946–)****Years of Presidency:** 1993–2001**Vice President:** Albert Gore, Jr.**Political party:** Democratic**State of residence when elected:** Arkansas**Remembered for** signing the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and for his attempts to foster peace in the Mideast between Israel and the Palestinian Liberation Organization and in Northern Ireland between the Catholics and Protestants**Major events during Presidency:** Wars in Somalia, Rwanda, and former Yugoslavia; nuclear threat from North Korea; bombing of World Trade Center; Haitian unrest*42nd President*

was an outspoken advocate of feminism and abortion rights.

***Rumors plague the White House.*** Before and after President Clinton's election, rumors circulated of scandalous behavior, including an adulterous affair and illegal business dealings. In particular, some accused Bill Clinton of using his position as governor of Arkansas to grant special, illegal favors to a real estate firm called the Whitewater Land Development Company. The **Whitewater affair** was assigned a special investigator and scheduled for a Congressional hearing. After six years of investigation, an independent counsel would determine that the evidence was insufficient to convict the Clintons of any wrongdoing. Nevertheless, the scandals of the Clinton Administration so tainted the image of the Democratic party that many Americans voted for Republican candidates in the **1994 Congressional elections**, giving the Republican party control of Congress for the first time in 40 years.

***Private life vs. public office.*** Before the mid-20th century, private life was as important as public life for an elected official. People realized the importance of character in a leader

and voted accordingly. But over the years, spiritual decline has blinded many to the blessings of a righteous ruler (Prov. 29:2), and, as a result, men of weak character have been able to hold public office. This de-emphasis of character was demonstrated in the 1992 Presidential election, which brought Bill Clinton to the White House. When critics brought up his past anti-American activities, marital infidelity, and questionable business practices, the Democratic candidate insisted that his personal affairs had nothing to do with his ability to lead the country. With the help of the media, he focused the nation's attention on economic rather than moral issues and convinced many Americans that a candidate's private life was his own business. As a result, people voted for Bill Clinton in spite of his questionable character, and he won the Presidency not once but twice.

**The Liberal Agenda**

***Presidential promises.*** During his first election campaign, Bill Clinton made many promises to liberal groups—homosexuals, feminists, radical environmentalists, and others. Within days of his inauguration, Presi-

dent Clinton issued several executive orders. The first order removed restrictions imposed on abortion under Reagan and Bush. Clinton also supported an amendment to make abortion a constitutional right, but the bill made little progress in Congress. Meanwhile, the Department of Justice began to take legal action against pro-life demonstrators. As Commander-in-Chief, the President urged Congress to *lift the ban on homosexuals in the U.S. military*, despite objections by Pentagon officials that such a move would destroy the morale and effectiveness of the armed forces. Widespread opposition from Congress and the public forced President Clinton to compromise on the issue, however, with a “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy that left both homosexuals and conservative Americans dissatisfied.

**Socialized medicine.** As she had promised during the election, Hillary Clinton campaigned heavily for a **national health care plan** (socialized medicine) funded by businesses and their employees. Conservatives warned that the average person would pay more taxes and become more dependent on the government, while receiving standard health care—the hallmark of socialized medicine in every country that has it. Nevertheless, the First Lady continued her crusade for national health care, and, in 1993, presented a plan to Congress for mandatory health insurance for all Americans. While Congress debated and discussed the complex plan, opposition grew among the American public. By 1996, the plan was dead; Americans simply did not want a socialized health care system.

**More taxes.** By 1994, the average American had to work until April 24 to achieve what is called **Tax Freedom Day**, the day in the year when one’s earnings stop going for taxes. In other words, from January 1 to April 24, a person’s entire paycheck went toward federal taxes. *The average American worked about half of each year just to pay taxes to operate big government.* Much of

the taxes paid by hard-working Americans funded government welfare programs, because many Americans had become dependent on government handouts, which gradually take away self-respect, initiative, and personal freedoms.

### **Moral Decline in the '90s**

America was losing the goodness that Alexis de Tocqueville spoke of in 1831, “*America is great because America is good. When America ceases to be good, America will cease to be great.*”

**Business scandals.** Many events in the 1990s indicated that American morality was slipping once again. A rise in white collar crime was illustrated by the S&L (Savings and Loan) scandals of the late 1980s and early 1990s, in which billions of tax dollars were spent to bail out failed banks and other financial institutions. Many American businesses lost millions of dollars yearly through waste, inefficiency, and fraud in the work place. By the mid-1990s, the Protestant work ethic seemed rare.

**Gambling and pornography.** Gambling had always been governed with strict laws because it was recognized as harmful to society. As these laws were relaxed, legalized gambling spread from Las Vegas and Atlantic City to all parts of the country, bringing an increase in organized crime, broken homes, ruined lives, and other vices. Many states, unwilling to cut budgets, decided to raise money through **state lotteries** and **casino gambling**. Equally harmful was the increase of **pornography**, which was defended under the guise of “freedom of speech.”

**Humanistic psychology.** Many Americans had a warped view of human nature, thanks to decades of humanistic psychology which taught that wrong behavior results from a poor environment rather than an individual’s choices. This philosophy placed the blame for crime and other problems on society. The denial of personal responsibility and sin so disturbed psychologist Karl Menninger that

he published the book *Whatever Became of Sin?* (1973). As a young man, Menninger had been a devout follower of Sigmund Freud, the father of modern psychology. Freud attributed all of a person's problems to bad childhood experiences, which he blamed largely on Christian parents who repressed their children's "natural" (selfish) desires and told their children that they were sinners. Freud did not believe in sin. An older and wiser Karl Menninger later argued that people had to stop blaming society and others for their problems and assume responsibility for their own actions.

**Judicial weakness.** The denial of personal responsibility led to a decline of justice in the courts. Instead of punishing criminals, judges began to give light sentences, returning criminals to the streets. Most criminals served only short sentences. Once released, many repeated their crimes again and again.

**Educational failure.** By 1994, basic phonics, traditional math, drill, and repetition had been virtually eliminated from many school curriculums. As a result, many students' grades fell, and a reliable study classified 30% of all public school students as "learning disabled." As the federal government began providing large amounts of money to educate these "learning disabled" students, critics suggested that some educators labeled students "learning disabled" in order to qualify for more government aid. Fortunately, Christian schools continued to thrive, and home schooling increased in popularity.

### Technology in the '90s

**Internet.** One of the most important developments in the 1990s was the **World Wide Web (WWW)**, or the **Internet**. The World Wide Web was the invention of an English computer scientist named **Tim Berners-Lee**, who developed the *first Web page in 1990*. Until that time, the Internet had been used primarily for research and consisted of various universities and government networks. The World Wide Web provided a framework

or "web" for the storage of information and made possible the sharing of this information among people all over the globe.

The Web opened up new channels of communication and it created a new, worldwide marketplace where goods could be bought and sold. Unfortunately, it also provided a new avenue for credit fraud, identity theft, and such moral vices as gambling and pornography. Though most Americans were using the Web at least to some extent by the year 2000, many shared a concern about the potential for its misuse.

**Wireless technology.** American life was also strongly influenced by the development of wireless technology. The use of **cellular telephones** surged in the 1990s as phones became smaller and less expensive; by 2000, some 100 million Americans were subscribing to cell phone services in the United States alone.

**GPS.** In 1978, the U.S. Department of Defense launched the first of a series of satellites that would form the **Global Positioning System (GPS)**. By 1993, the system consisted of 24 satellites orbiting the earth every 12 hours. In many ways, GPS played a key role in the outcome of the 1991 Gulf War in Iraq, for it enabled the U.S. military to strike with great precision and to maneuver troops and equipment through the desert with speed and accuracy. After the U.S. government authorized civilian use of the system in 1993, GPS technology quickly became a multi-billion-dollar industry.

**Genetic research.** Biotechnology also saw tremendous advances in the 1990s. In 1990, researchers launched the **Human Genome Project**, a massive effort to identify all of the approximately 30,000 genes in human DNA. Among the fruits of this significant project were the identification of genes associated with certain cancers and other genetic conditions; DNA testing and identification for crime suspects and victims; more accurate matching for organ donors; and improved diagnosis and treatment of disease.

## Foreign Policy under Clinton

**International Cooperation.** The trend toward international cooperation and dependence became evident in 1993, when the United States, Canada, and Mexico ratified the **North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)**, calling for the elimination of tariffs and other trade restrictions between these three countries. The obligations that NAFTA placed on the United States concerned many Americans, but perhaps even more alarming were the efforts of the Clinton Administration to coordinate American foreign policy with the United Nations. Throughout the 1990s, U.S. troops found themselves in places like Somalia, Haiti, and Bosnia, enforcing UN mandates and often serving under UN command.

**Israel.** The United Nations believed it could bring peace to the Middle East. Pressured by the UN and President Clinton, Israel gave the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) control over the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and Jericho in 1994. Unfortunately, the violence continued between Israel and the PLO, in spite of ongoing negotiations under the sponsorship of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

**Asia.** When, in 1994, the CIA discovered that Communist **North Korea** was building atomic weapons, President Clinton and the UN insisted that North Korea stop its nuclear program, threatening to impose economic sanctions. The North Koreans refused and threat-

ened to go to war with South Korea if sanctions were imposed. With over 30,000 troops in South Korea, the United States had cause for concern. After the Communist dictator of North Korea died in July, his son **Kim Jong-II** agreed to “freeze” North Korea’s nuclear program in exchange for technology and diplomatic and economic relations with the United States.

Meanwhile, the United Nations insisted on good relations with Communist **China**, despite human rights violations. Foreign policy experts predicted that China would become one of the greatest world powers in the 21st century. Thus, President Clinton continued to grant China Most Favored Nation trading status, claiming that America needed to trade with the Chinese in order to remain a world economic power. U.S. relations with the Communist Chinese also played a key role in keeping the peace on the Korean peninsula.

The Clinton Administration also pursued diplomatic and economic relations with Communist **Vietnam**, even though the Vietnamese government refused to adequately account for American prisoners of war and those missing in action. By July 1995, the United States had established full diplomatic relations with the Communist Vietnamese government.

## Terrorism Threatens America

Several events during the 1990s shook the security of the American people both overseas and in their own homeland. First, in February

## Technology Timeline 1990–2000

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1990 First Web page; birth of World Wide Web.  | 1996 Optical fiber cable line stretches across the Pacific.  |
| 1991 Internet made available to general public; recordable compact discs, CD-Rs.                     | 1997 DVD players become available; first point-and-shoot digital camera.   |
| 1992 First dial-up Internet service; first PDA (personal digital assistant), the Apple “Newton.”     | 1998 First digital TV programs are broadcast in the U.S.   |
| 1993 U.S. Air Force completes a network of 24 GPS satellites.  | 1999 Portable MP3 players available; Honda releases the Insight, the first hybrid car to hit the U.S. market.  |
| 1994 Computers are found in about 30% of U.S. homes; digital satellite-TV service introduced in U.S. | 2000 Over 50% of U.S. households have at least one computer; 5.1 billion e-mails are sent in the U.S.; in-dash navigation systems using GPS common in luxury cars. |
| 1995 Digital wireless phones become available.   |  |

1993, a bomb exploded in a parking garage beneath the **World Trade Center** in New York City, killing 6 people and injuring over 1,000. Five Muslim terrorists were convicted of the crime.

In April 1995, a bomb exploded outside the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in **Oklahoma City**. The explosion destroyed much of the building and killed 168 people, including 19 children in an on-site day-care facility. This time, the FBI arrested an American veteran named Timothy McVeigh.

The following year, in July 1996, as Americans were celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Olympics, a bomb exploded in **Atlanta's Centennial Park**, killing 1 woman and injuring 111 people. Authorities later arrested an American radical who was wanted in connection with several other bombing incidents.

In August 1998, the **American embassies** in Tanzania and Kenya were destroyed by almost simultaneous explosions, killing 258 people. Both incidents were attributed to the work of a terrorist group called *al Qaeda*, headed by Islamic radical **Osama bin Laden**.

Finally, in April 1999, tragedy struck in the heartland of America when two high school seniors armed with guns and explosives waged a violent assault at **Columbine High School** in Littleton, Colorado. Altogether, they killed 12 fellow students and one teacher before shooting themselves. Across the nation, people watched on television as students fled the school building in terror.

### Re-election and Impeachment

Though characterized by scandal, questionable foreign policy, and terrorism both at home and abroad, the Clinton Administration benefited from a thriving economy throughout the 1990s. In fact, for many Americans, the economy was reason enough to elect Bill Clinton to a **second term** in 1996. Unfortunately, the President's second term, like his first, was marred by scandal, culminating in 1998 with his **impeachment** by the House of Representatives on charges of perjury (ly-



*Federal building after a car bomb exploded in Oklahoma City, April 1995*

ing in court) and obstruction of justice. Bill Clinton was only the second President to be impeached since Andrew Johnson in 1868. Although the Senate acquitted President Clinton of the charges, the shame of the incident remained.

### America: Land of Opportunity

In the late 20th century, America experienced an **immigration boom** not equaled since the beginning of the century. It seemed everyone wanted to come to America. These new immigrants came because America's economy offered them the opportunity to work and build a better life for themselves and their families. Most of this new wave of immigration came from Latin America and Asia.

### Hispanic Americans

The fastest growing and the largest minority ethnic group in the United States was made up of *Spanish-speaking*, or **Hispanic**, Americans. Most Hispanic Americans came from Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Cuba. Many Cubans sought political and economic freedom in the United States after Fidel Castro came to power in 1959. Hispanics achieved much suc-

cess in American life. Some became state governors, and others served their states in Congress.

President Clinton appointed two Hispanics to his cabinet in 1993—Federico Pena, the former mayor of Denver, became the Secretary of Transportation, and Henry Cisneros, former mayor of San Antonio, became the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Many Hispanics have also prospered in business and other fields.

By the 1990s, the Hispanic population from Texas to California was growing at such a rate that there were between 20 and 30 million Hispanic people living in the United States.

### Black Americans

By the 1990s, **black Americans** had made many significant political and economic gains. One great example of black-American achievement was the appointment of **Justice Clarence Thomas** to the Supreme Court by President George Bush in 1992. Thomas was born to poor sharecroppers in the hills of Georgia. Through his own hard work and God-given ability, he earned a law degree and achieved several important government positions, including assistant attorney general for Missouri and judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. When confirmed a Justice of the Supreme Court, Thomas said:

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... I'd like to thank America. I'd like to thank this country for the things it stands for and the people for the things that we stand for—our ideals. . . . I give God thanks for our being able to stand here today, and I give God thanks for our ability to feel safe, to feel secure, to feel loved.

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### Asian Americans

Communist oppression prompted many Asians to flee to freedom in the United States and Canada. Asian Americans have been noted for their willingness to work and make great sacrifices to give their children a good education. Education has always been a high priority for Asian-American families. Asian

Americans have a *higher percentage of advanced degrees than any other ethnic group in America.*

Their strong sense of family values, education, and efficiency in business made this group one of the most prosperous in the United States. Asian-American influence was especially strong in California. Some of the top computer inventors, programmers, engineers, and entrepreneurs in the United States have been Asian Americans.

Many Asian Americans have been elected to high positions in government. Senator **Daniel Ken Inouye** [ê·nô·ôô·yě] of Hawaii became the first Japanese American to serve in the U.S. Congress in 1959. The first Japanese-American woman to serve in Congress, Representative **Patsy Takemoto [tä·kâ·mô·tô] Mink**, also represented Hawaii. Several Asian Americans have won Nobel prizes in physics, and many others have received recognition in the arts and sciences. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in our nation's capital was designed by a Chinese-American woman named Maya Ying Lin. By 1990, there were about 7 million Asian Americans in the United States.

### Native Americans

Other ethnic minority groups also experienced growth in the late 20th century. The 1990 census recorded 1.5 million native **American Indians**, a record number, in the United States. In 1992, a native American, **Ben Night-horse Campbell** of Colorado, won a seat in the U.S. Senate. He voted against harsh environmental laws and for job growth in the mining industry of his state.

### One Nation under God

*All Americans.* The United States has always been proud of her reputation as the "**melting pot**"—the idea that many different cultures have come together in America with the understanding that all must work together regardless of ethnic heritage or skin color. Ethnic pride as taught in the home or in one's neighborhood or community is good, but it is



*A crowded New York street illustrates the great variety of peoples that make America a "melting pot."*

important to remember that we are all *Americans*. The desire to return minority peoples to their tribal roots and religions, a pre-Christian status, is called **multiculturalism**. Some have seen multiculturalism as a new form of segregation that will keep minority groups from becoming part of American culture.

### **Summary:** **Which Way, America?**

After decades of liberal government, Ronald Reagan, a conservative Republican, won the Presidency in 1980. President Reagan first restored America's military might. Consequently, by the end of the decade, the Soviet empire had begun to crumble. He also tackled the economy, reducing the inflation rate and restoring worldwide confidence in the American dollar. With the President as their spokesman, Americans forced Congress to lower taxes and cut down on government regulation of private business. Millions found new jobs during the Reagan administration as the economy sprang back to life with renewed health and vigor. President

Reagan helped make families stronger by opposing abortion, crime, drugs, and immorality. Once again, people were proud to be Americans.

When George Bush became President in 1989, the legacy of the Reagan years bore fruit. America proudly led UN forces in Operation Desert Storm, defending the people of the Middle East, and Soviet Communism lost its grip in Russia and Eastern Europe. Free enterprise (capitalism) had triumphed over the socialist economies of the Soviet Union and the nations it once enslaved. But Presidents Reagan and Bush could not undo the long years of over-spending by a liberal Congress and welfare dependence in our country.

As many countries of the world turned away from Communism and socialism, Americans elected Bill Clinton to the Presidency in 1992, placing a liberal Democrat with a socialist agenda in the White House. Despite the liberal trends in American life, many Americans remained committed to the family, the sanctity of life, free enterprise, and other traditional values. Technological marvels contin-

ued to improve lives, and America remained a place of freedom, hope, and opportunity for people around the world.

The future held the question, “Which way, America?” Would it be a move toward more government control through socialistic pro-

grams that tax and stifle free enterprise and erode personal freedoms? Or would it be a move toward less government control, less welfare programs, more individual responsibility through free enterprise, and a return to traditional, biblical values in American life?

### CHECK UP

1. What percentage of the vote did Bill Clinton receive? Who were the other candidates?
2. How did Hillary Clinton view her role as First Lady?
3. What was the Whitewater affair?
4. Describe some of the evidences of America’s moral decline during the 1990s.
5. Name some ways that President Clinton attempted to coordinate American foreign policy with the UN?
6. What Communist nations benefited from the Clinton Administration’s foreign policy?
7. Name some incidents of terrorism that took place during the 1990s.
8. Why did the House of Representatives bring impeachment charges against President Clinton?
9. What is multiculturalism? How does multiculturalism promote segregation?

**Identify:** national health care, Tax Freedom Day, NAFTA, Osama bin Laden, Hispanic, Daniel Ken Inouye, Patsy Takemoto Mink, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, melting pot

## CHAPTER 23 REVIEW

**PEOPLE** *Know the following individuals and be able to explain their importance to American history.*

1. Ronald Reagan
2. Margaret Thatcher
3. Thomas Sowell
4. William J. Bennett
5. Fidel Castro
6. Muammar Al Qaddafi
7. Oliver North
8. Mikhail Gorbachev
9. Sandra Day O’Connor
10. George H. W. Bush
11. Manuel Noriega
12. Nelson Mandela
13. Boris Yeltsin
14. Saddam Hussein
15. Colin Powell
16. Norman Schwarzkopf

17. Clarence Thomas
18. William Clinton
19. Ross Perot
20. Hillary Rodham Clinton
21. Osama bin Laden
22. Daniel Inouye
23. Patsy Takemoto Mink
24. Ben Nighthorse Campbell

**PLACES** *Know the following places and their significance.*

1. Grenada
2. Tiananmen Square

**TERMS** *Define the following terms.*

1. Moral Majority
2. Reaganomics
3. budget deficit
4. national debt



## CHAPTER 23 REVIEW

5. New Federalism
6. Equal Rights Amendment
7. *Columbia*
8. Reagan Doctrine
9. Iran-Contra hearings
10. INF Treaty
11. SDI
12. Perestroika, Glasnost
13. apartheid
14. Operation Desert Storm
15. Savings and Loan scandals
16. Whitewater affair
17. Tax Freedom Day
18. NAFTA
19. multiculturalism

**EVENTS** *Memorize each date and event.*

- 1981—NASA launches first space shuttle.  
 1991—Operation Desert Storm  
 1993—NAFTA is signed by the U.S.,  
 Canada, Mexico.

**CRITICAL THINKING** *On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions using complete sentences.*

1. Why is it important for Christians to become educated on national issues and vote in elections?
2. What were some of the medical and scientific wonders of the Reagan Era? What type of economy promotes such inventiveness?
3. How did the Communists destroy their own economy? How did President Reagan help ensure the collapse of Communism?
4. Why was the Persian Gulf War (Operation Desert Storm) fought? How did American technology make the difference?
5. Where did President Clinton stand on many of the social issues of the day? How does this reflect the legacy of the '60s?
6. How did President Clinton coordinate his foreign policy with the United Nations?
7. How can multiculturalism destroy American society?



## A New Millennium 2000–2005

### *Hope for the Future*



#### HIGHLIGHTS



- Last Acts of the Clinton Administration
- Election 2000
- President George W. Bush
- “9-11” and the War on Terror
- Iraq War
- Election 2004

As the year 2000 began, the American people had a choice to make: would they continue on the path toward socialism and moral decline, or would they demand a return to free enterprise capitalism and more traditional values? The decision that voters made in the coming election of 2000 would determine the direction of the United States for the new millennium.

### *The Eve of a New Millennium*

#### **Last Acts of the Clinton Administration**

**Foreign relations.** Throughout his Presidency, Bill Clinton strove to align U.S. foreign policy with the United Nations. The White House also made no effort to hide its sympathy with socialist and even Communist regimes. In November 2000, the President flew to **Vietnam** to meet with the Communist leaders in Hanoi. He was the first President since the Vietnam War to extend this honor. Because the Clinton Administration had lifted trade sanctions against Vietnam, many large American corporations had invested there, enabling the Communists to maintain their oppressive control over the people.

**Economic concerns.** By 2000, stock prices had soared higher than ever before, and many ordinary Americans were investing in the stock market. However, as some economists pointed out, many stocks were trading at prices far above their value. Gradually, the economy began to stall under the burden of (1) rising federal interest rates, (2) a decrease in consumer spending brought on by high taxes, and (3) the collapse of many Internet-based companies. Many Americans grew concerned about the value of investments in their retirement savings accounts.

**The Clinton legacy.** President Clinton often spoke of his desire to “leave a legacy.” But as his second term came to a close, the only legacy evident from his administration was a string of scandals. As the 2000 elections approached, many Democrats began to distance themselves from the President, including Vice President Al Gore, who was chosen to run as the Democratic candidate for President.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton decided to run for office as a U.S. Senator for New York, although she did not live in New York prior to the campaign and had no legislative experience. Many accused Mrs. Clinton of “carpetbagging,” a term used in the Civil War era to describe political opportunists who moved to the South to run for office. With her election in November, Mrs. Clinton became the first “First Lady” to be elected to the U.S. Senate.

#### **Election 2000: A Close Call**

**Bush wins the Presidency.** While the Democratic party and the liberal media pro-

- IN AMERICA
- ELSEWHERE

2000

● 2001  
 President Clinton visits Communist Vietnam  
 World Trade Towers collapse (9-11-01)  
 U.S. launches air strikes against key Taliban targets in Afghanistan

● 2003  
 Space shuttle *Columbia* burns up in the atmosphere upon re-entry  
 U.S. invades Iraq and topples Hussein regime

● 2004  
 Tsunamis devastate SE Asia

● 2002  
 President Bush creates the U.S. Department of Homeland Security

● 2005  
 Iraqis hold first free election in 50 years

moted **Al Gore**, the Republican party and most conservatives rallied around Texas Governor **George W. Bush**, son of 41st President George Bush. The Republican candidate identified himself with the traditional values and



*George and Laura Bush at the Republican National Convention*

interests of conservative, mainstream Americans, promising tax cuts for families, a stronger military defense, less government interference in the economy, and better educational standards in the public schools. Most important, Bush unashamedly identified himself as a “born-again Christian,” testifying publicly of his faith in Jesus Christ, and he took a bold stand against moral evils such as abortion and gay rights.

As the final election results came in, George W. Bush was declared the victor. However, a great controversy soon developed when Democrats disputed the vote and demanded a recount in certain key Florida counties where they had expected better results. More than a month later, the dispute finally reached the U.S. Supreme Court, which ruled against a manual recount. The liberal media accused President Bush of “stealing” the election and raged that the Republicans had manipulated the outcome. But later recounts would prove that George W. Bush had, indeed, won the election fairly, even in those disputed counties.

PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

**George W. Bush (1946–)**

**Years of Presidency:** 2001–

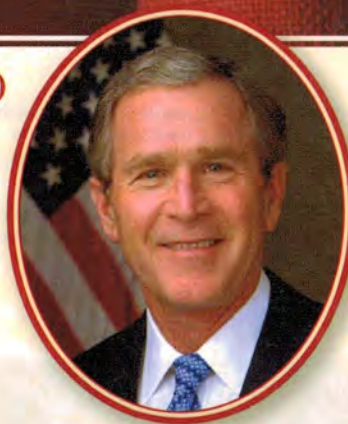
**Vice President:** Richard Bruce Cheney

**Political party:** Republican

**State of residence when elected:** Texas

**Remembered for** waging war on terrorism after “9-11,” cutting taxes to stimulate the economy, and taking a stand against abortion

**Major events during Presidency:** Sept. 11, 2001 “9-11” terrorist attack on World Trade Center and Pentagon; establishment of U.S. Department of Homeland Security; war with Iraq and capture of Saddam Hussein



43rd President



*President George W. Bush*

**Challenges of the First 100 Days**

*Keeping his promises.* George Bush had made his position against abortion clear during his campaign, and he intended to keep his word. One of his first acts as President was to stop the flow of U.S. funds to international family-planning groups that offered abortion services and counseling. The President also began to push legislation for education reform, aid to private charities, and increases in military spending to rebuild America’s defenses.

To promote economic recovery, President Bush signed legislation implementing the first substantial tax cut since the Reagan years. Many Americans received their first tax relief in the form of a rebate on their federal income taxes in the summer of 2001.

**Sept. 11, 2001: America Faces Crisis**

On September 11, 2001, or “9-11” as it is remembered, terrorists carried out the deadliest attack on American soil since Pearl Harbor, striking in one of America’s largest and most important cities, **New York**.

At 8:45 a.m., while many New Yorkers were on their way to work or just arriving at the office,

a hijacked 757 airliner suddenly slammed into the north tower of the World Trade Center, exploding upon impact. A second 757 struck the south tower just 15 minutes later. People began to flee the burning towers, but hundreds were trapped in the upper floors. Emergency workers from all over the city rushed to the scene to help. As it turned out, they had less than an hour; by 10:30, both of the *Twin Towers* had collapsed in a heap of debris. The New York City skyline had been altered forever, and nearly **2,800 people were dead**.

*Terrorists attack World Trade Center on 9-11-01.*



The terror was not limited to New York, however. A third airliner struck the **Pentagon** building in Washington, D.C., and a fourth crashed in a field in **Pennsylvania**; it would later be determined that the fourth plane was probably bound for the White House or Capitol Hill. Approximately **190** died in the attack on the Pentagon, and **45** in the Pennsylvania crash.

Since there was no way of knowing if more hijackings were planned, all airline traffic in the United States was immediately canceled. Federal buildings in Washington, key airports, and other likely terrorist targets around the country were evacuated. The New York Stock Exchange closed its doors, and much of New York City shut down. Mayor **Rudi Giuliani** urged New Yorkers to stay home, if possible. Americans all over the country watched the scene replayed on television over and over again. Shortly after noon, President Bush addressed the nation:

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Freedom itself was attacked this morning by a faceless coward, and freedom will be defended.

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It soon became known that the hijackings were the work of the radical Islamic terrorist network **al Qaeda** and its leader **Osama bin Laden**.

### CHECK UP

1. What Communist nation did President Clinton visit at the close of his second term?
2. Who ran on the Democratic and Republican tickets for the Presidency in 2000? Who won the election?
3. How did George W. Bush show his commitment to the protection of the unborn early in his Presidency?
4. What did the President do to relieve the tax burden on American families and businesses?
5. What happened on September 11, 2001? How many people were killed in these tragic events?

**Identify:** al Qaeda, Osama bin Laden

## America United: Post "9-11" Events

**Economic aftermath.** September 11 had many far-reaching effects on the United States. One immediate effect was a drop in the stock market. When the New York Stock Exchange reopened its doors a week after the attack, stock values plunged. Investors simply lacked confidence in the economy; no one knew what to expect in the days ahead. But as the Bush Administration dealt boldly and swiftly with the threat to America, confidence returned; by the end of the year, the market would be on the road to recovery.

**Protecting the homeland.** One of President Bush's responses to "9-11" was to create the **Department of Homeland Security (DHS)**, a new executive department to promote the safety of the American people and the security of their homeland. The formation of the DHS was the largest reorganization to take place in the federal government in 50 years.

## The War on Terror

President Bush had vowed that America would not rest until the terrorists responsible for "9-11" were brought to justice. Before a joint session of Congress, he called for a military campaign against not only the terrorists themselves but also the nations that gave them shelter and aid. Congress responded with overwhelming support, and the "war on terror" began.

**Afghanistan.** One of the first targets of the war against terrorism was the **Taliban**, a strict Islamic regime governing Afghanistan. Know-

*Pentagon damage after the "9-11" terrorist attacks*



ing that the Taliban had sheltered bin Laden in the past and continued to shelter al Qaeda terrorists, the Bush Administration gave Taliban leaders an ultimatum: surrender the al Qaeda terrorists at once or face military action. The Taliban refused, and the United States launched a bombing campaign against key Taliban targets, particularly those where al Qaeda terrorists might be hiding. By January 2002, the U.S. Air Force controlled the skies above Afghanistan, and American Special Forces had launched a ground assault against the Taliban. As suspected, hundreds of al Qaeda terrorists were captured and killed in the invasion; unfortunately, bin Laden remained in hiding.

**Iraq.** Next, the Bush Administration turned to another nation known to have harbored and supported Islamic terrorists—Iraq. Governed by dictator **Saddam Hussein**, Iraq had been under suspicion since it was discovered in the early 1990s to be stockpiling *weapons of mass destruction* (weapons designed to kill large numbers of people). In fact, the Iraqi dictator had used chemical weapons in war with Iran and against the Kurds of northern Iraq, killing more than 25,000 people. Following the Persian Gulf War, UN weapons inspectors found and destroyed literally tons of chemical weapons materials as well as long-range missiles and chemical warheads.

By March 2003, the White House, convinced that Saddam Hussein was still hiding weapons of mass destruction, launched **Operation Iraqi Freedom**, an invasion of Iraq to remove Hussein from power. Within a month, the U.S. had toppled the Hussein regime, and

the dictator had gone into hiding. President Bush vowed to bring democracy to the Iraqi people and to help them build a stable government. But if Iraq were to have its own democratically elected government, U.S. troops would be needed to maintain order until the new government could be established. As 2003 closed with the capture of Saddam Hussein, it seemed that Operation Iraqi Freedom was on the slow road to success.

### Other National Concerns

**North Korea's nuclear program.** Though the war on terrorism was the primary focus of the Bush Administration, it was by no means the only crisis to demand the President's attention. The Communist government of **North Korea** alarmed world leaders in 2002 when it admitted to breaking the pledge it had made in 1994 to freeze all nuclear development. Before the end of 2003, the North Koreans would announce that they had achieved nuclear missile capability.

**Space shuttle Columbia.** On February 1, 2003, tragedy struck NASA's space shuttle program when the *Columbia* broke up and burned as it re-entered the earth's atmosphere, killing its crew of seven. The astronauts had just completed the 113th shuttle mission since the program began in 1981. The accident occurred just one week after the 17th anniversary of the explosion of space shuttle *Challenger* (1986).

**Pro-life victory.** From the beginning of his Presidency, George W. Bush made it clear that he opposed abortion. Of particular concern to pro-life Americans was the barbaric abortion method known as "partial birth abortion," in which the abortionist kills the baby as it is being delivered. In November 2003, pro-life groups rejoiced as President Bush signed the **Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003**.

**Florida hurricanes.** During August and September 2004, Florida and the Gulf Coast suffered four hurricanes; it was the first time in 118 years that four hurricanes (Charley, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne) hit the same state in a single season.



*Iraqis celebrate the fall of Saddam Hussein (left) and welcome American soldiers (below).*





## First Lady Laura Bush: A True Lady

First Lady **Laura Bush** brought to the White House an element of grace and charm that helped soften the strong stance her husband often had to take as President. Her friendly smile and faithful support for him won her the love and admiration of most Americans.

Mrs. Bush set a good example of American womanhood in several ways.

As a wife and mother, she knew the challenges women face at home; yet she realized it was a noble occupation and devoted herself to the task of raising twin daughters. As First Lady of Texas, she promoted literacy and encouraged families and communities to be more attentive to their children's reading skills. As First Lady of the United States, Mrs. Bush continued the same quiet, diligent effort to make a difference through literacy programs and other outreaches aimed at American youth.

**Tsunami devastation.** In December 2004, a powerful earthquake in the Indian Ocean sent treacherous **tsunamis** in all directions. The killer waves not only devastated the Aceh province of Indonesia, but also struck the coasts of Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, and even East Africa. Close to **300,000 people** died, and millions were left without homes, food, or drinkable water. President Bush pledged \$350 million in humanitarian relief, and many compassionate Americans donated millions more to charities working in the area.

### Election 2004: America Votes with Its Heart

As the Presidential election of 2004 approached, the *conflict in Iraq* was a key issue. Many vocal Democrats in government and the media voiced their opposition to U.S. involvement in Iraq; anti-war protesters demonstrated in American cities, and certain celebrities even denounced President Bush and his policies on national television. But the invasion of Iraq was not ordered without Congressional approval. Most Democrats in Congress had voted with their Republican colleagues to support the President's call to action, includ-

ing the Democratic candidate for President in 2004, Senator **John Kerry** of Massachusetts.

President Bush and Senator Kerry campaigned across the country through the summer of 2004, promoting their visions for America. However, the two candidates took such distinctly different positions on the issues of abortion, taxes, spending, and, of course, the war in Iraq, that for many Americans, the choice was simple. The media followed both campaigns closely and projected a victory for Senator Kerry right up to the day of the election. But as the votes were counted, the people's choice became clear, and George W. Bush won a second term. To the surprise of his critics, the President had received a majority of the popular vote as well as the electoral vote. This time, there would be no disputes or recounts.

### Challenges at Home and Abroad

**Hurricane Katrina.** President Bush found 2005 to be a challenging year in several ways. One of his greatest challenges had to do with disaster relief to a storm-ravaged Gulf Coast. In late August, **Hurricane Katrina** hit the shores of Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana as a strong category 4 storm with sustained



*Hurricane Katrina caused widespread flooding and wind damage along the Gulf Coast.*

winds of 140 mph. In **New Orleans**, which lies below sea level, the storm proved particularly devastating when levees along Lake Pontchartrain gave way, flooding the city with as much as 20 ft. of water in places. Although many had evacuated, thousands remained in the city, trapped by floodwaters. New Orleans was not alone in its suffering; cities like Mobile (AL) and Gulfport (MS) also saw terrible destruction from winds and flooding.

In the weeks that followed, the National Guard and other groups helped rescue storm survivors while the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers worked to repair the levees in New Orleans, where rank, contaminated water filled the streets. Evacuees took refuge with friends and family around the country and in public shelters set up in places like Houston (TX) and Atlanta (GA). A second storm, *Hurricane Rita*, hit about a month later, damaging levees and flooding New Orleans once again, but by that time the city had been evacuated. As 2005 came to a close, the death toll from Katrina stood at more than 1,300, with hundreds more still missing. Property damages were estimated in excess of \$100 billion, making Katrina by far the costliest storm in history.

**Supreme Court appointments.** Another challenge facing the Bush Administration involved the appointment of new Justices to the Supreme Court. President Bush had faced opposition to his judicial appointees all along, but his liberal opponents were particularly concerned about losing their hold on the Supreme Court. When Sandra Day O'Connor

announced her retirement in July 2005, the President nominated Judge **John G. Roberts**, a conservative, to take her place. When the ailing William Rehnquist passed away in September, however, Roberts became the President's choice for *Chief Justice*. The Senate confirmed Roberts on September 29.

A month later, President Bush nominated Judge **Samuel Alito** to fill Justice O'Connor's seat. A fierce battle ensued as liberals in Congress and the media fought to oppose Alito's nomination on the grounds that he was too conservative and would upset the balance of the court. Key to the battle was their fear of his conservative position on the issue of abortion. When, after weeks of debate and hearings, Alito's confirmation came to the floor of the Senate, Democrats led by Senators John Kerry and Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts staged a filibuster (a speech intended to postpone legislative action). But in the end, Alito's supporters in the Senate managed to bring the matter to a final vote, and Justice Samuel Alito was confirmed in late January 2006.

**War in Iraq.** The continued presence of U.S. forces in Iraq also remained a challenge for President Bush. Every day, insurgents committed cruel acts of terrorism, not only against U.S. troops but also against the Iraqi people. Many people criticized the Bush Administration for its management of the conflict in Iraq and for the mounting number of American and Iraqi casualties. But the President remained committed to helping Iraq build a democratic republic. Like many Americans, he realized that such an ac-



complishment would not only benefit Iraq but also promote the security of the United States.

In January 2005, the efforts of the brave American soldiers in Iraq paid off when the Iraqis held their *first free election in 50 years*. Many walked for miles just to cast their ballots. The struggle for stability in Iraq would continue, but a great step toward freedom had been taken.

### Hope for the Future

America had made an important choice in 2000 when it elected George W. Bush. It had chosen a leader who wished to return the country to more traditional moral values and

conservative republican principles of government. Not everyone would agree with President Bush's decisions; even conservative groups would question his leadership at times. But most could see that he strove to lead the nation with courage and character. He restored the might of the U.S. military, strengthened homeland defenses, gave American families more financial freedom through generous tax cuts, and helped restore respect for the Presidency. As the United States entered a new millennium, patriotic Americans remained proud of their country and confident that there was hope for her future.

### CHECK UP

1. What new executive department was created in response to the September 11 terrorist attacks and what is its purpose?
2. What nation did the United States target first in its war on terror and why?
3. Why did the Bush Administration consider Saddam Hussein a threat?
4. Why did U.S. troops remain in Iraq after defeating Hussein and his forces?
5. Name the act signed in 2003 which pro-life groups hailed as a victory for the unborn.
6. What natural disaster in southern Asia claimed close to 300,000 lives and destroyed billions of dollars' worth of property in December 2004?
7. Who became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court during President Bush's second term?

**Identify:** Taliban, *Columbia*, John Kerry, Hurricane Katrina, Samuel Alito

(See page 471 for the Chapter 24 Review.)

## POSTLUDE

### *Blessed Is the Nation*

#### The American's Creed

In 1917, while World War I raged in Europe, a nationwide contest challenged Americans to write a brief statement of the political philosophy of the United States. The winner was William Tyler Page of Maryland with the American's Creed:

*I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a Republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.*

*I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies.*

The political system expressed in this creed is unique in the annals of human history.

- (1) Our government is “a democracy in a Republic”; that is, we are governed, not by a king or by a dictator, but by elected representatives chosen by the people themselves. Few nations in the history of the world have been able to handle the grave responsibilities of self-government.
- (2) We are “a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States”; that is, we have a federal system in which power is shared between and among a central government and local governments.
- (3) Our nation and its government are “established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity,” which are moral and spiritual values derived from our Judeo-Christian heritage. In no other country past or present has a civil government been formed for the purposes stated in the Preamble to the United States Constitution:

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*We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.*

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### **A Young Nation**

The United States is just a little over 200 years old, a mere child in relation to the 6,000 years of recorded human history. Why has this young nation developed so far so fast? What is the secret of our progress? It cannot be superior natural resources; other nations have resources as rich as or richer than ours and have had centuries to develop them. It cannot be the result of our superior intelligence—ancient peoples had the same, if not greater, intellectual capacity.

The reason for our nation’s material prosperity is the blessing of God and the gift of freedom—economic, political, and religious freedom. This freedom we have used to make our nation the greatest country on the face of the earth. As the sense of duty and responsibility that must always accompany true freedom declines in our country, however, we will see a corresponding decline in national greatness, for God has proclaimed, “Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.” (Prov. 14:34)

It is very easy for us, who live in a free and prosperous nation where we enjoy one of the greatest governments mankind has ever conceived, to think that all governments are basically the same as our own. If one could travel across the face of the earth and through the centuries to observe all the past and present civilizations, however, one would return to these United States with deep gratitude to God for the

uniqueness of our own American system of civil government and private enterprise.

### **Free Enterprise and the American Family**

There are many reasons to be thankful for this country and its form of government. Throughout the years of recorded history, the major task of civilizations has been to eke out a meager existence to avoid famine and starvation. Hunger, fear, and exposure to the elements have been the lot of the vast majority of Earth's population. In these United States, however, there has never been a famine. No American need go to bed hungry each night, though many today go to bed forgetting to be thankful for their land of plenty and the blessings of free enterprise.

It is no wonder that, wherever a traveler may go on the face of the earth, he finds people with one grand ambition in life—to visit America. Even in Western Europe or Japan, where people enjoy many material blessings, there is much more government control over people's lives. Despite the trend toward bigger government, America remains the best place for a hard-working individual to get ahead and be a success without the heavy hand of government regulation.

The United States has become one of the most prosperous nations in the world because of the willingness of its people to work to produce the things they need. The greatest determining factor in America's rise to prosperity has been the character of her people. America's heritage, steeped in biblical Christianity, imparted to the people a high degree of character and a will to work. The *Protestant work ethic*, the idea that work is a gift from God and a way to glorify Him, took deep root in the United States. The majority of Americans looked upon the ability to work as a blessing and saw labor as a dignified way to fulfill their life responsibility and thus glorify God—"The people had a mind to work" (Neh. 4:6).

The second most important factor in America's prosperity has been the nation's system of free enterprise, or capitalism. *Free enterprise* means that the government leaves individuals **free** to own businesses and make a living dependent on their own **enterprise** (initiative). *Capitalism* is another word for free enterprise. It is the American economic system by which the means of production and distribution (land, factories, information networks, etc.) are privately owned and operated on a profit basis.

America's foundation upon a widespread respect for biblical Christianity created an atmosphere of religious, political, and economic freedom. When the United States became an independent nation and established a constitutional republic, it was the first time in history that so large an area on the earth was able to follow the principles of free enterprise capitalism. Spurred on by a respect for the broad truths of

biblical Christianity and the Protestant work ethic, capitalism brought to America the greatest wealth and luxury for the greatest number that the world has ever known.

As the nation grew, an understanding of scriptural principles remained strong and helped to create in hosts of Americans a powerful incentive to succeed. Government encouraged individual initiative by staying out of the economic sphere for the most part and allowing the free market to take its course. Although the federal government instituted tariffs on goods imported from foreign nations, there were no trade barriers within the United States. Goods moved freely from state to state and from one section of the country to another. For the most part, the capitalistic system was given free reign, and the Judeo-Christian ethic of fairness in competition constrained selfishness and envy.

Many nations of the Western world employed capitalism to one extent or another beginning in the late 1700s, but because America had a unique blend—(1) *a people of high moral character with a will to work*; (2) *the greatest degree of individual responsibility and freedom the world has yet seen*; and (3) *an abundance of the other ingredients that are necessary for industrialization*, such as capital, natural resources, a large labor supply, and good transportation systems—the blessings of capitalism were most abundant in America.

Private businesses are free to operate and make a profit in the United States. America's free enterprise system (capitalism) has given Americans an incentive to strive for excellence. The natural resources—the abundant supply of water, the deep forests, the fertile soil, the large deposits of minerals, and the varied animal life with which God has blessed America—would be useless if the people were not willing to work hard to turn raw products into usable items through agriculture and manufacturing. There would be no great inventions or technological advance without a free enterprise system that rewards individuals for their efforts. When Americans lose their willingness to work, America will no longer be prosperous.

More recent developments, such as an emphasis on self, an increase in government support of people who do not work, and growing problems between labor and management have already led to a decline in America's position among the world's nations. The decline of the Protestant work ethic and the Judeo-Christian sense of honor, duty, and compassion has brought much strife to our land.

The United States is still a leader in the production of industrial and agricultural products. It is at the forefront of the latest developments in technology. Great economic strides have been made in our national history. For instance, modern technology makes it possible for the average farmer in the United States to raise enough crops to feed 80 people. In 1840, one farmer could raise only enough for 4 or 5 people.

### **Sanctity of Life and Respect for Property**

Economic wealth is not the only blessing which Americans enjoy. Another blessing of America flows from its traditional respect for human life. Although legalized abortion has eroded respect for life, Americans still spend billions of dollars each year for health care and for saving human lives. And strange as it may seem, the institution of capital punishment for murderers is a sure sign of respect for human life, for man is created in God's image. The current hesitancy to require or to enforce capital punishment for murderers is thus a further indication of a declining respect for the value of human life.

There are relatively few problems among the people of America as compared to other parts of the world where there is almost continuous strife and bloodshed among differing ethnic groups. It is because of our free press and our right of free speech that the problems in America are so highly publicized. In other parts of the world, discrimination and prejudice are highly visible to insiders, but outsiders often remain unaware of them.

Since the days of Noah's Flood, every nation has had some form of human government or law. Very few nations in the history of the world, however, have enjoyed the blessing of civil order, for many countries do not have the Judeo-Christian traditions of government and law that we enjoy in the United States. Few nations have attempted to protect the lives and property of all citizens regardless of their station in life. In many nations, even today, every person has to look out for himself. If you lived in a nation that did not have a good system of law enforcement, you would be at the mercy of anyone who tried to hurt you or damage your property. Unless you were stronger than the offender or could outmaneuver him in some way, he could do whatever he wanted with you and your property. We are extremely fortunate to live in America, where, although crime is increasing, we do have policemen and legal systems for an appeal to justice.

### **The Need for Vigilance**

Freedom and prosperity are fragile things. They have not been given to all men, and they must be received with thanksgiving and protected with vigilance. Daniel Webster, one of our most eloquent orators, spoke with great wisdom when he said, "God grants liberty only to those who love it and are always ready to guard and defend it." Calvin Coolidge, one of the wisest Presidents of the 20th century, reminded us of the effort involved in gaining and maintaining freedom: "The meaning of America is not to be found in a life without toil. Freedom is not only bought with a great price; it is maintained by unremitting effort."

Why in our United States of America have we enjoyed unparalleled material prosperity and "government of the people, by the people, and

for the people”? The answer lies in the blessing of God upon our nation. The Bible states clearly:

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***Righteousness exalteth a nation:  
but sin is a reproach to any people.***

—Prov. 14:34

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The English settlers who came to our shores brought with them the English Bible and their English Reformation heritage. They were, by and large, a Christian people who attempted to practice righteousness both privately and publicly. They wanted all of their social institutions—home, church, school, and state—to reflect Christian values. God blessed this private and public acknowledgment of Him and the practice of personal and civic righteousness. The result was the most astonishing two centuries of progress the world has ever known.

A young French aristocrat, Alexis de Tocqueville [á·lek·sē' də tók·vél'], visited the United States in 1831 when our nation was in its childhood. Out of his experiences and observations came his massive work *Democracy in America*. De Tocqueville came to this conclusion about our nation's success: "*America is great because she is good; when America ceases to be good, then she will cease to be great.*" The domestic problems and the foreign dangers which confront our nation today are due to the crumbling of the moral and spiritual foundations upon which our country was founded. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas wrote as recently as 1952: "We are a religious people whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being." Without these moral and spiritual absolutes, our nation is doomed to further decay and to ultimate destruction by the judgment of a just, holy, and righteous God.

Our nation was founded on Christian presuppositions and biblical principles. Let us ever remember that all of our material prosperity and our progress in all areas is due to the blessing of God upon our labors as individuals and as a nation.

But above all let us keep in mind that we do not have to despair of the future; God is still on the throne of the universe. We need to build for the future; strong Christian homes, churches, and schools will count much toward the reconstruction of the moral and spiritual foundations of our constitutional republic. It is important that you learn all you can about your great country so that you can stand up for the great principles that have made America great. As the great English conservative Edmund Burke said at one time: "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."

America's system of government and economics is good, but the system by itself is insufficient to bring about continued order, prosperity, and progress. What is needed is a common foundation of moral

and cultural absolutes to undergird our economic and political system. The Bible says that “righteousness exalteth a nation”; without righteousness, even in an advanced nation such as ours, corruption, crime, and deterioration eventually set in. The only cure for our nation’s ills is the preaching of the gospel and its daily application to the lives of its citizens.

**BLESSED IS THE NATION  
WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD.**  
*Psalm 33:12*

★ **CHAPTER 24 REVIEW** ★

**PEOPLE** *Know the following individuals and groups and be able to explain their importance to American history.*

1. Al Gore
2. George W. Bush
3. Osama bin Laden
4. Saddam Hussein
5. John Kerry
6. John G. Roberts
7. Samuel Alito

**PLACES** *Know the following places and their significance.*

1. Afghanistan
2. Iraq
3. North Korea
4. New Orleans

**TERMS** *Define the following terms.*

1. World Trade Center
2. al Qaeda
3. Department of Homeland Security
4. Taliban
5. Space shuttle *Columbia*

**EVENTS** *Memorize each date and event.*

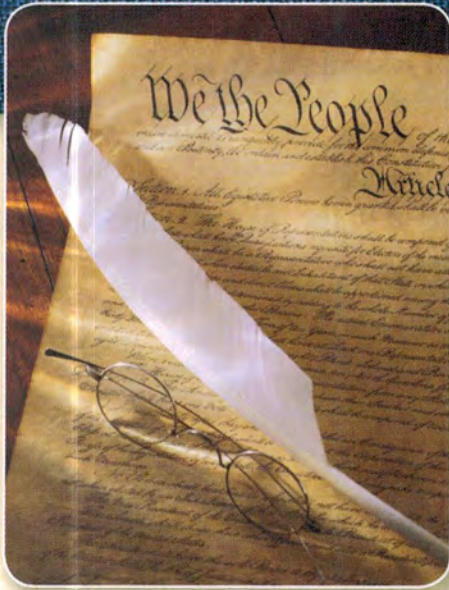
- September 11, 2001**—Terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and Pentagon with hijacked planes
- 2002**—Formation of the Department of Homeland Security
- 2003**—U.S. invasion of Iraq

**CRITICAL THINKING** *On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions using complete sentences.*

1. In what key state did Democrats dispute the vote and demand a recount in the Presidential election of 2000? What was the outcome of this controversy?
2. Describe some of the ways that President George W. Bush kept his campaign promises.
3. How did the events of September 11, 2001, shape the Bush Presidency? What executive decisions may have come out of these attacks on America?



# U.S. HISTORY (1492



• 1492  
Columbus discovers  
New World

• 1607  
Jamestown colony  
(Virginia)

• 1675–1676  
King Philip's War

• 1754–1763  
French and  
Indian War

1500

1600

1650

1700

1725

1750

• 1636  
Harvard College

• 1630  
Massachusetts Bay  
colony

• 1620  
Pilgrims establish Plymouth  
colony (New England)

• 1730s–1740s  
First Great Awakening

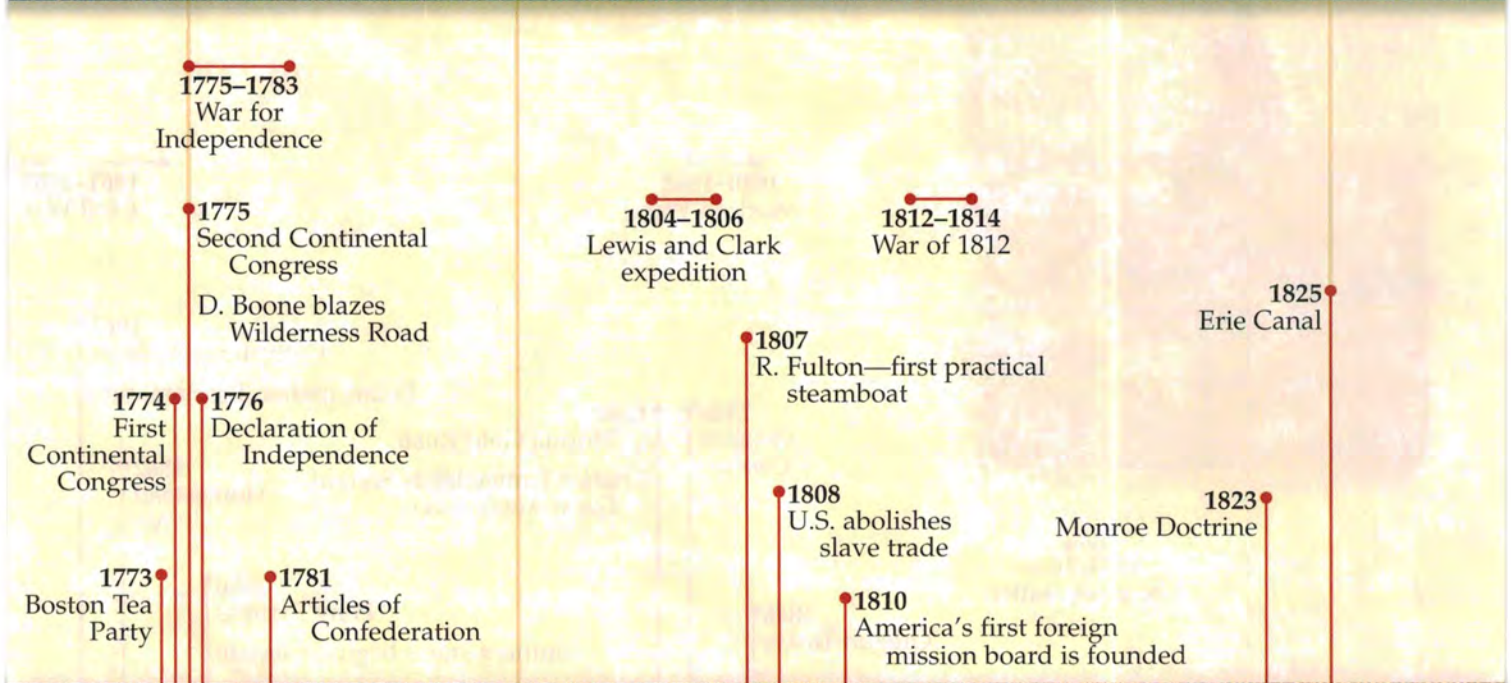
• 1765  
Stamp Act Congress

**U.S. PRESIDENTS**

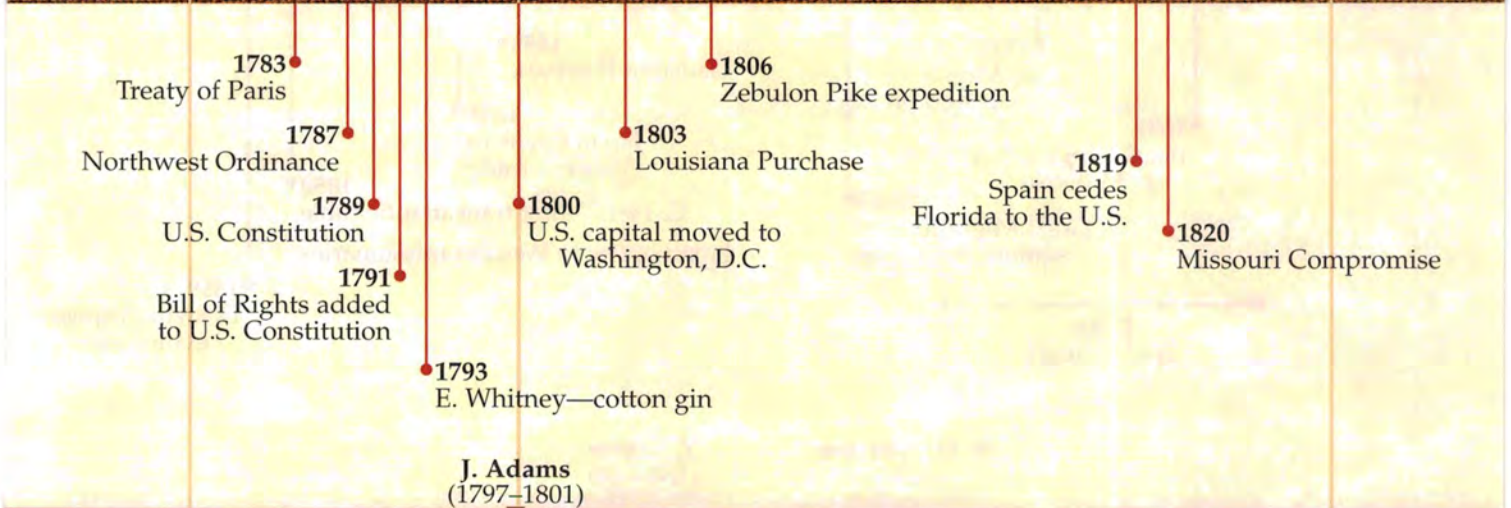
**STATEHOOD**



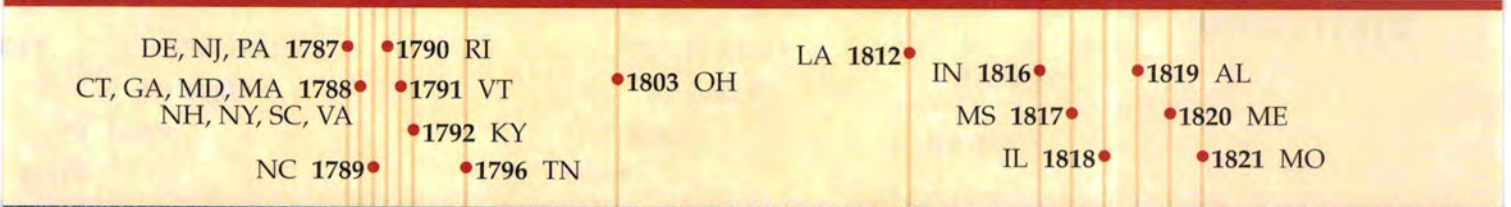
# 1825)



1775 1800 1825



G. Washington (1789-97)	T. Jefferson (1801-09)	J. Madison (1809-17)	J. Monroe (1817-25)	J. Q. Adams (1825-29)
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# U.S. HISTORY (1825



1846–1848  
Mexican War

1861–1865  
Civil War

1835–1836  
Texas Revolution

1848  
Mexican Cession

1849  
California Gold Rush

Charles Finney leads Second Great Awakening

1863  
Gettysburg Address  
Emancipation Proclamation

1862  
Homestead Act

1846  
Oregon Treaty

1860  
Pony Express

Southern states begin to secede

1825

1850

1832  
Black Hawk's War in Midwest

1837  
S. Morse—telegraph

1843  
"Great Migration" of settlers to Oregon

1830s  
Trail of Tears

1853  
Gadsden Purchase

1854  
Japan opens to Western trade

1858  
C. Field—first transatlantic cable  
Japan opens to Western missionaries

1859  
Darwin proposes evolution

W. H. Harrison  
(1841)  
(dies in office)

Z. Taylor  
(1849–50)  
(dies in office)

## U.S. PRESIDENTS

J. Q. Adams  
(1825–29)

A. Jackson  
(1829–37)

M. Van Buren  
(1837–41)

J. Tyler  
(1841–45)

J. K. Polk  
(1845–49)

M. Fillmore  
(1850–53)

F. Pierce  
(1853–57)

J. Buchanan  
(1857–61)

A. Lincoln  
(1861–65)  
(assassinated)

## STATEHOOD

1836 AR

1837 MI

1845 FL, TX

1846 IA

1848 WI

1850 CA

1858 MN

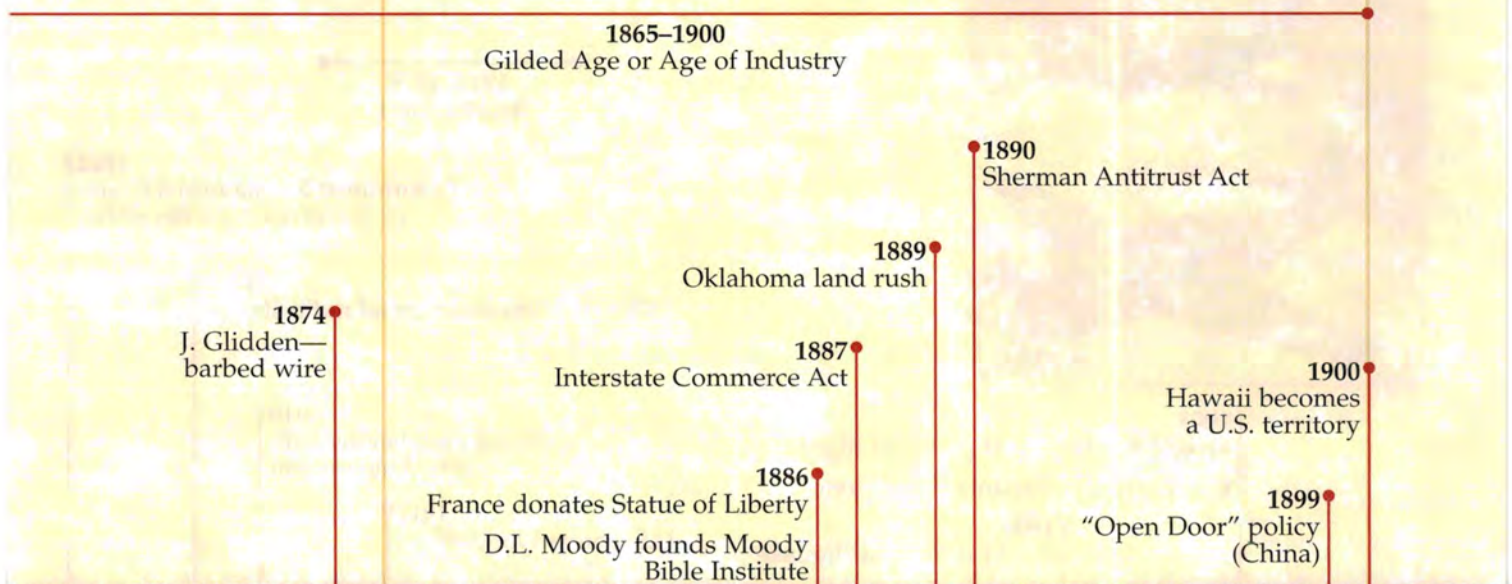
1859 OR

1861 KS

1863

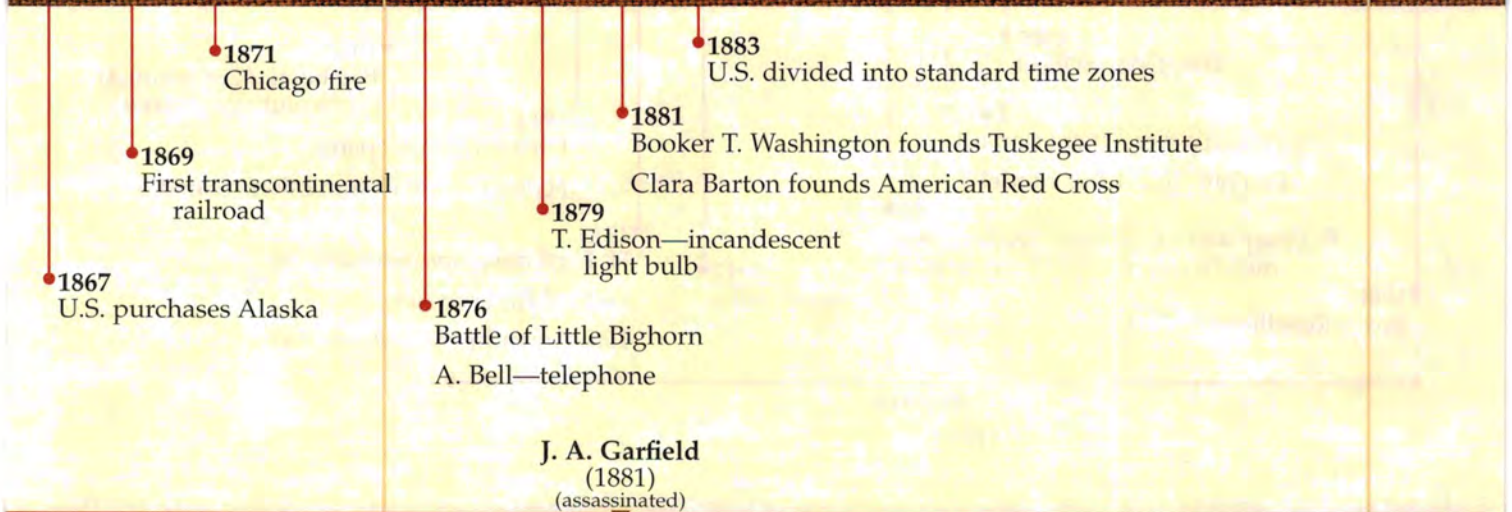
# 1900)

## 1865–1900 Gilded Age or Age of Industry



1875

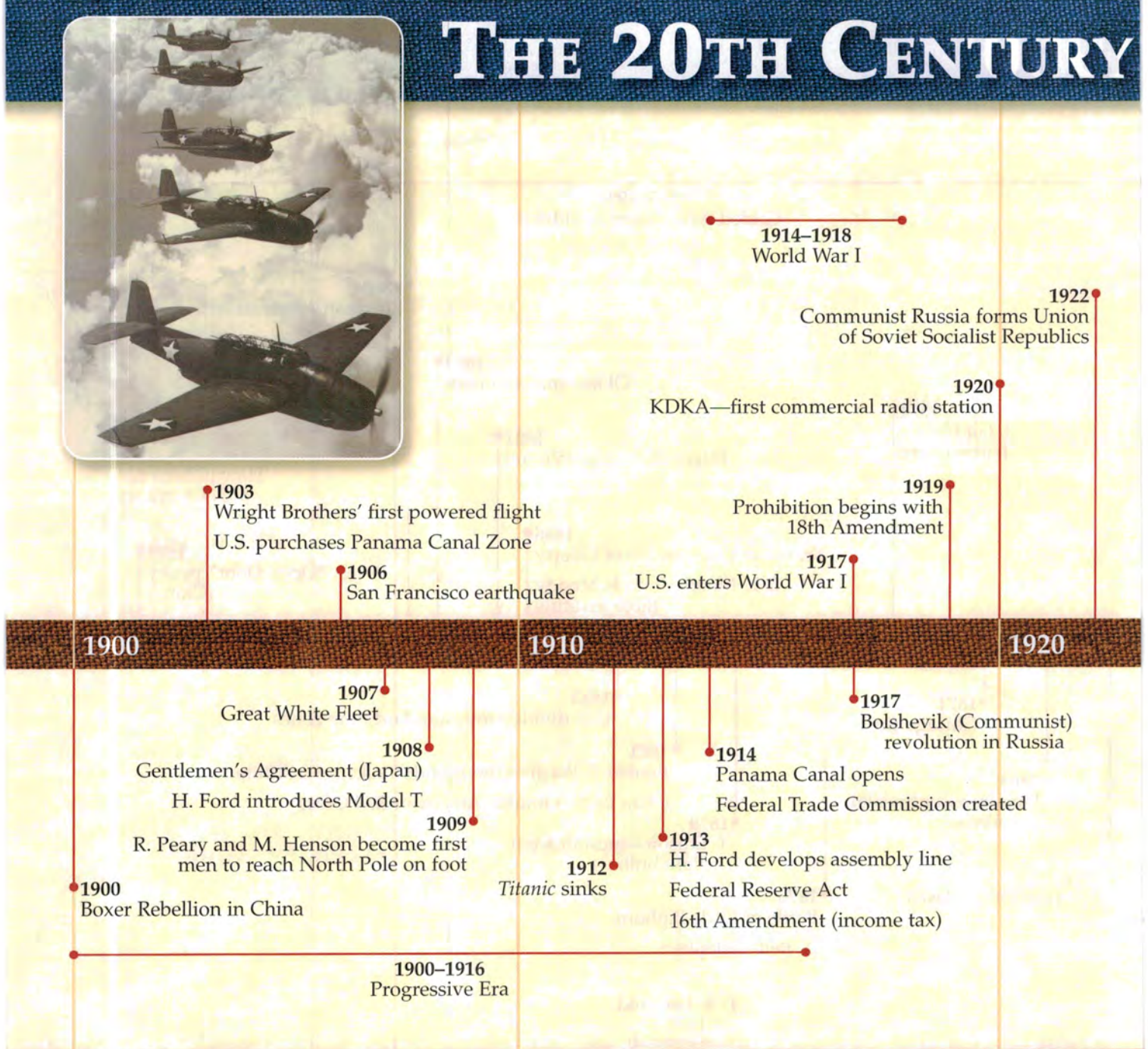
1900



A. Johnson (1865–69)	U. S. Grant (1869–77)	R. Hayes (1877–81)	C. Arthur (1881–85)	G. Cleveland (1885–89)	B. Harrison (1889–93)	G. Cleveland (1893–97)	W. McKinley (1897–1901) (assassinated)
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# THE 20TH CENTURY



## U.S. PRESIDENTS

W. McKinley  
(1897–1901)  
(assassinated)

T. Roosevelt  
(1901–09)

W. Taft  
(1909–13)

W. Wilson  
(1913–21)

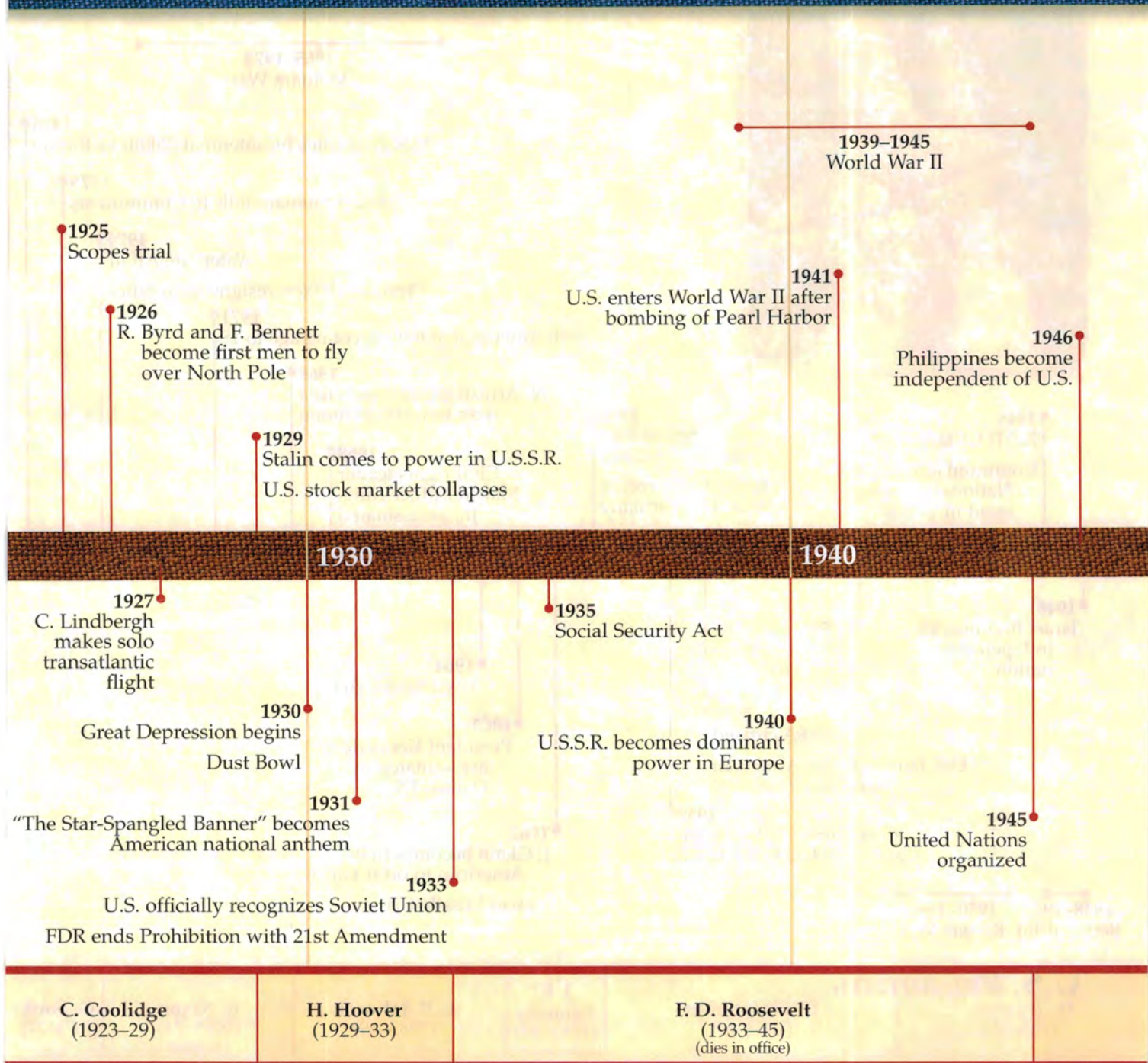
W. Harding  
(1921–23)  
(dies in office)

## STATEHOOD

• 1907 OK

• 1912 NM, AZ

# 1900–1946)



# THE 20TH CENTURY



1965–1973  
Vietnam War

1976  
U.S. celebrates bicentennial (200th birthday)

1975  
South Vietnam falls to Communists

1974  
Watergate Affair  
President Nixon resigns from office

1971  
26th Amendment lowers voting age to 18

1969  
N. Armstrong becomes first man to walk on moon

1968  
Civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., assassinated

1961  
Bay of Pigs incident in Cuba  
Berlin Wall erected in Berlin, Germany

1949  
NATO established  
Communists overthrow Nationalist government in China

1950

1960

1970

1948  
Israel becomes an independent nation

1954  
J. Salk—polio vaccine

1958  
NASA created  
U.S. launches first American satellite—*Explorer I*

1959  
Communist Fidel Castro becomes dictator of Cuba

1964  
Civil Rights Act

1963  
President Kennedy assassinated in Dallas, TX

1962  
J. Glenn becomes first American to orbit Earth  
Cuban Missile Crisis

1948–1949 Berlin airlift  
1950–1953 Korean War

## U.S. PRESIDENTS

H. Truman (1945–53)

D. Eisenhower (1953–61)

J. F. Kennedy (1961–63) (assassinated)

L. B. Johnson (1963–69)

R. Nixon (1969–74) (resigns)

G. Ford (1974–77)

## STATEHOOD

1959 AK, HI

# 1946–2000)

# THE 21ST CENTURY

- 1978
  - Camp David Accords (Egypt and Israel)
  - Senate agrees to give Panama control of Panama Canal in 1999
- 1979
  - U.S. government recognizes Red China
  - Iranian terrorists seize U.S. embassy in Tehran and take Americans hostage
- 1991
  - Soviet Union dissolves into 12 independent republics
  - Persian Gulf War
- 1993
  - North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
  - World Trade Center bombing
- 1995
  - Bombing of federal building in Oklahoma City, OK
- 1999
  - Columbine High School shootings, CO
- 2001
  - World Trade Towers collapse (9-11-01)
- 2002
  - Department of Homeland Security created
- 2003
  - Space Shuttle *Columbia* burns up on re-entry
  - U.S. invades Iraq

1980

1990

2000

- 1981
  - U.S. launches first space shuttle—*Columbia*
- 1983
  - U.S. troops rescue Grenada from a Cuban invasion
- 1985
  - Geneva Summit
- 1986
  - Space Shuttle *Challenger* explodes
- 1989
  - U.S. troops liberate Panama
  - Berlin Wall torn down
- 2004
  - Tsunamis devastate SE Asia

J. Carter  
(1977–81)

R. Reagan  
(1981–89)

G. Bush  
(1989–93)

B. Clinton  
(1993–2001)

G. W. Bush  
(2001–)

# STATES AND CAPITALS



<i>State</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Abbreviations*</i>	<i>Date of Admission</i>	<i>Order of Admission</i>
Alabama	Montgomery	Ala., AL	1819	22
Alaska	Juneau	Alaska, AK	1959	49
Arizona	Phoenix	Ariz., AZ	1912	48
Arkansas	Little Rock	Ark., AR	1836	25
California	Sacramento	Calif., CA	1850	31
Colorado	Denver	Colo., CO	1876	38
Connecticut	Hartford	Conn., CT	1788	5
Delaware	Dover	Del., DE	1787	1
Florida	Tallahassee	Fla., FL	1845	27
Georgia	Atlanta	Ga., GA	1788	4
Hawaii	Honolulu	Hawaii, HI	1959	50
Idaho	Boise	Idaho, ID	1890	43
Illinois	Springfield	Ill., IL	1818	21
Indiana	Indianapolis	Ind., IN	1816	19
Iowa	Des Moines	Iowa, IA	1846	29
Kansas	Topeka	Kans., KS	1861	34
Kentucky	Frankfort	Ky., KY	1792	15
Louisiana	Baton Rouge	La., LA	1812	18
Maine	Augusta	Maine, ME	1820	23
Maryland	Annapolis	Md., MD	1788	7
Massachusetts	Boston	Mass., MA	1788	6
Michigan	Lansing	Mich., MI	1837	26
Minnesota	St. Paul	Minn., MN	1858	32
Mississippi	Jackson	Miss., MS	1817	20
Missouri	Jefferson City	Mo., MO	1821	24

\*The standard abbreviation is given first. The second abbreviation should be used with ZIP code.





<i>State</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Abbreviations*</i>	<i>Date of Admission</i>	<i>Order of Admission</i>
Montana	Helena	Mont., MT	1889	41
Nebraska	Lincoln	Nebr., NE	1867	37
Nevada	Carson City	Nev., NV	1864	36
New Hampshire	Concord	N.H., NH	1788	9
New Jersey	Trenton	N.J., NJ	1787	3
New Mexico	Santa Fe	N.Mex., NM	1912	47
New York	Albany	N.Y., NY	1788	11
North Carolina	Raleigh	N.C., NC	1789	12
North Dakota	Bismarck	N.Dak., ND	1889	39
Ohio	Columbus	Ohio, OH	1803	17
Oklahoma	Oklahoma City	Okla., OK	1907	46
Oregon	Salem	Oreg., OR	1859	33
Pennsylvania	Harrisburg	Pa., PA	1787	2
Rhode Island	Providence	R.I., RI	1790	13
South Carolina	Columbia	S.C., SC	1788	8
South Dakota	Pierre	S.Dak., SD	1889	40
Tennessee	Nashville	Tenn., TN	1796	16
Texas	Austin	Tex., TX	1845	28
Utah	Salt Lake City	Utah, UT	1896	45
Vermont	Montpelier	Vt., VT	1791	14
Virginia	Richmond	Va., VA	1788	10
Washington	Olympia	Wash., WA	1889	42
West Virginia	Charleston	W.Va., WV	1863	35
Wisconsin	Madison	Wis., WI	1848	30
Wyoming	Cheyenne	Wyo., WY	1890	44

\*The standard abbreviation is given first. The second abbreviation should be used with ZIP code.

# U.S. PRESIDENTS



<i>No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Born/Died</i>	<i>Years in Office</i>	<i>State of Birth</i>	<i>State of Residence When Elected</i>
1	George Washington	1732–1799	1789–1797	Va.	Va.
2	John Adams	1735–1826	1797–1801	Mass.	Mass.
3	Thomas Jefferson	1743–1826	1801–1809	Va.	Va.
4	James Madison	1751–1836	1809–1817	Va.	Va.
5	James Monroe	1758–1831	1817–1825	Va.	Va.
6	John Quincy Adams	1767–1848	1825–1829	Mass.	Mass.
7	Andrew Jackson	1767–1845	1829–1837	S.C.	Tenn.
8	Martin Van Buren	1782–1862	1837–1841	N.Y.	N.Y.
9	William Henry Harrison	1773–1841	1841	Va.	Ohio
10	John Tyler	1790–1862	1841–1845	Va.	Va.
11	James K. Polk	1795–1849	1845–1849	N.C.	Tenn.
12	Zachary Taylor	1784–1850	1849–1850	Va.	La.
13	Millard Fillmore	1800–1874	1850–1853	N.Y.	N.Y.
14	Franklin Pierce	1804–1869	1853–1857	N.H.	N.H.
15	James Buchanan	1791–1868	1857–1861	Pa.	Pa.
16	Abraham Lincoln	1809–1865	1861–1865	Ky.	Ill.
17	Andrew Johnson	1808–1875	1865–1869	N.C.	Tenn.
18	Ulysses S. Grant	1822–1885	1869–1877	Ohio	Ill.
19	Rutherford B. Hayes	1822–1893	1877–1881	Ohio	Ohio
20	James A. Garfield	1831–1881	1881	Ohio	Ohio
21	Chester A. Arthur	1830–1886	1881–1885	Vt.	N.Y.
22	Grover Cleveland	1837–1908	1885–1889	N.J.	N.Y.
23	Benjamin Harrison	1833–1901	1889–1893	Ohio	Ind.
24	Grover Cleveland	1837–1908	1893–1897	N.J.	N.J.
25	William McKinley	1843–1901	1897–1901	Ohio	Ohio



<i>No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Born / Died</i>	<i>Years in Office</i>	<i>State of Birth</i>	<i>State of Residence When Elected</i>
26	Theodore Roosevelt	1858–1919	1901–1909	N.Y.	N.Y.
27	William Howard Taft	1857–1930	1909–1913	Ohio	Ohio
28	Woodrow Wilson	1856–1924	1913–1921	Va.	N.J.
29	Warren G. Harding	1865–1923	1921–1923	Ohio	Ohio
30	Calvin Coolidge	1872–1933	1923–1929	Vt.	Mass.
31	Herbert Hoover	1874–1964	1929–1933	Iowa	Calif.
32	Franklin D. Roosevelt	1882–1945	1933–1945	N.Y.	N.Y.
33	Harry S. Truman	1884–1972	1945–1953	Mo.	Mo.
34	Dwight D. Eisenhower	1890–1969	1953–1961	Tex.	N.Y.
35	John F. Kennedy	1917–1963	1961–1963	Mass.	Mass.
36	Lyndon B. Johnson	1908–1973	1963–1969	Tex.	Tex.
37	Richard M. Nixon	1913–1994	1969–1974	Calif.	Calif.
38	Gerald R. Ford	1913–2006	1974–1977	Nebr.	Mich.
39	James E. Carter	1924–	1977–1981	Ga.	Ga.
40	Ronald W. Reagan	1911–2004	1981–1989	Ill.	Calif.
41	George H. W. Bush	1924–	1989–1993	Mass.	Tex.
42	William J. Clinton	1946–	1993–2001	Ark.	Ark.
43	George W. Bush	1946–	2001–	Conn.	Tex.

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