

| AMERICA IN THE WORLD | POLITICS & POWER | AMERICAN & NATIONAL IDENTITY | GEOGRAPHY & THE ENVIRONMENT | WORK, EXCHANGE, & TECHNOLOGY |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truman Doctrine • Israel created (1947) • Marshall Plan (1948) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GI Bill (1944) • Loyalty-Security Program • Taft-Hartley Act (1947) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To Secure These Rights</i> (1947) • Desegregation of armed services (1948) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued South-North migration of African Americans • First Levittown opens (1947, 1941) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bretton Woods system established: World Bank, International Monetary Fund • Baby boom establishes new consumer generation |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Containment strategy emerges • NATO created; West Germany created (1949) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truman reelected (1948) • Truman's Fair Deal (1949) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Shelley v. Kraemer</i> (1948) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FHA and VA subsidize suburbanization | |
| 1950 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent mobilization as a result of NSC-68 • Korean War (1950–1953) • Geneva Accords regarding Vietnam (1954) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cold War liberalism • McCarthyism and Red Scare • Eisenhower's presidency (1953–1961) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> (1954) • Montgomery Bus Boycott (1955) • Little Rock—Central High School desegregation battle • Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded (1957) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disneyland opens (1955) • National Highway Act (1956) • Growth of suburbia and Sunbelt • Atomic bomb testing in Nevada and Pacific Ocean | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treaty of Detroit (1950) • Military-industrial complex begins to rise • National Defense Education Act (1958) spurs development of technology |
| 1960 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cuban missile crisis (1962) • Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (1964) • Johnson sends ground troops to Vietnam; war escalates (1965) • Tet offensive (1968); peace talks begin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John F. Kennedy's New Frontier • John F. Kennedy assassinated (1963) • Lyndon B. Johnson's landslide victory (1964) • War on Poverty; Great Society • Riots at Democratic National Convention (1968) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greensboro sit-ins • <i>The Feminine Mystique</i> (1963) • Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts (1964–1965) • National Organization for Women founded (1966) • Alcatraz occupation (1969) • Black Power • Student and antiwar activism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Society environmental initiatives • Urban riots (1964–1968) • Kerner Commission Report (1968) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic boom • Government spending on Vietnam and Great Society • Medicare and Medicaid created (1965) |
| 1970 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nixon invades Cambodia (1970) • Paris Accords end Vietnam War (1973) • Camp David Accords between Egypt and Israel (1978) • Iranian Revolution (1979) and hostage crisis (1979–1981) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Nixon's landslide victory (1972) • Watergate scandal; Nixon resigns (1974) • Jimmy Carter elected president (1976) • Moral Majority founded (1979) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal Rights Amendment (1972) • <i>Roe v. Wade</i> (1973) • <i>Bakke v. University of California</i> (1978) • Harvey Milk assassinated (1978) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Earth Day (1970) • Environmental Protection Agency established (1970) • Endangered Species Act (1973) • Three Mile Island accident (1979) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy crisis (1973) • Inflation surges, while economy stagnates (stagflation) • Deindustrialization • Tax revolt in California (1978) |

The Perils of the Cold War: Americans like much of the world, lived under the threat of nuclear war during the tense years of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union. A 1951 civil defense poster with the message "It can happen here," suggests that Americans were prepared for such a dire outcome. © Wikimedia Commons