**Unit 6 Chapter 13 Lesson 3: The Cold War and American Society Notes**

1. A New Red Scare
2. The Truman Loyalty Review Program
3. In early 1947, President Truman started a loyal review program that checked, or screened, the loyalty of all federal employees in the U.S. government.
4. Truman’s establishment of this program seemed to confirm suspicions that Communists had infiltrated the government.
5. Between 1947 and 1951, more than six million federal employees were screened for loyalty—a difficult idea to define.
6. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) looked closely at around 14,000 people resulting in about 2,000 quitting their jobs and another 212 were fired for “questionable loyalty” even though there was not any actual proof.
7. HUAC and Anti-Communist Investigations
8. The House Un-American activities Committee (HUAC) was formed in 1938 to look into activities that could be harmful to the United States.
9. FBI director J. Edgar Hoover was not satisfied with these results of the Anti-Communist investigations. In 1947 he appeared before the House Un-American activities Committee (HUAC) to urge public hearings to root out Communists, “Communist sympathizers,” and “fellow travelers.”
10. Hollywood on Trial
11. One of HUAC’s first hearings in 1947 focused on the film industry.
12. Ronald Reagan was head of the Screen actors Guild at the time. When called before HUAC, he testified that there were Communists in Hollywood.
13. During the hearings, ten screenwriters used their Fifth Amendment right to protect themselves from self-incrimination and refused to testify. This group became known as the “Hollywood ten.”
14. The incident led producers to blacklist, or agree not to hire, anyone who might possibly be a Communist and those who refused to cooperate with the committee.
15. Alger Hiss
16. In 1948 Whittaker Chambers, a magazine editor and former Communist Party member, told HUAC that several government officials, including Alger Hess, were also former Communists or spies.
17. Hiss was a diplomat who had been part of Roosevelt’s administration that had attended the Yalta Conference and had helped organize the United Nations.
18. Chambers testified to HUAC that, in 1937 and 1938, Hiss had given him secret State Department documents.
19. Chambers turned in copies of secret documents. He also had microfilm that he had hidden in a hollow pumpkin. These “pumpkin papers,” Chambers claimed, proved Hiss was lying.
20. A jury agreed and convicted Hiss of perjury, or lying under oath.
21. The Rosenberg’s
22. In 1950 the hunt for spies led to the arrest of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, a New York couple that belonged to the Communist Party.
23. The Rosenberg’s denied the charges. They were sentenced to death for spying and executed in June 1953.
24. Project Verona
25. In 1946 U.S. and British cryptographers were working on a project code-named “Verona.”
26. They figured out the Soviet Union’s spy code. This made it possible to read about 3,000 messages between Moscow and the United States that were collected during the Cold War.
27. The content of the messages revealed ongoing efforts by the Soviets to steal nuclear secrets. The Verona documents gave strong evidence that the Rosenberg’s were indeed guilty.
28. The Red Scare Spreads
29. The University of California made its teachers take loyalty oaths. The school fired 157 who refused.
30. Many Catholic groups became anti-Communist and urged their members to report Communists within the Church.
31. The Taft-Hartley act of 1947 made union leaders take oaths saying that they were not Communists.
32. Eventually federated union leadership banned 11 unions that would not remove Communist leaders.
33. McCarthyism
34. The McCarran Act
35. In 1950 McCarthy and others stirred up fears of Communist spies. That year Congress passed the Internal Security act, also called the McCarran act.
36. The act made it illegal to try to set up a dictator-run government in the United States.
37. It required all Communist-related organizations to publish their records. These organizations also had to register with the U.S. attorney general.
38. Communists could not have passports. In cases of a national emergency, Communists could be arrested and put in jail.
39. Later Supreme Court cases limited the power of the McCarran act.
40. McCarthy’s Rise and Fall
41. In 1953 McCarthy became chairman of the Senate subcommittee on investigations.
42. Investigations became witch-hunts—searches for disloyalty based on weak evidence and fears.
43. McCarthy’s practice of harming reputations with vague or unfounded charges became known as McCarthyism.
44. In 1954 McCarthy began to look for Soviet spies in the U.S. army. During weeks of televised hearings, millions of Americans watched McCarthy question and bully officers which eroded his popular support.
45. Later that year, the Senate passed a vote of censure, or formal disapproval, against McCarthy. He lost all influence in the Senate.
46. Life during the Early Cold War
47. Facing the Bomb
48. Americans were shocked when the Soviets successfully tested a more powerful hydrogen bomb, or H-bomb, in 1953.
49. Schools built bomb shelters and held bomb drills to teach students to “duck-and cover” to protect themselves.
50. For every person killed during a nuclear blast, four more would die later from fallout, the radiation that stays after a blast. Some families built their own fallout shelters.
51. Popular Culture in the Cold War
52. Cold War themes soon appeared in films, plays, television, music, and popular fiction.
53. In 1953 *The Crucible* appeared on Broadway. This Arthur miller story criticized the Communist witch hunts of the time.
54. In 1953 a weekly television series called *I Led Three Lives* started. It was about an undercover FBI counterspy who was also a Communist Party official.
55. Popular songs such as “atomic Boogie” and “atom Bomb Baby” played on the radio.
56. One of the most famous and lasting works of this period is John Hersey’s nonfiction book *Hiroshima*. *Hiroshima* talked about the real, personal horrors of a nuclear attack.
57. At the same time, the country was enjoying postwar wealth and contentment. That feeling, combined with McCarthyism, fears of communism, and the threat of atomic attack, made the early 1950s a time of contrasts.