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PREFACE

The collapse of the USSR in 1991 ended almost half a century of intense international struggle called the Cold War. For those of us who lived through it, the great events, personalities, crises, and conflicts were frightening and familiar aspects of our daily lives. For a new generation of readers, however, they are but dim and distant developments of a bygone era.

This book is meant for both groups. It is, in fact, a combined, revised, and updated edition of our two highly acclaimed Cold War books, A Hard and Bitter Peace: A Global History of the Cold War and The Cold War: A History through Documents. The former book was designed as a text for Cold War courses and as general reading for those interested in that era. Unlike Cold War texts stressing mainly U.S. history, it provided a global perspective, in a clear and engaging narrative style accessible to ordinary readers. The latter book, a wide-ranging collection of Cold War documents, sought both to illuminate the era’s great events and to bring them to life in the words of those who were actively involved. We are pleased and satisfied that so many people—teachers, students, and ordinary readers—have used these books and found them helpful in understanding the Cold War.

NEW TO THIS EDITION

We had hoped to publish this second edition sooner, but were engaged for some years in writing our world history textbook, Connections: A World History (Pearson Education, 2009). Although that project delayed us, it also enhanced our emphasis on global connections and enabled us to add many new features and improvements to our Cold War coverage.

- New information and research has been incorporated. The opening of Soviet archives, publication of Cold War memoirs, and ongoing work of scholars have clarified and expanded our understanding of key decisions, perceptions, and events. How did Soviet and Chinese leaders interact with and view each other? What were Soviet objectives in Berlin and Cuba? How did Reagan’s goals and perceptions differ from those of his predecessors? Insights and revelations from archives, memoirs, and scholars, casting light on these issues and numerous others, have been woven into the text of this second edition.

- We have enhanced the book’s global coverage. Since the end of the Cold War, scholars have focused increasingly on its global impact and on the interaction between the Cold War and the struggles of non-Western nations emerging from Western domination and colonial rule. This second edition thus substantially increases our global coverage.

- We have expanded and further globalized our document selection. To support, sustain, and illuminate our enhanced global coverage, we have added a number of documents that deal with the Cold War as it pertained to Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America.
• The List of Further Readings has been expanded and updated. The scholarly literature on the Cold War has virtually exploded since our first editions. Areas such as Soviet foreign and domestic policies, Soviet espionage activities, the policies of the People’s Republic of China, and the impact of Cold War rivalries on non-Western nations have been widely and deeply examined. The second edition includes references to numerous significant studies that have enhanced our knowledge of this crucial period.

• Maps have been revised, updated, and captioned. Our map program now includes full-color maps inside each cover. Existing maps have been expanded in number and revised to enhance their use as instructional tools. Captions have been added to assist the reader in learning from each map rather than simply glancing at it.

• Marginal Notes have been added throughout the book. Since many younger readers will have no direct familiarity with the Cold War, we have added marginal notes to help them see the “big picture” and to help all our readers understand the significance of the events we describe and the connections among them.

• The visual program has been thoroughly revised. We have used Pearson Education’s extensive photo archive to replace some photos and add many new ones. In each instance, the educational usefulness of the photograph has been foremost in our minds.

• We have incorporated suggestions from teachers and professors who have used the first editions. Our colleagues in the educational world have been generous with their comments and suggestions. Grateful for their insights and their loyalty to our work, we have included many of their ideas in the second edition.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In preparing this work, we have benefited greatly from the reactions and insights of our students, particularly those who have taken our Cold War history courses. We are deeply grateful to them, as well as to the librarians who helped us locate and assemble documents, and to our colleagues and editors—including Joseph Curran, Douglas Egerton, Mark Kulikowski, Larry Eugene Jones, Mark T. Clark, Lawrence H. Madaras, Eleanor McCluskey, Charles Cavaliere, Rob DeGeorge, and Jeff Lasser—who made numerous helpful suggestions. We are especially grateful to our wives, Susan Judge and Janice Langdon, who provided us with patient, good-humored support and helped in countless ways. It is to them, above all, that we are indebted, and it is to them that we lovingly and appreciatively dedicate our work.

Ed Judge and John Langdon