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Study Guide

A New Economy

1980-1999

1. Iran-Contra Affair - the United States sold arms to Iran and used the profits to fund Contra forces seeking to overthrow the Communist government in Nicaragua.

2. Operation Rolling Thunder – was launched after the American Embassy Bombing in 1998 by President Bill Clinton.

3. Timothy McVeigh - strongly hated the United States federal government.

McVeigh wanted to take as much action as possible against the federal government.

McVeigh chose the date to commit the Oklahoma City Bombing to reflect on the anniversary of the siege on Waco, Texas.

4. Rogers Commission - investigated the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster and determined that the failure of the O-rings to seal the right solid rocket booster. Flames hit the external fuel tank and caused the shuttle to disintegrate. There was a design flaw in the shuttle

5. Manuel Noriega – was the leader of Panama who the United Sates removed from power in 1989.

6. Madeleine Albright - became the first woman to hold the office of Secretary of State under President Bill Clinton.

7. Newt Gingrich - Former Speaker of the House of Representatives, this man was responsible for what many called the “Republican Revolution.”

8. Sandra Day O’Connor - Appointed by President Ronald Reagan, this woman became the first female Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

9. Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf - American military leader was in charge of United States Coalition forces in the First Persian Gulf War against Iraq in 1991.

10. John Foster Dulles - Secretary of State under President Eisenhower and prominent anti-communist figure throughout the early Cold War.

11. Somalia (1992-1994) - the United States lost two Black Hawk helicopters in an attempt to capture regime leaders to bring political stability to the area.

12. Rodney King - His beating by police and their acquittal for excessive force led to riots in Los Angeles.

13. Trickle Down Economics - stated that economic growth could be created if incentives are offered for people to produce goods and services through business friendly policies such as the relaxation of government regulations and tax cuts for businesses.

14. Operation Flash - ended the fighting during the Bosnian War in which the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia supported the militant group.

15. Mikhail Gorbachev - began initiatives to liberalize the Soviet economy and engaged in more free-enterprise activities

16. Columbine - Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold carried out a school killing twelve students and one teacher while also injuring twenty-three other students.

17. Able Archer 83 - simulating a nuclear attack on the Soviet Union causing the Soviets to fear these countries were actually planning an attack.

18. Hilary Clinton – As First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton declared that “women’s rights are human rights.”

19. The Bosnian War - The war was part of the breakup of Yugoslavia. Following the Slovenian and Croatian secessions from the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in 1991.

20. (Essay) Answer the following written task in essay form. Written responses are worth up to 20 points. To receive full credit, essays must be not only accurate and complete, but also organized and well written with very few grammatical or spelling errors. (Total 20 points)

President Ronald Reagan was one of the most influential members of the conservative movement in the United States and had many conservative ideas for the federal government when he became President in 1980. In a well-organized essay, describe Reagan’s economic and foreign policy views as President that garnered him a large conservative voter base in the United States.

RONALD REAGAN AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

In foreign affairs, Ronald Reagan’s first term in office was marked by a massive buildup of U.S. weapons and troops, as well as an escalation of the Cold War (1946-1991) with the Soviet Union, which the president dubbed “the evil empire.” Key to his administration’s foreign policy initiatives was the Reagan Doctrine, under which America provided aid to anticommunist movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America. In 1983, Reagan announced the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), a plan to develop space-based weapons to protect America from attacks by Soviet nuclear missiles.

Also on the foreign affairs front, Reagan sent 800 U.S. Marines to Lebanon as part of an international peacekeeping force after Israel invaded that nation in June 1982. In October 1983, suicide bombers attacked the Marine barracks in Beirut, killing 241 Americans. That same month, Reagan ordered U.S. forces to lead an invasion of Grenada, an island in the Caribbean, after Marxist rebels overthrew the government. In addition to the problems in Lebanon and Grenada, the Reagan administration had to deal with an ongoing contentious relationship between the United States and Libyan leader Muammar al-Gaddafi (1942-).

During his second term, Reagan forged a diplomatic relationship with the reform-minded Mikhail Gorbachev (1931-), who became leader of the Soviet Union in 1985. In 1987, the Americans and Soviets signed a historic agreement to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear missiles. That same year, Reagan spoke at Germany’s Berlin Wall, a symbol of communism, and famously challenged Gorbachev to tear it down. Twenty-nine months later, Gorbachev allowed the people of Berlin to dismantle the wall. After leaving the White House, Reagan returned to Germany in September 1990—just weeks before Germany was officially reunified–and took several symbolic swings with a hammer at a remaining chunk of the wall.

RONALD REAGAN’S DOMESTIC AGENDA

On the domestic front, President Ronald Reagan implemented policies to reduce the federal government’s reach into the daily lives and pocketbooks of Americans, including tax cuts intended to spur growth (known as Reaganomics). He also advocated for increases in military spending, reductions in certain social programs and measures to deregulate business.

By 1983, the nation’s economy had started to recover and enter a period of prosperity that would extend through the rest of Reagan’s presidency. Critics maintained that his policies led to budget deficits and a more significant national debt; some also held that his economic programs favored the rich.

In 1981, Reagan made history by appointing Sandra Day O’Connor (1930-) as the first woman to the U.S. Supreme Court.