

**Artifact:**

**“The Sources of Soviet Conduct,” X (George Kennan),**

**Foreign Affairs, Journal, 1947.**



[Soviet ideology believes in] the basic badness of capitalism, in the inevitability of its destruction, in the obligation of the proletariat to assist in that destruction and to take power into its own hands...

The first of these concepts is that of the innate antagonism between capitalism and Socialism . . . It means that there can never be on Moscow's side a sincere assumption of a community of aims between the Soviet Union and powers which are regarded as capitalist. It must inevitably be assumed in Moscow that the aims of the capitalist world are antagonistic to the Soviet regime, and therefore to the interests of the peoples it controls...

The very teachings of Lenin himself require great caution and flexibility in the pursuit of Communist purposes. . . Its political action is a fluid stream which moves constantly, wherever it is permitted to move, toward a given goal. Its main concern is to make sure that it has filled every nook and cranny available to it in the basin of world power...

In these circumstances it is clear that the main element of any United States policy toward the Soviet Union must be that of long-term, patient but firm and vigilant containment of Russian expansive tendencies...

It is clear that the United States cannot expect in the foreseeable future to enjoy political intimacy with the Soviet regime. It must continue to regard the Soviet Union as a rival, not a partner, in the political arena. It must continue to expect that Soviet policies will reflect no abstract love of peace and stability, no real faith in the possibility of a permanent happy coexistence of the Socialist and capitalist worlds, but rather a cautious, persistent pressure toward the disruption and, weakening of all rival influence and rival power...

The issue of Soviet-American relations is in essence a test of the overall worth of the United States as a nation among nations. To avoid destruction the United States need only measure up to its own best traditions and prove itself worthy of preservation as a great nation.

Surely, there was never a fairer test of national quality than this. In the light of these circumstances, the thoughtful observer of Russian-American relations will find no cause for complaint in the Kremlin's challenge to American society. He will rather experience a certain gratitude to a Providence which, by providing the American people with this implacable challenge, has made their entire security as a nation dependent on their pulling themselves together and accepting the responsibilities of moral and political leadership that history plainly intended them to bear.

**APUSH Framework Classifications**

**Period 8: 1945-1980**

**Key Concept 8.1.I**

**APUSH Theme/s:**

**America in the World, American and National Identity**

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# SALLAN

## A primary source practice

One important note: Don't think you have to address all of the elements below. That'd be annoying.

Instead, see SALLAN as a sort of menu: Depending on the artifact, some elements will be more relevant than others.

## Source

- +**Context:** What's going on at the time??
  - +**Point of View:** What's relevant re the creator's worldview?
  - +**Purpose:** Why was this source produced?
  - +**Audience:** To whom is the message directed?
- How do these elements impact the artifact's Argument?

## Argument

- +**Main Message:** Argument the creator makes?
- +**Supporting Details:** Specific parts especially relevant to the Main Message?
- +**Underground:** What's going on below the surface? POV, assumptions, tone?

## Links (to Content Knowledge)

- +**Broad CK:** Broad CK you can link to this artifact?
- +**Specific CK:** Specific CK you can link to this artifact?

## Links (to other Artifacts)

- +**Source Corroboration:** Does another artifact corroborate the Main Message of this artifact?
- +**Source Conflict:** Does another artifact conflict with the Main Message of this artifact?

## Analysis?

Explain the historical significance of this artifact by using:

- +1 element from Sourcing.
- +2 other elements of your choice.

## New Question?