

1950: THE MCCARTHY ERA

❶ Put these events in chronological order:

- a The Soviets detonated an atomic bomb.
- b McCarthy accused General George C. Marshall of being part of a conspiracy.
- c President Truman ordered loyalty investigations of employees in the executive branch.
- d The Soviet Union established control over most of Eastern Europe.
- e The Senate convened the Army-McCarthy hearings.
- f McCarthy accused the State Department of employing Communists.
- g U.S. law enforcement arrested and deported alleged Communists during the Red Scare.
- h McCarthy became chairman of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

❷ The congressional committee whose investigations led to the Hollywood "blacklist" was the _____.

- a Senate Judiciary Committee
- b Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

- c House Un-American Activities Committee
- d House Committee on Sedition

❸ According to the article, which of the following organizations did McCarthy accuse of harboring Communists?

- a The U.S. Army
- b The Boy Scouts of America
- c The U.S. Olympic Committee
- d The C.I.A.

❹ In 1798, President John Adams signed the Alien and Sedition acts, which, in part, made it a crime to _____.

- a visit Eastern Europe
- b accuse someone of being "in any way disloyal to the United States"
- c speak approvingly of France
- d publish "false, scandalous, and malicious writing" about the U.S. government

IN-DEPTH QUESTIONS

❶ Why did McCarthy's critics liken his investigations to "witch hunts"?

❷ What did Edward R. Murrow mean when he said that McCarthy "didn't create this situation of fear; he merely exploited it"?

❸ In what ways were concerns about Communists in the 1950s similar to or different from concerns about terrorists in the past decade?