

Due to our time constraints with this final unit, between now and our next class, please read the following topics in your textbooks and be familiar with the material below. We will only briefly review this material and then move right into our discussion of the Cold War.

*“America stands at this moment at the summit of the world”* - Winston Churchill, 1945

- Post War Economy: Would the depression return?
- Taft-Hartley Act of 1947 (KNOW THE COMPONENTS OF THIS VERY IMPORTANT LAW)
  - Why was this law deemed necessary by the Republican-controlled Congress?
- What was “Operation Dixie”?
- 1946 Employment Act – created the Council of Economic Advisors
- KNOW the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act (or GI Bill) of 1944
  - What was significant about the GI Bill?
- Understand the tremendous growth of the economy after the war. What caused this boom?
- Understand the growth of the “sunbelt” as well as the growth of “suburbs”
  - Why did Americans move to the South? (see the map on p. 858)
  - How did this affect the north?
  - How did this affect the economy?
  - How did it affect cities and race relations?
  - Note that many of the famous “tract home” construction companies were born from the massive shipbuilding campaign of World War II
  - What was the social significance of the growth of suburban communities?
  - **Be sure to read the “Makers of America” section on pages 860-861**
- Understand the baby boom
  - Men come home from war → Women leave the workforce → America untouched by war, economic growth, focus on family → high rate of marriages and births!
  - What are the long-term effects?
  - What about social security?

**Chart: Number of Births** (note on the chart what effect baby boomers would have on schools and school closings, job market, social security, etc) Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baby\\_boom](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baby_boom)

