



# Promises to Keep: The United States Since World War II

By Paul S. Boyer

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Designed for the "U.S. Since 1945" course, this comprehensive survey presents the World War II experience as a backdrop for understanding recent developments and events in American history. The text features four principal, interwoven themes: the pervasive impact of the Cold War; the effects of social-protest movements among African Americans, women, and other groups; the sources and impact of economic, demographic, and cultural changes; and a thorough examination of politics.

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#### About the Author

Paul S. Boyer, Merle Curti Professor of History Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University. An editor of *NOTABLE AMERICAN WOMEN, 1607-1950* (1971), he also co-authored *SALEM POSSESSED: THE SOCIAL ORIGINS OF WITCHCRAFT* (1974), for which, with Stephen Nissenbaum, he received the John H. Dunning Prize of the American Historical Association. His other works include *URBAN MASSES AND MORAL ORDER IN AMERICA, 1820-1920* (1978), *BY THE BOMB'S EARLY LIGHT: AMERICAN THOUGHT AND CULTURE AT THE DAWN OF THE ATOMIC AGE* (1985), *WHEN TIME SHALL BE NO MORE: PROPHECY BELIEF IN MODERN AMERICAN CULTURE* (1992), and *PROMISES TO KEEP: THE UNITED STATES SINCE WORLD WAR II* (3e, 2003). He is also editor-in-chief of the *OXFORD COMPANION TO UNITED STATES HISTORY* (2001). His articles and essays have appeared in the "American Quarterly," "New Republic," and other journals. He has been a visiting professor at the University of California, Los Angeles; Northwestern University; and the College of William and Mary.

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