

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Study Guide—Background Briefing

*Instructions:* You are representing your country at a meeting of the Soviet Union, the United States, Great Britain, and France held in the summer of 1946. The purpose of the conference is to discuss ways to reduce tensions and minimize threats to the peace. Since your country was one of the victorious powers in World War II and serves as one of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, you feel entitled to shape the postwar world to promote your national security interests and well-being. To assist you in preparing a convincing presentation of your country's security concerns, carefully answer the following questions after you have read the background briefing.

1. What are your country's specific security concerns?
2. What issues and values, fundamental to your country, lie behind these concerns?
3. What are the historical precedents for these concerns?
4. In your judgment, what attitudes do the other powers at the conference hold toward your country?
5. What evidence supports your perception of these attitudes?
6. According to the perspective of your country, what are the major threats to postwar peace?