Report Card on US Performance in the Cold War

This project challenges you to create a report card that evaluates the US on its performance in the Cold War. You will:

1. choose and write a description of a US action,
2. evaluate how effective and appropriate it was, and
3. assign a grade to the US based on this evaluation.

Pick one of the following actions to research and assign the US a grade for:

- Arms Race/MAD
- Korean War
- NATO 1949
- Chile 1970
- COINTELPRO 1956-
- Tibet 1954 (CIA)
- Dominican Republic 1961

Requirements

1. Address and answer the following question (Hint: This is your thesis/claim): How effective and appropriate were US actions during the Cold War? What evidence do you have to support your position (answer/opinion)?

2. Include a descriptive and concise summary IN YOUR OWN WORDS of the US action you are evaluating. You could also include a brief timeline in this section if appropriate.

3. Assign an overall grade for your chosen action. Example:
   
   A- The actions of the US produced extremely positive results for the United States and the world community and were, without question, morally justifiable and effective.
   
   B- The actions of the United States produced largely positive results for the United States and the world community and were morally justifiable and effective in almost all instances.
   
   C- The actions of the United States produced mixed results for the United States and the world community and were not effective or morally justifiable in more than a few instances.
   
   D- The actions of the United States produced less than satisfactory results for the United States and the world community and were often not effective or morally justifiable.
   
   F- The actions of the United States produced entirely negative results for the United States and the world community and were not morally justifiable or effective in any way.

4. Give a detailed explanation for WHY you assigned that grade. Hint: this is where you provide evidence for your position/opinion on the subject. Cite evidence and explain how it justifies your decision to assign that grade to that subject. (You need at least 3 solid reasons)

5. Include in text citations AND create an annotated Works Cited document with at least 4 scholarly sources- not wiki, ask.com, about.com, answers, etc. NO! Bad!

Tip:
When you search ACADEMIC, SCHOLARLY SOURCES, the following may be useful search terms to include, along with the topic: US intervention, cold war, US actions, US foreign policy, containment policy, outcomes, effectiveness. Try different combinations of those terms with your topic and see what you come up with….just a thought.
Example Layout:

1) An introduction paragraph, statement of reasons, thesis, and grading statement. (Ex: Based on __________, it is clear that US involvement was _____ effective and appropriate because of __________(reasons). For these reasons, the US earned a grade of _______ for their actions during the Cold War.

2) 1-2 paragraphs introducing the reader to your topic and describing/summarizing the action IN YOUR OWN WORDS; cite your sources and research.

3) A paragraph or two explaining/justifying what grade you assigned to the action and an explanation for WHY you assigned that grade. (Hint: this is where you provide evidence for your position/opinion on the subject). You need to cite evidence and explain how it justifies your decision to assign that grade to that subject.

4) A conclusion that discusses the historical importance of this topic, AND relates the events to current events and its impact on today- why it is still important. Cause it is.

Do not simply cut and paste summaries; I want you to prove your ability to do higher-level thinking and research and draw your own conclusions from information you gathered. **To make this outstanding, make a case as to why studying this historical issue helps us understand current issues and events.**