Key Vocabulary Soviet Union The name given to communist Russia following the communist revolution of 1917. This name is often abbreviated to the U.S.S.R The leading capitalist power in the 20th century. USA They viewed themselves as 'defenders of the free world.' Conferences The powers of Britain, America and Russia met 3 times during the war, where they discussed the future of Europe in case of victory for the Grand Alliance. Soviet Satellite Russia had twice been invaded by Germany through States weak countries in E. Europe. Stalin wanted these countries to become satellite states (Russian controlled) to protect Russia. Poland In 1945 Stalin wanted to move the boarder of Poland so it became part of the Soviet Union. He viewed this as a 'buffer zone' to protect future attacks. Long Telegram Telegram sent by U.S. official to Truman in which he criticized Soviet expansion and recommended America try and top this expansion U.S. policy of 'containing' communism to the areas it Containment already existed and allowing no further expansion into Eastern Europe. Novikov Soviet telegram which responded to the Long Telegram telegram and accused the U.S.A. of trying to achieve

'world domination.' Soviet The term given to Russia taking control of Eastern Expansion Europe. In most E European countries (Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland), communist parties were elected through rigged elections and opposition

'Iron Curtain' speech (1946)

Europe. On one side, were free capitalist countries (the West) on the other, were unfree communist countries, tightly controlled by Stalin

became part of the Soviet Union.

leaders were soon arrested. These countries

Churchill said an 'iron curtain' had dropped across

Background

The Grand Alliance was formed between the USA, the Soviet Union and Britain to defeat Germany and Japan in WWII. However, this alliance disguised their serious ideological differences. The USA and Britain were capitalist, and the Soviet Union was communist. After the events of the Second World War, the political differences between the east and the west cause an increase in tension globally. The Soviet Union (USSR) wanted protection on its borders to avoid attack like in WWII. It expanded its influence (and communism) across Eastern Europe to create a buffer zone of friendly states. The Americans viewed this as aggressive expansion. The deep mistrust between the East and West would lead to the Berlin Blockade and the formation of alliances that deepened the tensions felt around the world.

> Capitalism Communism

- An economic and political system where trade and industry are controlled privately rather than by the state
- The idea of goods and services being exchanged for money, private ownership of property and businesses, and acceptance of a hierarchical society.
- An economic and political system where all property is owned by the
- The belief, based on the ideas of Karl Marx, that all people should be equal in society without government, money or private property.

Conferences

Tehran Conference (1943)

Stalin and Roosevelt agreed that the USSR would join the UN and to join the war against Japan Churchill and Stalin later made the 'percentages agreement' to divide Eastern Europe. An area of Eastern Poland was to be given to Russia to help protect the Soviet Union.

Yalta Conference (Feb, 1945)

Agreement that Eastern Europe would become a Soviet 'sphere of influence.' Stalin wanted the border of Poland to be further West (giving Russia more land in Poland) than USA and Britain did. The USSR could take reparations from Germany. They could not agree on what to do with Poland.

Potsdam Conference (July, 1945)

Not a successful meeting, tensions were rising as they could not agree on how harshly to punish Germany. Truman wanted Germany to become a strong country. Stalin wanted it crippled. Truman wanted free elections in E. Europe. Stalin did not. Poland's borders to be moved Westwards

Nuclear Arms Race

At Potsdam, Truman informed Stalin that the USA had created an Atomic Bomb. Stalin was very suspicious of this. On August 6th 1946, the USA used an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. There were 100,000 deaths. On August 9th 1946, the USA used an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Nagasaki. There were over 50,000 deaths. The USSR developed their own atomic bomb by 1949. The development of atomic weapons increased the competition of the Cold War and made it dangerous as both superpowers pushed each other to the brink of war.

Containment

The Truman Doctrine (1947)

President Truman declared that he feared the spread of communism and said it was a threat to freedom- America wanted to prevent the spread of communism further to other countries. They promised to support in whatever way any country that was under threat of becoming communist. The USA had the right to use its military and economy to fight the spread of communism.

The Marshall Plan

This was America's economic plan, to provide aid to countries to help them rebuild after the war. USA offered \$13 billion of aid to Europe to stop poverty leading to communism. This upset the USSR who thought USA was trying to bribe its satellite states.

Cominform

In response to the Marshall Plan the USSR united all communist parties together from satellite states and followed the same policies and brought them under tighter control. Comecon was also set up by Stalin. It encouraged Soviet controlled countries to work together.



Hungarian Uprising

The Hungarians hated Soviet rule and after WW2, they were left under the control of communist governments. Rakosi, a pro-Soviet strict communist who set about imposing a dictatorship in Hungary following Stalin's methods. This led to demonstrations in Hungary, and there seemed to be relief with the death of Stalin and the 'de-Stalinisation' of the government. Khrushchev – the new Soviet leader, agreed to allow Gomulka who was popular with the Polish to stay in charge and give them more independence. Protests from Hungarian students however went further, demanding freedom of speech and free elections. They dragged statues of Stalin through the street and attacked the secret police. Khrushchev sent tanks into Hungary to stop demonstrations. He remained cautious however as Hungary was not happy with strict communism, so he allowed Imre Nagy (communist) to take charge. He was very liberal which worried Khrushchev as he planned a very moderate form of Communism which was unheard of for a Satellite State.



NATO **Warsaw Pact**

 Western European defensive alliance backed by USA

1941 – Formation of Grand

Alliance

- Idea was suggested by Britain, agreed by USA
- Led to the creation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
- The East was suspicious of NATO
- When Germany joined, military base was placed there which worried USSR
- USSR created its own Eastern defence alliance named Warsaw Pact

August 1945 – USA drop the atom bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki

1946 – Winston Churchill makes his famous 'Iron Curtin' speech

1947 – Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan

1947 – Cominform set up by Stalin

1948 – The Berlin Blockade begins

1943 – The Tehran Conference

1949 – Comecon set up by Stalin

February 1945 – The Yalta

Conference

1949 – The Berlin Blockade ends

1956 – The Hungarian Uprising 1955 – Start of the Warsaw Pact

	Key Vocabulary	
The Bay of Pigs (1961)	USA attempt to overthrow Castro. • Total failure for President Kennedy. • This forced Cuba to grow closer to Khrushchev. — agreed to station Soviet nuclear weapons on Cuba.	
Berlin Ultimatum (Nov 1959)	Khrushchev gave the West an ultimatum — withdraw their forces from Berlin within six months and allow to become neutral. The West however refused to withdraw.	
Superpower Summits (1959)	Eisenhower and Khrushchev met to try and agree a solution to Berlin. Khrushchev agreed to meet in America which was a show of good will.	
Paris Summit (1960)	Although Khrushchev agreed to drop his demands on Berlin, tension continued to rise. On May 1 st 1960, American U2 plane was shot down by the Soviets. At the Summit, Eisenhower refused to apologise for the plane being in USSR air space and so Khrushchev walked out.	
Vienna Summit (1961)	Khrushchev reissued the Berlin ultimatum. Kennedy had just become President, and Soviets were winning the Space Race, and so the Soviets were in a good position. Kennedy stuck his ground and so the Soviets took it further.	
Space Race	Period of competition between the Soviet Union and the United States over who could conquer space exploration first.	
NATO	The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation is an alliance of democratic countries who agree to defend each other against attack.	
Ultimatum	A final demand attached to a threat.	
Summit	A meeting between people who are interested in the same subject.	
Sphere of Influence	A region over which one country largely has control or influence	
Espionage	The act of organized spying, usually with the goal of uncovering sensitive military or political information.	

The Berlin Blockade

Causes

- West Berlin had recovered from the war much quicker than the East
- Stalin was determined to make East Germany pay for the war
- USA and Britain merged their section into one, calling it Bizonia
- The Soviets begin to monitor the road and rail traffic into Berlin
 USA and Britain introduced a new more valuable
- currency to Bizonia
 East Germans rushed to convert their currency, undermining USSR control there

Events

- Most goods and supplies had to go through East Germany to reach the West
- The USSR blocked the roads, railways and canals to make life difficult for West Berlin
- This meant that many people in Germany would run out of essential items
- The Blockade prevented any more Marshall Aid from reaching West Berlin
- abandon West Berlin
 Stalin's main objective was to force the West to abandon West Berlin, allowing it to be controlled by

Stalin's main objective was to force the West to

The Berlin Airlift

- General Clay of the USA believed that giving in to Stalin would be giving into communism
- The West also didn't want to let Germany down or give in to the Soviets
- There were still 3 air corridors over Berlin, and so Britain and America used these to fly supplies into West Berlin
- Within a few weeks, 8000 tonnes of supplies landed in West Berlin everyday
- Stalin was frustrated, but there was little he could do without declaring war

The Cuban Missile Crisis

- The USA had strong economic interests in Cuba. 1959 Fidel Castro led a successful revolution to remove the pro-American government (Batista). USA banned Cuban imports and refused to recognise the government due to its communist links.
- Missile bases 14 October 1962 American U-2 spy planes photographed Soviet missile sites on Cuba and Soviet ships on their way to Cuba with missiles on board.
- Kennedy ordered a naval blockade and threatened retaliation if any missile was fired. The world was on the brink of nuclear war.

the Soviets

- Kennedy promised to remove US missiles from Turkey in return for the bases on Cuba being dismantled and the missiles (which were still on their way to Cuba) taken back to the USSR.
- 28 October Khrushchev removed the missiles and the crisis was over
- Outcomes: Khrushchev seemed to have failed he had backed down in the face of American pressure. Kennedy became the hero of the Western world. The public did not know that Kennedy had secretly agreed to remove US missiles from Turkey. Telephone 'hot line' set up between Moscow and Washington so that the leaders could speak directly. This was to try and head off any future crises before they became serious and future communications could be done faster than letters.

The Prague Spring, Czechoslovakia

Causes

- The Prague Spring was a series of reforms and amendments to the constitution introduced by the leader Alexander Dubcek.. These allowed for greater personal freedom, and removal of the worst parts of communist.
- He also announced the end of censorship and the right of Czech citizens to criticise the government. Newspapers took the opportunity to produce scathing reports about government incompetence and corruption. Trade unions were given increased rights to bargain for their members.

Dwight D Eisenhower

President USA 1953-61

Events

- In June 1968, Prague was chosen to be the location for the Warsaw Pact military exercises, with Soviet, Polish and East German troops. This was clearly an attempt to intimidate Czechoslovakia.
- When this did not stop the reforms,
 Brezhnev turned to force, sending tanks
 into the country to take Prague. Dubcek
 was arrested and replaced and the
 reforms were reversed.

Consequences

- Yugoslavia and Romania condemned the invasion. Italian and French communist parties cut links to the Soviet Union. East Germany and Poland welcomed the invasion as it made them feel more secure in their government.
- The USA and western governments were outraged by the invasion and made strong protests to the Soviet Union.
- This showed that the USA would not take direct action against the Soviet Union in Europe. This made other countries take notice that the USA was very willing to criticise the USSR but were not willing to act.

Key People

Nikita Khrushchev



Leonid Brezhnev Leader USSR 1964-82



Alexander Dubcek Leader of Czechoslovakia 1968-69



On 13th August 1961, the people of Berlin wake to a physical border being constructed to separate East and West. People could not cross the border and stopped the East Berliners moving to the West. This had divided families.

The Berlin Wall

1963 – President Kennedy visits

Berlin

1959 – Socialist Revolution in Cuba

1963 – The Limited Test Ban Treaty signed by USA and USSR 1960-61 – Paris and Vienna Summits witness the breakdown US & USSR relations

John Fitzgerald Kennedy

President USA 1961-63

1967 – Outer Space Treaty

April 1961 – Bay of Pigs Invasion

1968 – Brezhnev Doctrine

August 1961 – Building the Berlin Wall, dividing city into east and west

> Jan – Aug 1968 – The Prague Spring

22nd – 28th October 1961 – Cuban Missile Crisis

August 1968 – The Soviet Union invaded Czechoslovakia

1988 – Soviet troops begin to pull out of Afghanistan

Background

Key Vocabulary

1983 – America announces Strategic

Defence Initiative to shoot down missiles

Reagan's Influence

Détente SALT I 1972 Helsinki Accords 1975	America and USSR saw the benefit of improving their relations. Both countries were spending too much on military weapons. The USSR would benefit from increased Western trade and America was recovering from the Vietnam war. Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. Limited the number of nuclear weapons both sides had Agreed to respect borders, work for closer relations and respect human rights.	Mikhail Gorbachev became Soviet leader in 1985, he realised that his country could no longer afford the cost of the nuclear arms race. He also recognised that the USSR was outdated compared to the rest of the world. He introduced the idea of glasnost meaning 'openness' with the intent to be to end government corruption and restore faith in communism. He also implemented perestroika meaning 'restructuring' with the aim to strengthen the economy and allow increased trade. He slowly begins to remove its influence over Eastern European countries. This is made more secure when the Berlin Wall is brought down, reuniting Germany once again. Little did Gorbachev realise that his policies would bring about, not only an end to the	eagan became President of USA in 1980, he hated communism and called the USSR an 'evil mpire' and ended détente. Reagan was determined to increase pressure on the Soviets and timidate them into making concessions in the Cold War. Iso, Reagan increased funding for the Cold War and supported anti- communist groups in South merica. The war in Vietnam had lasted 20 years. It is thought that over 50,000 Americans died in the war. In his early years as president, Reagan continued to fund anti-communist movements in actin America, in places like Chile. It is again had kick started the arms race again, known as the Second Cold War, even though public pointon was against this. Reagan convinced Congress to increase military expenditure by 13 per cent in 1982. He had planned the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) 1983 nicknamed 'Star Wars'. SSR was too poor to compete, The Soviet economy was 80% smaller than the American economy at didn't know USA hadn't actually made SDI yet.	
Failure of	It was clear that neither side trusted each	In 1978, control of Afghanistan had been seized by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA). This was a communist group, financed by the USSR. The Soviets captured Kabul Airport on 24 December 1979. Their army crossed the border on the same day. President Amin was killed during the KGB assault of the palace in Kabul, on 27 December. US President Carter was informed by Brezhnev that on 28 December, Soviet troops had entered Afghanistan to ensure the country's security. On 1 January 1980, the Soviets installed a pro-Soviet government led by former Afghan exile, Babrak Karmal. Islamic groups opposed the Soviet occupation. The Afghan army supported the Soviet Red Army. But it was not well trained and was poorly equipped. Islamic insurgent groups called the Mujahideen , were determined to fight against the Soviets. They were heavily armed as they were supplied by China and the USA, and they received training from the CIA. The Soviets were under pressure to withdraw from Afghanistan. The United Nations requested they leave and the USA placed economic sanctions on the USSR. When Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in 1985, he withdrew troops from Afghanistan. The Soviets signed a peace treaty in 1988. They had withdrawn from the country by 1989.		
SALTI	other and so continued to develop and position weapons. Technology had also improved, which made the agreement out of date			
SALT 2 1979	Tried to introduce restrictions on missiles, but USA didn't trust the USSR after invasion of Afghanistan so US withdrew from talks			
Star Wars	The Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) was	Eastern Europe		
(K)	a plan to have satellites and mirrors which would be able to destroy soviet missiles if they launched	May 1989 – Hungarians began to dismantle the barbed wire fence between Hungary and non-Communist Austria. June – Free elections in Poland. September – Thousands of East Germans on holiday in Czechoslovakia and Hungary and refuse to go home, they leave through Austria into the West. October – Demonstrations in East German cities. November – Demonstrations in Czechoslovakia, borders opened, allow formation of other parties. December – Hungary renames party to Socialist Party, Revolution in Romania, execution of		
Union Treaty	A treaty that would have re-made the	dictator, demonstrations in Bulgaria		
	USSR into a country where its members were more equal in power, rather than	Fall	of the Berlin Wall	
	being dominated by Russia. It was rejected after the August Coup.	Demands for change had been growing in East Berlin as people began protesting asking for reforms and greater freedoms. However, with demonstrations continuing the November 1989, it was agreed to open the border with West Berlin. Thousands of people brought hammers and axes with them to destroy the wall, removing the last per		
Sinatra The nickname given to Gorbachev's policy		reminder of Soviet control in the East of Berlin. Led to German re-unification in 1990, End of Warsaw Pact in 1991 and agreements to reduce stockpile of warheads.		
Doctrine	that the USSR would not interfere in the affairs of Eastern Bloc countries anymore.		J, End of Warsaw Pact in 1991 and agreements to reduce stockpile of warheads.	
		End	d of the Cold War	
Negotiated Revolutions		Breakup of the Soviet Union, living conditions worsened due to glasnost and perestruto Gorbachev, the influence on the eastern bloc had ended, soviet economy was criponally have had new elections and elect non-communists (Poland, Hungary, Czechoslova)	d of the Cold War roika meant people began to protest and demand independence. There was growing opposition	
_	affairs of Eastern Bloc countries anymore. This refers to the relatively peaceful revolutions in Poland and Hungary that occurred with the agreement of the ruling	Breakup of the Soviet Union, living conditions worsened due to glasnost and perestro Gorbachev, the influence on the eastern bloc had ended, soviet economy was crip •Many hold new elections and elect non-communists (Poland, Hungary, Czechoslova of Independent States after hard-line communists tried to remove Gorbachev. •Gorb Europe. •Warsaw Pact formally dissolved 1991.	roika meant people began to protest and demand independence. There was growing opposition ppled because of the arms race and Afghan war. akia, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia) •12 Soviet Republics left the USSR and formed the Commonwealth bachev resigned on Christmas Day 1990, dissolving the USSR and ending communist rule in Key People	
Revolutions The INF	affairs of Eastern Bloc countries anymore. This refers to the relatively peaceful revolutions in Poland and Hungary that occurred with the agreement of the ruling communists. This breakthrough treaty eliminated the intermediate-range class of nuclear	Breakup of the Soviet Union, living conditions worsened due to glasnost and perestron to Gorbachev, the influence on the eastern bloc had ended, soviet economy was cripe •Many hold new elections and elect non-communists (Poland, Hungary, Czechoslova of Independent States after hard-line communists tried to remove Gorbachev. •Gorbachev.	roika meant people began to protest and demand independence. There was growing opposition ppled because of the arms race and Afghan war. akia, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia) •12 Soviet Republics left the USSR and formed the Commonwealth bachev resigned on Christmas Day 1990, dissolving the USSR and ending communist rule in Key People Jimmy Carter Ronald Reagan Mikhail Gorbachev	
Revolutions The INF Treaty (1987)	affairs of Eastern Bloc countries anymore. This refers to the relatively peaceful revolutions in Poland and Hungary that occurred with the agreement of the ruling communists. This breakthrough treaty eliminated the intermediate-range class of nuclear weapons. 2700 were destroyed by 1991. The enthusiasm in the west for Mikhail	Breakup of the Soviet Union, living conditions worsened due to glasnost and perestre to Gorbachev, the influence on the eastern bloc had ended, soviet economy was crip. •Many hold new elections and elect non-communists (Poland, Hungary, Czechoslova of Independent States after hard-line communists tried to remove Gorbachev. •Gorbachev. •Gor	roika meant people began to protest and demand independence. There was growing opposition ppled because of the arms race and Afghan war. akia, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia) •12 Soviet Republics left the USSR and formed the Commonwealth bachev resigned on Christmas Day 1990, dissolving the USSR and ending communist rule in Key People Jimmy Carter Ronald Reagan Mikhail Gorbachev	

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July 1988 – Gorbachev encourages free

elections in Eastern Europe