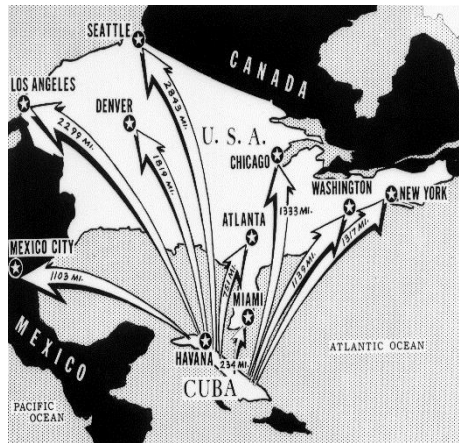


# GCSE History

## SUPERPOWER RELATIONS AND THE COLD WAR

### Revision Guide



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

## GCSE COLD WAR QUESTION TYPES AND HOW TO ANSWER.

There are 3 types of question that will come up on the Cold War and Superpowers unit.

- Explain two consequences of an event
- Write a narrative account analysing an event
- Explain the importance of 2 events (from a choice of 3)

These **are the only question types** you will be asked in the exam on this section of the paper

You will be given a question to answer for each one of the bullet points types above. So there will be 3 questions on this exam paper

### Q1: What to do on an explain 2 consequences question

- An event would have occurred and the examiner wants to know 2 consequences caused by this event
- 2 points must be explained, no more no less (obvious)
- Easy sentence starter 'One consequence was'
- Fully explain a consequence with supporting detail
- Use connecting terms such as 'as a result' or 'the effect of this was'
- About 10 minutes to write this answer
- About half a page is given to you in the exam answer booklet

### Q2: What to do on a narrative account question

- You will be explaining how certain events led to an outcome
- Events should be in order and showing how one point connects to another
- E.g 'This happened that led to this that led to this'
- There are two prompts given to you to help you answer the question. You can use the two prompts but you must also use one point of your own
- You can use one or none of the prompt but then you have to use more of your own points
- About 15 minutes for this question
- In the exam you would get about 2 pages for this question but you do not need to use it all.

### Q3: What to do on a 'explain the importance of' question

- You will be offered 3 points you can talk about. You must do 2 of them (your choice).
- The question will ask you to say why the two events or developments were important so make sure you use that wording. E.g '*The importance of this was*' or '*it was important as it led to this or had this effect*'
- It is worth half the marks so you will need 25 minutes
- This question is the most important because of all the marks it is worth

## EXPLAIN 2 CONSEQUENCES QUESTION EXAMPLES

- Explain two consequences of the decisions made by the Grand Alliance at the Yalta Conference in February 1945
- Explain two consequences of the Hungarian Uprising in 1956
- Explain two consequences of the election of Alexander Dubcek as First Secretary of the Czech Communist Party in January 1968
- Explain two consequences of Mikhail Gorbachev's decision to abandon the Brezhnev Doctrine
- Explain two consequences of the formation of Trizonia
- Explain two consequences of the Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)

## WRITE A NARRATIVE ACCOUNT QUESTION EXAMPLES

Write a narrative account analysing the relationship of the USA and USSR at the end of World War Two

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Tehran Conference in 1943
- The Potsdam Conference in 1945

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing the key events of the Berlin Crisis' in the years 1958-61

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Berlin Ultimatum
- The construction of the Berlin Wall

You must also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing the key events of détente in the years 1970-79

You may use the following in your answer:

- SALT 1, 1972
- The Helsinki Accords, 1975

You must also use information of your own

- Write a narrative account analysing the key events of the Berlin Crisis, 1948-49.

You may use the following in your answer:

- · Stalin's fears
- · the Airlift
- You must also use information of your own.

# EXPLAIN THE IMPORTANCE OF QUESTION EXAMPLES

Explain two of the following

- The importance of the Bay of Pigs invasion for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union
- The importance of the Yalta Conference for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union
- The importance of détente for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union

Explain two of the following

- The importance of the Truman Doctrine for the development of the Cold War in the years 1947-55
- The importance of the Berlin Blockade for the future of Germany
- The importance of the formation of NATO for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union

Explain two of the following

- The importance of Berlin crisis of 1948-49 for the future of Germany
- The importance of the Bay of Pigs incident for the future of Cuba
- The importance of the Prague Spring for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union

Explain two of the following

- The importance of the nuclear arms race for the relations between the USA and the Soviet Union
- The importance of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union
- The importance of Ronald Regan for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union

# Making the links (For narrative, consequences and importance questions)

## Grand Alliance led to

- Better relations
- The three conferences

## End of the war led to

- Renewed tension
- Telegrams
- Iron Curtain Speech

## Soviet Satellite States led to

- Truman Doctrine
- Marshall Plan
- Cominform and Comecon

## Trizonia led to

- 1948 Berlin Crisis
- Berlin Blockade
- Berlin Airlift

## 1948 Berlin Crisis led to

- Creation of East and West Germany
- NATO
- Warsaw Pact
- Arms Race

## New leaders (Khrushchev and Eisenhower) led to

- Hungarian Uprising
- Worsening relations

## Berlin refugee crisis led to

- Khrushchev's ultimatum
- Summit Meetings to resolve issue
- Berlin Wall built

## Cuban Revolution led to

- Bay of Pigs incident
- Cuba going Communist with USSR support
- Cuban Missile Crisis (the 13 days)
- Détente (SALT 2, Helsinki Accords, SALT 2)





## Prague Spring a stand alone event

## Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan led to

- End of détente and so called 'second Cold War'
- Olympic boycotts
- American SDI programme
- Gorbachev's New thinking

## Gorbachev's New Thinking led to

- Summit meetings to find a new way forward
- USSR's control of Eastern Europe ending
- Berlin Wall coming down
- Germany reunified
- End of Warsaw Pact
- Break up of the Soviet Union

Leaders - USA	KEY EVENTS	Leaders - USSR
1933-45: Franklin D Roosevelt	Tehran, Yalta Conferences	1922-53: Josef Stalin 
1945-53: Harry Truman	Potsdam Conference Truman Doctrine, Marshall Plan, Comecon, Cominform, Berlin Blockade/Airlift, NATO	1956-64: Nikita Khrushchev 
1953-61: Dwight Eisenhower	Warsaw Pact, Hungarian Uprising Berlin Crisis/Berlin Wall	1964-82: Leonid Brezhnev 
1961-63: John F Kennedy	Berlin Crisis/Berlin Wall Bay of Pigs Invasion, Cuban Missile Crisis	1985-91: Mikhail Gorbachev 
1963-69: Lyndon B Johnson	Invasion of Czechoslovakia	Nov 1982-Feb 1984: Yuri Andropov, Feb 1984-Mar 1985: Konstantin Chernenko
1969-74: Richard Nixon	Détente, SALT 1.	1985-91: Mikhail Gorbachev
1974-77: Gerald Ford	Helsinki Accords	
1977-81: Jimmy Carter	SALT 2, Invasion of Afghanistan. USSR Olympic Boycott	
1981-89: Ronald Reagan	SDI USA Olympic Boycott  Gorbachev's New Thinking	
1989-93: George H W Bush	Fall of the Berlin Wall, Collapse of USSR.	

## The USA and Capitalism vs The USSR and communism

Both countries had different **ideologies** (ideas on how a country should run)

- **The USA** was capitalist which means people are free to run their own businesses, own their own property and there were free elections
- **The USSR or Soviet Union** was communist which means all property and businesses were owned by the state and wealth shared out

## The Grand Alliance

- USA and USSR put aside their differences to unite in a **Grand Alliance** against a common enemy, Hitler
- The leaders of the Grand Alliance met three times during the war although by the 3<sup>rd</sup> conference 2 leaders had changed!

## Tehran Conference, November 1943

**Leaders: Roosevelt (USA), Stalin (USSR), Churchill (UK)**

### Agreements made

- The USA and Britain would attack Germany from the West landing in France and opening a second front (D-Day)
- The USSR would join the war against Japan when Germany was defeated
- Germany would be weakened
- Poland would gain land from Germany and the USSR would keep the land they had taken from Poland
- A League of Nations was discussed

## Consequences and importance of Tehran Conference

- Stalin is very happy a second front to fight Germany would be opened up in the West
- Churchill is not happy as he wanted a second front opened in the Balkans (South East Europe) to stop communism spreading there when the USSR went through there removing the Nazis
- There was tension between the USA and Britain. The USA wanted Britain to end the British Empire
- The USSR and USA were becoming the 2 real superpowers as British influence was ending as seen with Churchill's Balkans idea being ignored

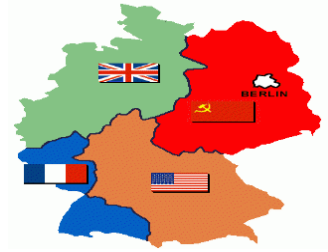
## The Yalta Conference, February 1945

### Leaders: Roosevelt (USA), Stalin (USSR), Churchill (UK)

- Second Front had been opened, Germany in full retreat, Soviet Union controls most of Eastern Europe

### Agreements made

- Germany would be split into 4 zones (a zone each to be controlled by USA, USSR, UK and France)
- Germany to pay £20 billion in reparations
- Nazi Party banned and war criminals punished
- A United Nations to be set up & USSR to join the war against Japan
- Part of Poland to be swallowed up into the Soviet Union
- Free elections for Eastern European countries



### Disagreement

Stalin believed free elections of Eastern Europe would bring communist governments. The USA & UK now supported the non communist parties

## The Potsdam Conference, July-August 1945

### Leaders: Truman (USA), Stalin (USSR), Attlee (UK)

- Roosevelt had died and was replaced by Harry Truman and Churchill replaced by new Prime Minister Clement Attlee
- Germany had surrendered May 1945 & a United Nations had been set up
- USA had successfully tested an atomic bomb

### Agreements

- Germany would be divided into 4 zones
- Capital City Berlin also to be divided into 4
- Each country to take their reparations from the zone they controlled

### Disagreement

- Truman was not happy that the Soviet army was still occupying the countries they had just freed from the Nazis
- Truman was not happy that the USSR was gaining some Polish territory

## Consequences and importance of Potsdam Conference Conference

- Old mistrust had come back
- Relationship worsens as Truman disliked Stalin and wanted to act tough
- The USA's successful test of the atomic bomb threatened the USSR
- It was clear that the Soviet Union wanted to control Eastern Europe.
- Stalin said he needed friendly countries around him for protection
- Truman saw the Soviets in Eastern Europe as an example of communist desires to take over Europe
- The war time alliance (Grand Alliance) was ending



## Consequences and importance of the atomic bomb

USA dropped 2 bombs on Japan in WW2

- The USA may have used nukes to show the USSR how powerful they were
- It made the Western European countries feel they had US protection
- Made Stalin determined to control Eastern Europe to feel more secure
- The USSR soon tested their own atomic bomb by 1949
- The atomic bomb increased tensions as both countries got into an arms race
- Knowing how deadly an atomic war was may have stopped both from using those sorts of weapons

With tensions rising Stalin and Truman asked their embassies in the other's country to report on what the other was up to. The replies came in telegrams

### The Kennan's Long Telegram

**Sent by:** George Kennan

Called 'long' as it was a long telegram

**What it said:**

- Stalin wants to destroy capitalism & felt USA wanted to destroy USSR
- Stalin was not suicidal and could be forced to back down

**Importance:**

USA felt the way to deal with the USSR was to use a policy of **CONTAINMENT** (stop communism spreading)

### The Novikov Telegram

**Sent by:** Nikolai Novikov

**What it said:**

- The USA wanted to dominate the world
- American people would support war against the Soviet Union

**Importance:**

The telegram made Stalin and the Soviet Union believe they needed as much protection in Eastern Europe as possible

### Winston Churchill's Iron Curtain speech

- Ex-British Prime Minister Winston Churchill stressed the Soviet Union was a threat to world peace on a visit to the USA in 1946
- Churchill said an Iron Curtain now separated East and West Europe. The west, people were free. The east, there was only communism & no freedom
- **IMPORTANCE OF SPEECH:** Showed Europe was now divided

### Creation of Soviet satellite states

- The USSR argued they needed friendly states (countries) around them for protection (known as satellite states)
- USSR occupied most Eastern European countries after kicking out the Nazis.
- Stalin forced these countries to set up communist
- Truman saw this as evidence of Stalin trying to spread Communism



After the creation of the Soviet Satellite States and the warning from Kennan's Long Telegram the US President Truman felt he had to act

### Truman's fears

- Truman knew the USSR was too weak after WW2 to invade any more European countries
- Truman also knew that many European countries were in a terrible state after WW2 and may be attracted to the idea of Communism
- Stalin may try and convince them to turn communist and it may work
- Truman acted by declaring his Truman Doctrine.

### The Truman Doctrine

- Truman's Doctrine means Truman's idea or belief
- Truman said people must choose between the freedom of democracy or the non freedom of communism
- Truman said communism must be **CONTAINED**. It should not be allowed to spread. This was the main message from his doctrine
- This was first seen in action when the USA helped Britain to stop Greece going communist in 1947
- Britain had been trying to stop communism growing in Greece but was nearly bankrupt after WW2 so could not continue. The USA gave \$400 million to help Greece and Turkey resist communism. They also sent soldiers to help too

### Importance

- This marked the start of the USA getting directly involved to stop the spread of communism
- The policy they were following was known as a **policy of containment**
- Stalin and the Soviet Union would have looked on furiously

### The Marshall Plan

The Marshall Plan was putting practice Truman's Doctrine of **CONTAINMENT**  
The Marshall Plan was to give \$13 billion to Western Europe to stop communism spreading to countries that were desperate or bankrupt

### Importance

- Helping West European countries meant communism didn't spread there

### Consequence 1 of the Marshall Plan (Dollar imperialism)

- Stalin believed the USA was trying to buy countries favour so they could control them. He called it Dollar imperialism (which meant by accepting the America dollar you were enslaved to them).
- The Grand Alliance was clearly gone and there was no longer trust
- Stalin was more suspicious than ever of the USA
- The Marshall Plan successfully tied in Western European countries into supporting the USA

## Consequence 2 of the Marshall Plan. COMINFORM and COMECON

To stop the Communist countries being attracted to the Marshall Plan Stalin created Cominform and Comecon

### COMINFORM 1947(The sharing of information)

- Made up of Communist satellite state countries
- Ensured that the satellite states followed the orders from Stalin in Moscow
- It encouraged communist countries to trade with each other and avoid contact with non-communist countries

### COMECON 1949 (financial assistance given to other communist countries)

- Designed to stop countries being tempted by the Marshall Plan and again encouraged communist countries to only trade with one another
- All communist countries had to support each other and joint industrial planning across all satellite states was put into action to increase production

### Importance

Worsened tension and was a large part in why the USA and western Europe formed a military alliance called NATO

## 1948 Berlin Crisis (Berlin Blockade and resulting airlift)

### UNITING THE ZONES

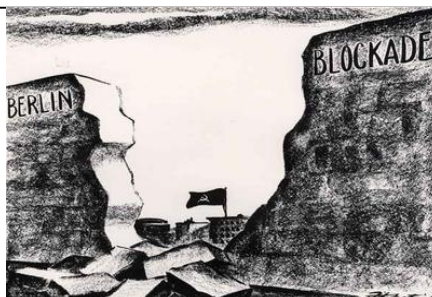
- The US, UK and France wanted to rebuild Germany where as the USSR wanted to keep Germany weak
- The western allies combined their zones to make Trizonia in March 1948. In June 1948 Trizonia shared the same currency & began to improve
- Germany and its capital Berlin was now effectively split in two
- Stalin felt he was being ganged up on & West Germany and Berlin was being built up to make Communism look bad. He was determined to act.

### THE BERLIN BLOCKADE

- Berlin was in the USSR controlled east side of Germany
- Stalin cut all road and rail paths into Berlin in the hope he could force the western allies out and turn it communist

### THE BERLIN AIRLIFT (Operation Vittles)

- The USA reacted by flying in food, coal and other necessities
- The citizens of Western Berlin & Western allied soldiers built a new runway at an old airport and also built a whole brand new airport to bring in supplies
- Eventually the USSR gave in and lifted the blockade
- It was a propaganda victory for the west as the Soviet Union gave in



## Consequences 1 of the Berlin Blockade (Creation of East and West Germany)

Germany officially became divided by 1949

### West Germany (Federal Republic of West Germany)

- Bigger than East Germany and Capital in Bonn
- First leader was Konrad Adenauer

### East Germany (German Democratic Republic)

- First leader was Walter Ulbricht and capital was Berlin
- West Germany refused to accept East Germany as a country

## Consequences 2 of the Berlin Blockade (Creation of NATO and Warsaw Pact)

### NATO 1949

- Stalin's actions in Berlin convinced the Western powers they need a military alliance
- NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) was set up as a result
- Many Western European countries, including Britain joined
- It meant an on going US military presence in Europe

### Warsaw Pact, 1955 (also known as the Eastern Bloc)

- In reaction to NATO & West Germany joining it, USSR set up the Warsaw Pact
- Communist Eastern European countries including East Germany joined
- The Soviet Union (USSR) dominated the Warsaw Pact

WORLD WAS NOW IN TWO ARMED CAMPS. NATO & WARSAW PACT

## Significance (importance) of the Arms Race

### BACKDROP

- Arms Race is a race to build up the most and best nuclear weapons
- The USA and the USSR built up powerful nuclear weapons and ICBM's that were missiles that could fire from one continent to another
- Huge amounts of money was spent on developing weapons

### SIGNIFICANCE

- Both sides had enough weapons to destroy each other multiple times
- War now less likely. Both sides realised what these weapons could do. Nuclear weapons became a **deterrent** (Only fire if attacked first)

## New leaders for the USA and the USSR

Eisenhower US leader in 1953 & Khrushchev became USSR leader in 1956

### Importance

- Both leaders seemed more open to reduce tension
- Both sides wanted to reduce their weapons spending
- The Korean war ended so they were no longer arguing over this
- Both leaders had been friendly over discussion on how Austria should be run at a summit meeting in Geneva (although there was no agreement)
- W. Germany joining NATO & creation of the Warsaw Pact ended relations

# The Hungarian Uprising, 1956

## Why was there a problem?

- Food and fuel shortages in Hungary led to riots
- USSR leader Khrushchev decided to appoint a new Hungarian leader, one the Hungarian people liked called Imre Nagy. He hoped this would calm the situation there

## Nagy's allowed actions

- Nagy tried to reform Hungary and allowed non-communist parties into government. Nagy released many political prisoners

## Nagy goes to far

- Nagy declared Hungary would leave the Warsaw Pact. Khrushchev would never allow this as other communist countries might do the same.

Khrushchev decided to take action

## Khrushchev's response

- Khrushchev ordered a Soviet invasion of Hungary and they violently killed opposition and protestors (20,000 Hungarians died)
- Nagy appealed for help from the west but none came
- A new pro-USSR government was set up under a new Hungarian leader
- Nagy hid in the Yugoslav embassy but left when he was promised safe passage out of Hungary but was later caught and killed

## Importance and consequences of the Soviet invasion of Hungary

The USA did nothing to help. The USA would contain Communism to stop it spreading but would not go into a country where it was already there as that could mean war

### IMPORTANCE

- Khrushchev came out strong as the other Warsaw Pact members knew they had to do as they were told
- Khrushchev appeared strong to his own country
- The Eastern European countries were less likely to believe the USA would help them resist the USSR
- The USA realised they were dealing with a ruthless man in Khrushchev
- It was clear the USA would not risk nuclear war
- United Nations did nothing
- The relationship between the USA and USSR worsened





## The Berlin Wall - The beginning of the problem

### Backdrop: The Refugee problem

- Communist East Germans suffered a low standard of living. They were monitored by a secret police & there was no freedom of speech.
- As a result millions left for West Germany or West Berlin
- Khrushchev could not allow this to continue as this was a propaganda disaster as people were choosing capitalism over communism. East Germany's small population couldn't cope with people leaving

### Khrushchev's Berlin Ultimatum (demand)

- Khrushchev demanded that the western powers accept East Germany was a real country as this would make it harder for East Germans to leave for West Germany as they would now need official papers.
- Khrushchev also demanded that Berlin should be demilitarised (no troops) Khrushchev said Berlin should be a free city (He wanted the western allies to leave so Berlin would be completely under communist control)
- Khrushchev threatened to give control of all roads & railways to the East German government who would close them and force another blockade

## Consequences of Khrushchev's Berlin Ultimatum

- The West was outraged. They felt the USSR trying to spread communism
- Khrushchev saw this as vital to stop key workers leaving East Germany
- Both countries wanted to avoid war over this due to the nuclear threat so talks known as summit meetings were held to solve the 'Berlin problem'.

### Geneva Summit meeting 1959

- No agreement reached chose to meet again

### Camp David Summit Meeting 1959

- President Eisenhower met Khrushchev for the first time
- Still no agreement on Berlin and further meeting agreed

### Paris 1960

- During the summit meeting a US U2-spyplane was shot down over the USSR
- Eisenhower refused to apologise and Khrushchev walked out of the meeting

### Vienna, 1961

- John F Kennedy was now the US President and Khrushchev felt he could push around the inexperienced President
- Kennedy didn't want to look weak and relations with Khrushchev weakened
- After Vienna Kennedy increased military spending by \$2 billion. It appeared Kennedy was prepared to fight over Berlin if necessary.

## The Berlin Wall - Building the Berlin Wall

East Germans continued to leave whilst the summit meetings went on. Talks at the summit meetings had failed.

- On the 12<sup>th</sup> August 1961 a barbed wire fence went up around Berlin and between East and West Berlin
- Soon after a concrete wall replaced the wire one

## Consequence and importance of the Berlin Wall (On Berlin)

- The wall cut through the centre of Berlin separating families
- It was heavily guarded and fortified & 130 people killed trying to leave



## Consequence and importance of the Berlin Wall (On USA & USSR relationship)

### Positives for USSR

- The wall stopped refugees leaving
- The wall showed communism would last in East Berlin

### Negatives for USSR

- Khrushchev had to abandon plans to unite Berlin & Germany as communist
- The wall showed people preferred capitalism as were being forced to stay in communist areas

### Positives for the USA

- Kennedy had stood up to Khrushchev & West Berlin had not gone communist
- West Berlin became a symbol of freedom against communism
- President Kennedy adored in West Germany/Berlin
- Kennedy's speech 'Ich bin ein Berliner' (I am a citizen of Berlin) showed the 'free world' was united against communism

### Negatives for the USA

- The USSR and East Germany had put up the wall without telling them
- There was no way for East Germans to escape communism

### Positives for both USA and USSR

The wall had stopped nuclear war and the issue was temporarily resolved so tensions could reduce

### Negatives for both the USA and USSR

Both sides had been arguing since 1945 & things were so bad a wall had gone up

## The Cuban Missile Crisis BACKGROUND

### CUBAN REVOLUTION

- Fidel Castro overthrow the pro-American Cuban government in 1959
- USA was worried as they had controlled Cuba's oil, electricity, phones and railways
- The US initially accepted Castro as the new leader
- However Castro began to appoint communists in his government and received weapons from the Soviet Union
- President Kennedy felt he had to act

## Bay of Pigs incident

- Kennedy did not want communism so close to the USA
- Kennedy decided to train and then send Cuban exiles (men who had been forced to leave Cuba as they disliked Castro) back to Cuba to try and overthrow Castro. This way the USA could claim they were not involved

### Failure (The US plot fails)

- The Cuban exiles had little military experience compared to the Cuban army
- The USA could not help the exiles. They were pretending they were not involved
- Castro was tipped off about the invasion & was waiting for the Cuban exiles
- The US hope that ordinary Cubans would rise up & help the exiles was wrong
- By the end of the failed attack it was obvious the USA had been behind the failed plot so they were publically embarrassed

## Consequences and importance of the Bay of Pigs incident

- USA were embarrassed as it showed they were meddling in other countries business
- Cuban people in Cuba had supported Castro meaning Khrushchev could claim people preferred communism
- It led to a stronger relationship between Cuba and the USSR.
- Castro officially announced himself and Cuba as communist and that Cuba would receive weapons from the USSR for protection
- Kennedy warned Khrushchev not to put nuclear weapons on Cuba

## The Cuban Missile Crisis 1962

On the 14<sup>th</sup> October 1962 an American U2 spy-plane pictures on nuclear sites on Cuba. There was also a fleet of Soviet ships heading to Cuba carrying nuclear weapons for the sites.

### Why was Khrushchev doing it?

- The US had nuclear missile sites in Turkey and the weapons could hit the USSR in minutes. This evened the score as Cuba is so close to the USA
- Khrushchev wanted to look strong after criticism of the wall built in Berlin
- Khrushchev may have done it to just help a communist ally

### The Thirteen Days 16<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> October 1962

President Kennedy knew he had to take action. Kennedy set up a naval blockade on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October & announced the Soviet ships would not be allowed through. Kennedy was prepared to risk nuclear war

- The Soviet ships reached the blockade and then turned around and left
- Khrushchev then sent Kennedy a telegram saying he would remove the missiles from Cuba if the US promised not to invade Cuba
- The next day Kennedy received a second telegram where Khrushchev also demanded the US remove their missiles from Turkey
- On the same day an American U2 spy-plane was shot down over Cuba but Kennedy resisted the military action some of his advisors demanded
- Kennedy publically accepted the conditions of telegram 1 but privately also accepted telegram 2 that the missiles in Turkey should be removed too



## Consequences and importance of the Cuban Missile Crisis

- Kennedy and Khrushchev now realised how close they had come to war & so set up a direct line between Washington and Moscow known as the hotline
- Coming so close to war actually led to improved relations
- In 1963 they signed the Test Ban Treaty agreeing they would not test nuclear weapons in space, underwater or in the atmosphere
- In 1967 they signed the Outer Space Treaty not to use space for military purposes
- In 1968 they signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which meant not sharing nuclear technology with others
- Kennedy had shown himself to be a strong leader. His popularity increased especially as no-one knew he had removed the missiles from Turkey
- Khrushchev looked weak as he had withdrawn the missiles from Cuba. It led to Khrushchev being dismissed as leader in 1964

## Czechoslovakia 1968-69

### Opposition to Communist rule

- Czechoslovakia had been communist since 1948
- Poor standard of living. The economy ran for the benefit of the USSR
- No freedom of speech as all media was censored
- Under Stalin's orders the communist Czech government had carried out purges (killings) against any opponents
- Protests began to grow at the lack of freedom there

## The Prague Spring

- In 1968 Alexander Dubcek became communist leader in Czechoslovakia
- The USSR supported his leadership as the Czechs liked him
- Dubcek was a committed communist and Warsaw Pact member but believed communism should not make people miserable
- He wanted freedom of speech without fear of being punished. He wanted people to like communism.
- Dubcek set out reforming the country. He did it in April and in the capital city and that is why it was called the **Prague Spring**

### Dubcek's reforms

- Criticism of the government was allowed & Government control of industry was reduced as trade with the west increased
- Czech people given more freedom to travel abroad
- Discussions to allow other non communist parties in Czechoslovakia

## Consequences of the Prague Spring ( Consequence 1 Soviet reaction)

- New Soviet leader Brezhnev was alarmed by the Prague Spring. What if other communist countries started expecting more freedom
- Brezhnev initially just warned Dubcek not to go to far with reforms
- Dubcek went to far when he invited the rebellious communist Romanian and Yugoslav leaders to a meeting. Brezhnev believed they were plotting.
- Brezhnev sent in 500,000 Warsaw Pact troops & ended the Prague Spring
- Brezhnev had ordered the Czech army to remain in it's barracks and so there was little resistance
- Dubcek was arrested, later fired and forced to reverse his reforms.
- Czechoslovakia was to now remain firmly under USSR control for 20 years

## Consequences of the Prague Spring ( Consequence 2 Brezhnev Doctrine)

- Brezhnev's Doctrine (idea or belief) declared on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 1968
- Doctrine said that if any one communist country threatens the interest of communism it is the job of all communist countries to stop them
- This was really saying no county can bring in any reforms without the USSR agreeing first

## Importance and or consequence 3 of the Prague Spring

- The Soviet invasion had ended the reforms (Prague Spring)
- The relationship between the USSR and Romania and Yugoslavia worsened
- The communist parties in France and Italy cut links with the USSR
- The governments of East Germany and Poland welcomed Brezhnev's actions as they knew they would not be challenged by their own reformers
- Soviet Control over the Warsaw Pact countries increased as it was clear the USSR had the power to enforce it's will.

### Importance with the USA

- The USA was outraged by the invasion and strongly protested
- The USA attempted to get the United Nations to condemn the USSR but as the Soviet Union was also a member it did not happen
- The Soviet Union now realised that although the USA might complain they would not take direct action to stop them
- The USA was involved in a costly war with Vietnam so did not really want to use up resources over Czechoslovakia
- The USA was already beginning to enter a period of détente (better relations) with the USSR and did not want Czechoslovakia to end this



Alexander Dubcek



Leonid Brezhnev

## Attempts to reduce tension DETENTE

### Détente

Détente means a period of peace between two countries previously hostile

- The USA & USSR knew nuclear war could lead to MAD (Mutually Assured Destruction) as had nearly happened over the Cuban Missile Crisis

### USA reasons for Détente

- Richard Nixon, the new President in 1968, wanted to get the USA out of a costly war in Vietnam.
- There were social problems in the US such as inequality between rich and poor. Racism was an issue & the situation was worsening after the assassination of the civil rights leader Martin Luther King
- A policy of détente with the USSR meant the USA could focus on these problems

### USSR reasons for Détente

- The USSR economy was suffering and they wanted to devote more money on improving living standards
- The USSR knew this was a good time to seek better relations as the USA was preoccupied with the war in Vietnam
- European countries were pushing to have better relations with each other regardless of what ideology they follow

## Consequences of Detente

The USA and USSR met at a number of meetings to try and reduce tensions

### SALT 1 (Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty) MAY 1972

- They signed the **Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty** that said they could only have 2 ABM sites with a maximum of 100 missiles at each site
- The **Interim Treaty limited** set the amount of ICBM and SLBM missiles each country could have. USSR got more due to better US bombers
- **The Basic Principle Agreement** agreed they would not put nuclear weapons on the seabed & would always try to avoid war

## Importance of SALT 1

Was symbolically important. It was clear the USA & USSR wanted better relations & it led to the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries wanting to build on this positive start and so they met for the **HELSINKI ACCORDS**

- However both countries still had enough nuclear weapons to destroy one another
- A signed piece of paper couldn't guarantee they would not go to war
- The agreements made did not cover the most up to date technology such as the MIRVs that carried multiple nuclear warheads on a single missile
- Due to the weaknesses of SALT 1, a second meeting, SALT 2, was arranged

## The Helsinki Accords, 1975

- NATO and Warsaw Pact countries wanted to build on the co-operation of SALT 1. They reached 3 major agreements that were described as baskets

### Basket 1

Borders of countries cannot be moved. So the USA accepted where the borders of the USSR were & the USSR accepted they couldn't take more land

### Basket 2

They would make trade deals, technology exchanges & do a joint space mission

### Basket 3

They agreed to accept human rights such as freedom of speech and freedom of movement

### Outcome for USSR

Happy with basket 1 and 2 as their territory is guaranteed and increased trade will boost their economy. Concerned with basket 3 as it could undermine Soviet authority

### Outcome for the USA

Happy with basket 3 as this could undermine Soviet control in Eastern Europe and concerned with basket 1 and 2 as it strengthened the Soviets

## SALT 2, 1979

Jimmy Carter was the new President of the USA

### Agreements

- Restrictions on strategic bombers and missile launchers
- Ban on testing new types of ICBMs

### Problems and END OF DÉTENTE

- Many in the USA did not believe they could trust the USSR. The USSR had been supporting communist groups in Africa and central America
- In Iran in 1979 American diplomats and their families were held hostage for over a year. The USA felt humiliated and wanted to end détente to be seen as a powerful nation that took action once again
- Carter's advisors were suggesting wanted strong action against communism
- The Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in December 1979 officially bringing détente to an end. America withdrew from the SALT 2 talks

Nixon  
and  
Brezhnev  
at SALT  
1



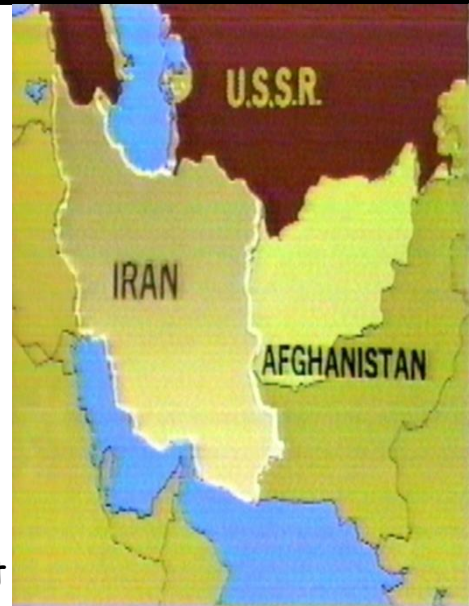
Carter  
and  
Brezhnev  
at SALT  
2





## The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, 1979 BACKGROUND

- Iran had become a fundamentalist Islamic country. The USSR was worried it would cross into their country via Afghanistan
- In 1978 there was a pro-Soviet government in charge of Afghanistan which gave the USSR this protection.
- This Afghan government was unpopular with the people & was soon overthrown
- This new government was also unpopular and fundamentalist Islamic groups continually threatened to overthrow it.
- There was also rumours the USA wanted to help the new Afghan government. Brezhnev had to act



### The actual Soviet invasion

On the 24<sup>th</sup> December 1979 Soviet forces invaded Afghanistan. The Afghan leader Amin was assassinated and another new pro-Soviet government was set up that could stop the fundamentalist Muslims & resist the appeal of the USA

### Consequences of the invasion ( Consequence 1 Immediate American reaction)

- The USA saw this an example of the USSR trying to spread communism
- The USA increased spending on weapons and declared they would act if the USSR threatened any of their interests in the area
- Carter introduced his own doctrine (The Carter Doctrine) that was modelled on the Truman Doctrine of trying to contain communism
- The USA imposed economic sanctions on the USSR and even went as far as sending money and weapons to the Islamic rebels (The Mujahedeen)

### Consequences of the invasion ( Consequence 2 Olympic boycotts)

- The USA boycotted (refused to attend) the 1980 Moscow Olympic games Afghanistan. 60 other countries supported this move
- The fact that so many countries supported this move showed how much influence the USA had
- The Moscow games now look second rate which was embarrassing for the USSR. USSR angry they could not show off communism in their country
- The Soviet Union responded by boycotting the Olympic games held in Los Angeles 4 years later in 1984. 15 communist countries also did not attend
- These events were referred to as the *Second Cold War*

### Importance of Afghan invasion on relations between the USA AND USSR

- Détente was officially over
- Ronald Regan would become the new President. His promise to get tough with the USSR and constant ridiculing of Carter led to his victory
- Regan believed communism was 'evil'.

# Ronald Reagan and the Second Cold War

- Reagan's appointment led to a period of tense and hostile relations
- Reagan said the USSR was an evil empire and the USA the good
- Reagan's government increased spending on weaponry. New technology like Trident submarines and Stealth bombers were developed
- He introduced the Reagan Doctrine. USA would support anti-communist governments and anti-communist groups trying to overthrow communism
- The USA even sent armed forces into the Caribbean island of Grenada to overthrow the communist government there

## The Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI or also known as Star Wars)

- The Soviet economy was struggling & so Reagan increased spending on weapons & support of anti-communists. The USSR would now have to spend money they did not have trying to keep up causing them issues
- Reagan then announced the USA would start the Strategic Defence Initiative. This meant putting satellites into space that had lasers that could shoot down Soviet missiles
- In reality the USA didn't yet have this technology
- The USSR believed the USA & panicked. They had spent huge sums of money keeping up with the USA & now they believed the USA could simply shoot down all their missiles.



Ronald Reagan

### IMPORTANCE

- The USSR would have to spend huge amounts of money to catch up and create their own SDI programme
- They did not have this amount of money
- New USSR leader Mikhail Gorbachev then changed the USSR's approach. It was called Gorbachev's '**New Thinking**'

## Problems facing the USSR before Gorbachev

- Industrial growth was low in the USSR and its satellite states. There was also a poor standard of living in these communist countries
- Low standard of living was causing unrest in the satellite
- The USSR was having to rely on force to maintain control. In other countries they had to use a secret police to maintain control
- The USSR had suffered from poor leadership for a few years,
- **Gorbachev's New Thinking**
- Gorbachev proposed introducing some aspects of capitalism to improve the USSR's economy. This was known as **Perestroika**
- Gorbachev said there should be more openness and less corruption in government and people should be able to oppose the government with freedom of speech. This was known as **Glasnost**
- Brezhnev Doctrine dropped so no control of other communist countries
- The USSR reduced spending on weapons and withdrew from Afghanistan

### USA response

Relations between the USA and the USSR improved after the 'New Thinking'

# Gorbachev's 'New Thinking' in action on reducing nuclear weapons

## Geneva Summit November 1985

- No formal agreement between USA and USSR yet

## Reykjavik Summit October 1986

- After the nuclear plant disaster at Chernobyl Gorbachev wanted rid of nuclear weapons if the USA would give up their SDI programme. USA said no

## Washington Summit December 1987

- Gorbachev accepted the USA would not give up their SDI programme & the USA & USSR agreed to get rid of some nuclear land based missiles

## Moscow Summit 1988

- Although nothing new was agreed here, later that year Gorbachev announced a reduction in Warsaw Pact troops and leave Afghanistan

## Malta Summit 1989

- Gorbachev met new US President George Bush at this meeting
- Although no agreements, both saw this meeting as ending of the Cold War

## Consequences of Gorbachev's New Thinking

### End of Soviet control in Eastern Europe

- The satellite states were now free to control themselves and did not need to fear the USSR trying to stop them
- The Satellite states soon started changes to give their citizens more individual freedoms and improve their living conditions
- Communist governments around Europe began to fall as the USSR could not maintain them and was no longer trying to

### Berlin Wall comes down

- USSR no longer forcing East Germany to stay so the wall was pulled down
- Families & friends were reunited
- The wall coming down was symbolic of the Cold War ending

### End of the Warsaw Pact

- Pact helped USSR keep control and offered them extra protection in war
- With the USSR no longer controlling the other communist countries the Warsaw Pact was officially ended in July 1991
- The division of Europe was over. There were no longer two armed camps (NATO and the Warsaw Pact). The Iron Curtain had come down
- After the Warsaw Pact ended every member abandoned communism

### Gorbachev falls from power

- Gorbachev had not intended for all the satellite states to break away. He had hoped reforms would once again strengthen communism
- Gorbachev lost the support of the communists who wanted to remove him.
- He was saved by a politician called Boris Yeltsin who rallied the people of Moscow behind Gorbachev
- However, Gorbachev authority had been damaged and different parts of the Soviet Union began to try to break away from communist rule
- Gorbachev could not continue and resigned. The USSR then broke up.
- The Soviet Union was over. Yeltsin became leader of the new Russia.