




# THE COLD WAR



# 1945-1950

|   |   |  |   |   |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| <p><b>Background</b></p> <p>1939 the Soviets and the Nazi's made the <b>Nazi-Soviet Pact</b> which said that they wouldn't attack each other. In 1941 Hitler went back on this so the USA and the Soviet Union became allies against Nazi Germany—this was the only thing that held them together.</p> <p><b>Ideologies (beliefs)</b></p> <p>USA—Capitalist Democracy</p> <p>USSR—Communist dictatorship</p> <p>Both sides believed that there system was the key to future happiness in the world</p> <p><b>Aims for Germany</b>—wanted to ruin Germany through reparations, the USA wanted to re-build a democratic Germany to stand up to the USSR</p> | <p><b>Yalta—February 1945</b></p> <p>Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin met to decide what to do with Germany when the war was over. Red Army (USSR) had reached Germanys Eastern border and Americans were at the Rhine. Agreements—to try Nazi war criminals, divide Germany and Berlin into 4 zones.</p> <p>Tension over what to do with the freed countries in Eastern Europe—agreed to have free elections</p>   | <p><b>Potsdam—July/August 1945</b></p> <p>Truman replaced Roosevelt—he was aggressively anti-Communist. Met with Stalin and Atlee (GB). Hitler had been defeated.</p> <p>Repeated agreements at Yalta but the Conference became a personal dual between Stalin and Truman.</p> <p>Berlin and Germany were divided into 4 sections with Berlin in the Soviet sector.</p>  | <p><b>Atom Bombs</b></p> <p>On the 6th and 9th August 1945 the USA dropped atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to end the war against the Japanese.</p> <p>Stalin furious that Truman hadn't told him at Potsdam that he was going to use the bombs—realised that it gave the Americans the advantage.</p> <p>Lots of debate as to why the Americans used the bomb—some say as a show of strength to the Soviet Union</p>  | <p><b>Soviet Expansion in Eastern Europe</b></p> <p>Between 1945 and 1948 the Soviet Union made sure that every country in Eastern Europe (Poland, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Hungary) had a Communist government that was sympathetic to the Soviet Union. He was aiming to create a buffer zone between the Soviet Union and the West as he had been invaded twice in the past 30 years.</p> <p>The USA and the West felt that this was an attempt to take the first steps to world domination. They felt this spread of Communism had to be stopped.</p> |
| <p><b>Iron Curtain</b></p> <p>In Fulton, Missouri, 1946 Winston Churchill was giving a speech where he used the term, "<b>Iron Curtain</b>".</p> <p>This speech declared that Europe was being divided into 2 separate halves by the Soviets. In the West were the free, democratic states and in the East were the countries under the control of the Soviets.</p>    | <p><b>Truman Doctrine</b></p> <p>Feb, 1947 the British informed Truman that they could no longer afford to keep troops in Greece and Turkey. Truman knew that if they withdrew then the Soviets would take over. So he paid for British troops to stay in the area.</p> <p>This was the beginning of the policy of "<b>Containment</b>" - to prevent the further spread of Communism. Policy officially announced on 12th March 1947 and became known as the Truman Doctrine—it said that the USA were prepared to help countries under the threat of Communism</p> | <p><b>Marshall Plan</b></p> <p>American General George Marshall returned from a visit to Europe convinced that countries were more likely to turn to Communism if they were poor. USA voted to set aside \$17 billion to aid countries in Europe to stop them turning Communist. Stalin saw this as an act of war.</p>    | <p><b>Berlin Blockade and Airlift</b></p> <p>In April 1948 the USA, GB and French joined their zones of Berlin to form a "Trizone" and then introduced a new currency. Stalin felt threatened.</p> <p>June 1948—Stalin blocked all road, rail, canal links into West Berlin where 2 million people lived. He was hoping that the USA would abandon them and give him the West.</p> <p>The US and GB could not smash through this blockade as it may cause war so they decided on an airlift. For 318 days the Americans supplied West Berlin by air.</p> <p>12 May 1949 Stalin admitted defeat.</p> <p>The USA set up NATO—Alliance of counties against the Soviet Union.</p> | <p><b>Who was to blame for the start of the Cold War?</b></p> <p>Stalin's aggression in Eastern Europe and over Berlin?</p> <p>The fears and paranoia of the USA?</p> <p>Truman's anti-Soviet stance?</p> <p>Or was it just down to mutual misunderstandings?</p>    |

| 1917                | 1939             | 1941                   | Feb 1945         | May 1945              | July 1945          | Aug 1945            | Aug 1945           | 1946-48          | 1946                | 1947            | 1948              | April 1948              | 1949        |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Soviet Union formed | Nazi-Soviet Pact | Hitler invades S.Union | Yalta Conference | End of WWII in Europe | Potsdam Conference | Atom Bombs on Japan | End of war in Asia | Soviet expansion | Iron Curtain speech | Truman Doctrine | Marshall Plan/Aid | Berlin blockade/airlift | NATO formed |

# THE COLD WAR



# THE 1950S

|   |  |  |   |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <p><b>The Arms Race</b></p> <p>America had first used nuclear weapons on Japan in August 1945.</p> <p>Stalin realised he had to catch up with the USA and made atomic research his top priority. Huge amounts of money were invested and entire towns created to house scientists and engineers.</p> <p>They had developed their own A-Bomb by 1949. This was the beginning of an ARMS RACE.</p> <p>By 1952 the USA had developed a Hydrogen Bomb— 1000 times more powerful than an A-Bomb</p> <p>By 1953 the USSR had one too!</p> <p>In the paranoid atmosphere of the Cold War both sides exaggerated the threat of the other in order to justify creating more and more weapons</p> <p>The theory of the 1950s was MAD (Mutually Assured Destruction) - the feeling was that the more weapons you had the safer you were!</p> | <p><b>The Space Race</b></p> <p>During WW2 the Nazi's had developed powerful rockets like the V2. The USA and USSR wanted to use this technology to see if they could get into space.</p> <p>Key dates in the Space Race:</p> <p>1955— USA start space programme</p> <p>Oct 1957—Soviets shock the USA by getting a satellite into space—Sputnik</p> <p>Nov 1957—Sputnik II carried a dog into space</p> <p>1958—USA increases spending and forms NASA</p> <p>1961—USA shocked again when the Soviets put a man (Yuri Gagarin) into space</p> <p>1961— USA launch the Apollo programme</p> <p>1969—Apollo 11 lands on the moon and Neil Armstrong becomes the first to walk on the moon.</p>   | <p><b>China</b></p> <p>There had been a Civil War in China since the 1920s.</p> <p>As the world attention was focused on Europe and WW2 the Communists led by Mao tse Tung gradually made progress.</p> <p>In Oct 1949 the Communists took total control of China</p> <p>In 1950 the USSR and China signed a Treaty of Friendship</p> <p>This was a failure of the US policy of Containment as Communism was clearly spreading in Asia</p> <p>This made the USA even more paranoid and led to them getting increasingly involved in Asia</p> | <p><b>The Korean War</b></p> <p>North Korea [Communist] invaded South Korea [Capitalist])</p> <p>Domino theory – Truman thought that Far Eastern countries would fall like dominoes. China Communist (1949). Truman feared Japan would follow.</p> <p>The National Security Council recommended (NSC 68 – April 1950) abandoning containment to 'roll back' Communism.</p> <p>America &amp; Russia were fighting for world domination – Korea a 'war at arm's length'.</p> <p>Kim Il Sung (North) – got Stalin's and Mao tse Tung's agreement to attack South Korea.</p> <p>Syngman Rhee (South) (1950) – boasted he would attack North Korea – gave an excuse.</p> | <p><b>Korean War Events</b></p> <p>North invade South</p> <p>By June 1950 – the North captured most of South Korea.</p> <p>July 1950 – UN troops (Americans led by MacArthur), drove the Communists back to the Chinese border.</p> <p>October 1950 – China attacked/ drove the Americans back/ advanced into South Korea.</p> <p>March 1950 – American reinforcements drove back Chinese (200,000 dead). Truman told the troops to stop at the 38th parallel. Truman sacked MacArthur for criticising his orders.</p> <p>1953 – Truce: America claimed successful containment.</p> <p>Korea remains divided into two separate countries</p>                       |
| <p><b>France and the Vietcong</b></p> <p>There was a similar situation in Vietnam</p> <p>Vietnam was still ruled by the French in the early 1950s but the Communists called the Vietcong were fighting a war against the French</p> <p>The USA were providing money to help the French</p> <p>As the situation got worse and worse here the USA got increasingly involved and eventually sent troops into Vietnam in 1964.</p>  | <p><b>Khrushchev and the “thaw”</b></p> <p>Khrushchev succeeded Stalin.</p> <p>It seemed he would bring a thaw in the Cold War – He advocated 'Peaceful Coexistence'/ He met Western leaders at summit meetings/ He was friendly to Yugoslavia, telling Tito there were 'different roads to Communism'/ He criticised Stalin, set free political prisoners and de-stalinised the eastern bloc countries.</p> <p>In fact 1955–1963 was the time of greatest tension in the Cold War</p> <p>Khrushchev used Russian troops when countries tried to leave Russian control.</p> <p>By peaceful co-existence, Khrushchev meant 'peaceful competition' (He loved to argue</p> <p>Warsaw Pact (1955) – USSR/ Albania/ Bulgaria/ Czechoslovakia/ E Germany/ Hungary/ Poland/ Romania</p> |  | <p><b>Hungary, 1956</b></p> <p>Causes:</p> <p>Poverty – When most of Hungary's food was sent to Russia</p> <p>Russian Control – The Hungarians were very patriotic/ They hated censorship, and Russian control of education./ They hated having Russian troops stationed in Hungary</p> <p>Catholic Church – Communism tried to destroy religion, but Hungarians were Catholics</p> <p>Help from the West – The Hungarians thought Esienhower or UN would help.</p> <p>Destalinisation –Led to protests against Rakosi's harsh government.</p>  | <p>Events (3 key dates)</p> <p>23 October – Student riots – attacks on AVH and Russian troops</p> <p>24 October – 3 November – Reforming government led by Imre Nagy (Democracy/ Freedom of speech/ Freedom of religion/ Aimed to withdraw from Warsaw Pact.</p> <p>4 November – Soviets sent 1000 tanks to crush/ Western powers protested but didn't want a war.</p> <p>Results</p> <p>Janos Kadar put in control of Hungary/ 4,000 Hungarians killed/ Nagy shot./ 200,000 Hungarians flee to West./ Many westerners leave the Communist party./ Russia stays in control in Eastern Europe./ Western leaders all the more determined to 'contain' communism.</p> |

1949

1950 (-53)

1952

1953

1953

1953

1955

1955

1956

1957

China  
Com-  
munist

Korean  
War

USA cre-  
ates H-  
Bomb

Soviet Un-  
ion make H  
-Bomb

Stalin died

Khrush-  
chev lead-  
er of SU

Warsaw  
Pact set up

Start of the  
Vietnam  
War

Hungarian  
Crisis

SU launch-  
es Sputnik

# THE COLD WAR



# 1960-1972

## The U2 Crisis

1 May 1960 Soviets shot down American U2 spy plane over USSR, and captured pilot Gary Powers./ Americans had to admit he was a spy./ Khrushchev demanded apology + end to spy flights./ Eisenhower refused.

### Results

Khrushchev walks out of Paris summit (14 May 1960)/ Eisenhower's planned visit to Russia cancelled/ Khrushchev demands US leaves West Berlin/ Americans came off badly – been caught lying- propaganda victory for USSR./ New American president Kennedy promises to get tough on Communism.

## The Berlin Wall

### Causes

Growing tension (U2 crisis/ Kennedy finances anti-Communist forces in Laos and Vietnam)

Refugees (West Berlin enjoyed much higher standard than East Berlin./ 1945 –1960 3 million people crossed the border – a propaganda point for the US – most were skilled workers)

Sabotage –The Russians claimed that America used West Berlin for spies and sabotage in east Germany..

### Events

13 August 1961– East Germans erected a barbed wire wall overnight (later stone)/ All East – West movement was stopped./ Wall fortified with barbed wire and guns./Western powers could do nothing.

## The Prague Spring

There was a new mood in Czechoslovakia in the 1960s—people were getting fed up of strict Communist rule

There was a new leader in Czechoslovakia who proposed reform although he was committed to Communist rule

Intellectuals in Czechoslovakia started to rebel against Communist rule and launched attacks on the rule of the Communists—it became known as the Prague Spring as new ideas were cropping up all the time

The Soviets were worried that this might spread to other Eastern European countries

The tension seems to ease when the Czech leader promised not to allow other political parties to be formed

20 days later Soviet tanks moved in and the Czech leader was removed from power

This again made relations between East and West to get worse. The USSR had proved that they would not tolerate opposition

## Détente

In the late 1960s and early 1970s the word DÉTENTE came to be used to signify the relations between the USA and USSR as the tension relaxed a little

They were not friends but realised how close they had come to war in Cuba

They came to accept the others areas of influence around the world

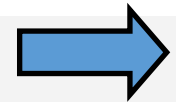
The main thing to be agreed was an agreement to stop the spread of nuclear weapons

### SALT 1

1972—an agreement that limited the number of inter-continental ballistic missiles and allowed each other to use spy satellites on each other

Seen as a huge agreement at the time.

CUBAN MIS-  
SILE CRISIS  
—SEE SEPA-  
RATE SHEET



1960

1961

1961

1962

1964

1969

1972

U2 Crisis

Gagarin—  
first man in  
space

Berlin Wall  
built

Cuban Mis-  
sile Crisis

USA sends  
troops to  
Vietnam

USA man  
on the  
moon

SALT 1

# THE COLD WAR



# CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS



## Background

Large island 90 miles from Florida.

American ally.

Americans owned most of the business and had a large naval base there.

American recreation ground.

The Cuban Revolution, 1959

After a three year guerrilla campaign – Fidel Castro overthrow the American-backed dictator Batista.

Pro-Communist state – in its own 'sphere of influence' – test to containment.

## 1959-1961

Cuba and USA avoided confrontation. Castro took over US owned businesses but let the USA keep naval base. Assured Americans in Cuba that they were safe. Said he wanted to run Cuba without interference.

US stopped buying Cuban sugar

1960 – receiving arms from Soviet Union – US spies knew this.

January 1961:

USA broke off diplomatic relations with Cuba.

Cuba expected an invasion.

US didn't invade but it was clear they wouldn't tolerate a Communist state in their 'sphere of influence'.

## April 1961: Bay of Pigs

President Kennedy supplied arms, equipment and transport for 1400 anti-Castro Cuban exiles to invade Cuba.

Landed at the Bay of Pigs.

Met by 20,000 Cuban troops armed with modern weapons – invasion failed disastrously.

Castro captured and killed them all within days.

Cuba and Soviet Union – failed invasion meant that the USA was unwilling to get directly involved in Cuba – Khrushchev was scornful of Kennedy's attempt to eradicate Communism from Cuba.

Encouraged spread of Communism – showed Kennedy's weakness – also made Castro and Khrushchev suspicious of US policy.

## Soviet Union

1962 – after Bay of Pigs – announces it's supplying Cuba with arms.

Cuba has strong army – thousands of Soviet missiles, patrol boats, tanks, radar vans, missile erectors, jet bombers, jet fighters, Soviet technicians to maintain weapons.

USA – alarmed – ready to tolerate conventional arms but not nuclear missiles.

US Intelligence Department believed that it was too risky for the USSR to dare to do this.

September – Kennedy warned USSR that he would do whatever he had to prevent Cuba becoming an offensive military base – i.e. a nuclear missile base.

USSR assured the USA it had no intention of doing so.

## The October Crisis

14th October 1962 – American U-2 spy plane flew over Cuba – photos of missile sites in Cuba.

Evident that they were nuclear missile sites being built by the USSR.

More photos confirmed this.

Some were already supplied with missiles – others were waiting for them.

Experts said that most of the sites would be ready to launch missiles in 7 days.

American spy planes reported that 20 Soviet ships were headed for Cuba carrying missiles.

## Kennedy's options

1. Do nothing, 2. Surgical air attack, 3. Invasion of Cuba by air and sea, 4. Diplomatic pressures or...

5. Blockade – It would show the USA's seriousness but wouldn't be a direct act of war. It would put the burden of war on Khrushchev and would make him the aggressor. However, it wouldn't solve the main problem of the weapons already on Cuba which could be used within a week and the Soviet Union might respond by blockading Berlin.

## Why did the Soviet Union place nuclear missiles on Cuba?

To Bargain with the USA – could remove them in return for American concessions.

To trap the USA – wanted them to find them and be drawn into a nuclear war.

To defend Cuba.

To test the USA – see how strong they really were – whether or not they would stand up to them.

To get the upper hand in the arms race – concerned about the missile gap between the USSR and USA.

## How the blockade played out...

Kennedy decided to blockade Cuba. Called on Khrushchev to withdraw their missiles.

24th October – blockade begins – first missile carrying ships (accompanied by a Soviet submarine) approach the blockade zone. Then, suddenly, the 20 Soviet ships closest to the zone turn around. Photographs show that work on the missile bases is still proceeding rapidly, though.

Khrushchev admits to having weapons in Cuba (in a letter) for defensive purposes, and says that if the US remove the blockade and assure that they won't attack Cuba then the destruction of the missile sites would be a different question.

Khrushchev sends another letter saying that, in fact, the condition for removing the missiles is that the US removes its missiles from Turkey. The US doesn't accept this.

An American U-2 plane is shot down over Cuba and the pilot is killed. Kennedy is advised to launch a reprisal attack on Cuba.

Kennedy decides to delay the attack and ignores the second Khrushchev letter, accepting the terms suggested by Khrushchev originally. He says that if the Soviet union don't withdraw an attack will follow.