

Knowledge Organiser— The origins of the Cold War, 1941-58

KEY TERMS		TOPIC	KEY INFORMATION
Ultimatum	A final demand, often backed up with a threat to take action.	Why were there so many refugees from Berlin in 1958 and what was the response?	As a result of the growing tension between the former Grand Alliance—the military alliance between the Soviet Union, United States and the United Kingdom—Berlin was divided between east and west. Western Berlin was a hub of prosperity with a high standard of living, in contrast with the poorly governed and economically deprived communist controlled East. The Eastern Government was increasingly unpopular due to policies of censorship and restriction of free speech, which were enforced by the secret police known as Stasi. The west was the envy of the east and so by 1958, three million East Germans made the short journey across the border and into western territory. This was a further blow to the east, as the refugees included many valuable workers such as teachers, engineers and technicians—all of whom were intended to make a better life for themselves in the west. In the face of losing a sixth of the East German population, Soviet leader Khrushchev issued an ultimatum to his former allies, that demanded the withdrawal of the western powers within six months and that Berlin become a free city. This ultimatum further contributed to the increasing tensions between East and West who by 1958 were both stockpiling nuclear weapons in preparation for war.
Free City	A city with its own independent government.		
Hawks	During the Cold War, those who supported going to war were known as Hawks. Their counterparts who wanted to find a way to have peace were known as Doves.		
Brinkmanship	Pushing disagreements to the point where there is a risk of war.	Why was the Berlin Wall constructed?	As more refugees crossed the border from East to West, the ultimatum led to a breakdown in talks between the Eastern and Western powers. The East German leader Walter Ulbricht convinced Khrushchev to close the border into West Berlin—which was surrounded on all sides by the East. On the 12th of August 1961, a barbed wire fence was erected around the perimeter of West Berlin with the dual purpose of halting the refugee crisis and isolating West Berlin from its allies. The barbed wire was soon replaced by a concert wall, which at its peak stretched 165 kilometres splitting Berlin in two. The Walls were patrolled and there were towers used as guard posts, which ensured that no one could get in or out of West Berlin—without the say so of the East.
Non-proliferation	Stopping the Spread of something, usually weapons or armaments. In this case nuclear weapons.	How did the building of the Berlin Wall affect US-Soviet relations.	The Berlin Wall was now a physical land barrier between the East and West, which massively impacted US-Soviet relations. The wall meant that Khrushchev had to abandon plans to unite Germany under Soviet control and that the Soviet Union had to essentially lock in its citizens to stop them leaving for the capitalist west. The wall also meant that the Soviets had closed the border without consulting the US, signalling a freezing of discussion and cooperation. Now physically divided, the chances of war between the US and Soviet Union were now slim. Despite the wall becoming a symbol of the fundamental differences between East and West until its destruction in 1989, it can be said to have decreased tensions between the two world superpowers
Socialism	Communist countries sometimes refer to themselves as 'socialist'. For example the Soviet Union was also known as the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics/		
Doctrine	A belief or philosophy.	What happened at the summit meetings of 1959-61	Geneva was the first summit between the foreign ministers of the various countries in neutral Switzerland. Both sides put forward idea how Berlin should be governed, but no agreement was reached. President Eisenhower invited Khrushchev to the USA for further talks. At the Camp David summit Eisenhower and Khrushchev met face-to-face for the first time. There was still no agreement about the way forward for Berlin. The Soviets did withdraw the Berlin Ultimatum. This meeting seemed to establish better relations between the two leaders. Just before the Paris meeting the Soviet Union shot down an American Spy plane as it flew over the Soviet Union. The Americans claimed it had been knocked off course by the weather but the Soviets interrogated the pilot who admitted to have been on a spying mission. Eisenhower refused to apologise for this act and so Khrushchev walked out of the meeting, ending it without any decisions having been made.
KEY DATES			
1959	Geneva Summit	Why did the Bay of Pigs incident happen ?	In 1959 a group of revolutionaries led by Fidel Castro and Che Guevara toppled the pro-American government of Cuba. Eisenhower was concerned about the close links between the USA and Cuba. American businesses had heavily invested in Cuba, with American companies owning the oil refineries, electricity, phone networks and railways. Fidel Castro did not want his country to be controlled by the USA in this manner, which created tensions between the two nations. The American government reluctantly recognized the government but refused to send aid. The Soviet Union sent aid and bought Cuban sugar as well as secretly sending them weapons. The USA was concerned about having a Soviet ally so close to them. President Kennedy therefore agreed to a plan that had been previously agreed to send American backed Cuban exiles to Cuba to attempt to overthrow it. On the 17th of April 1961 1,400 exiles landed in Cuba. They were no match for the battle hardened Cuban Revolutionaries who had found out about the invasion and prepared for the exiles to arrive. The exiles were not supported by America air support or troops and so were defeated. Americans had assumed that they would be supported by the majority of Cubans but they were mistaken. This event was deeply humiliating for Kennedy and his new administration. America was accused of attempting to build an empire and the USSR quickly claimed that the people of Cuba were happy under Castro. This event led to stronger relations between the USSR and Cuba.
1959	Socialist revolution in Cuba.		
1959	Camp David Summit		
1961	Vienna Summit		
1961	Berlin Wall Built		
1961	Bay of Pigs incident		
1962	Cuban Missile Crisis		
1963	President Kennedy visits Berlin.		
1963	Limited Test Ban treaty		
1967	Outer Space treaty	What were the consequences of the Cuban Missile Crisis?	The Cuban Missile Crisis made it clear what could happen if relations didn't improve. Both sides leaders had been put under pressure to take actions that would start a war. Both nations now wanted to make sure this didn't happen again. In 1963 a direct line was set up between the Whitehouse and the Kremlin. The Test Ban Treaty was signed between the USA, USSR and Great Britain agreeing not to test weapons in space. In 1967 the Outer Space Treaty was signed preventing both sides from using space for military purposes. In 1968 the Nuclear Non-Proliferation treaty was signed, nations agreed not to share the secrets of nuclear weapons with nations who didn't currently possess the technology. Some believe that the Cuban missile crisis led to the world becoming a safer place. Kennedy became very popular for his handling of the crisis, whereas Khrushchev had lost a lot of support which was a significant factor in his dismissal in 1964.
1968	Brezhnev Doctrine		
1968	Warsaw Pact troops put down Prague Spring.	What was the 'Prague Spring and how did it affect 'Soviet Policy'	The 'Prague Spring' occurred when Alexander Dubcek who was elected to attempt to placate the Czechoslovakian people who were unhappy with the purges that had taken place between 1949 and 1954 as well as the general poor conditions of life in Czechoslovakia. Dubcek thought people should be able to enjoy their lives and speak out against communism when wanted. He therefore: relaxed censorship, discussed multi party elections and increased trade with the west. Brezhnev was concerned about losing control over the Warsaw Pact nations, with Romania and Yugoslavia already proving troublesome. On August 20th Brezhnev sent 500,000 troops in Czechoslovakia ending the Prague Spring and arresting Dubcek. The Brezhnev Doctrine stated the belief that the actions of any singular communist country affected all communist countries and so other communist countries would be forced to interfere. This in affect said that the USSR would prevent other communist countries from introducing reforms to make their countries more liberal.
1968		What was the international reaction to the Soviet measures in Czechoslovakia?	The international community reacted in a varied manner to the Soviet measures in Czechoslovakia. 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. There was an attempt in the UN to condemn the actions but it was vetoed by the USSR. 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 criticize the USSR but were not willing to take action.

Knowledge Organiser— The origins of the Cold War, 1941-58

KEY TERMS		KEY DATES		TOPIC	KEY INFORMATION
Soviet Union	Short for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The republics were Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and several smaller countries. They were ruled over from Moscow.	Sept 1939	Second World War breaks out in Europe	How did the ideologies of Stalin, Truman and Churchill differ?	Stalin ran a strong one party government in the Soviet Union. He was convinced that the West wanted to destroy communism and so he had to stand firm to the western superpowers. Churchill was a conservative prime minister and strongly valued the British Empire even though the USA was strongly anti-colonial. He was committed to stopping the expansion of communism. Roosevelt believed strongly in democracy but made an alliance with the Soviet Union. He felt he needed Soviet help to make future peace and to defeat Japan. This might be why he was seen as weak at times. All three members of the Big 3 were suspicious of each other and this shaped the breakdown of relations in later years. The USA and Britain had been very critical of the Soviet Union 1930's. However Stalin has been a strong opponent of Hitler and so was a useful ally to have during the Second World War. However it was clear from an early stage that due to ideological differences the alliance was doomed to fail.
Ideology	A set of shared beliefs. In 1941, the USA and the Soviet Union had different ideologies concerning how a country should be governed and how society should work.	1943	Tehran peace conference takes place.		
Capitalism	Capitalists believe that everyone should be free to own property and businesses and make money. The USA's economic ideology was capitalist.	Feb 1945	The Yalta Peace conference takes place	What were the outcomes of the Second World war Peace summits?	As the Second World War wound down conferences were called to decide what the victors should do after the war. These were attended by the USA (Roosevelt), Britain (Churchill) and the Soviet Union (Stalin). There were three main conferences: Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam. Tehran —The USA and Britain agreed to open a second front to take pressure off the Eastern Front. Stalin would declare war on Japan and supply troops to fight Japan once the fighting in Europe had finished. They discussed how Europe would be split after the end of the war. They agreed that Germany should be kept weak after the war. They also agreed that an international organization should be set up post war. Yalta —They agreed that Germany would be split into four parts, the USA, Britain, France and the Soviet Union, would each take a part. Germany would pay \$20 billion in reparations. The USSR agreed to join the war against Japan 3 months after victory in Europe. There would be free elections in all Eastern European countries. The borders of Poland and the Soviet Union would return to those of 1921 which favoured the USSR. Potsdam —Roosevelt had died and had been replaced by Harry S. Truman. Clement Atlee had replaced Churchill as prime minister. Germany had surrendered by this point. The atomic bomb was being successfully tested as the conference went on. Though Germany would be split into 4 its economy would remain as one. Berlin would be split in four even though it was in Soviet land.
Communism	Communists believed that all property should belong to the state, to ensure that every member of society has a fair share. The Soviet Union was communist.	July 1945	Potsdam conference happens		
Democracy	A political system in which countries leaders are chosen through free elections. Both the USA and the Soviet Union said they were democracies but the Stalin believed elections had to lead to a communist government only the Communist Party represented the working class.	Aug 1945	Atomic Bomb dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki	How did the Satellite states and technology affect Relations	Satellite states — Stalin was reluctant to give up the territory they had gained through the Second World War as he saw them as a buffer against the West. He turned them into satellite states with communist governments. This was seen as Stalin trying to spread communism worldwide. These countries included: Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Yugoslavia, Albania, Czechoslovakia and the Baltic States. Atomic weapons — In August 1945 the USA had dropped two atomic bombs on Japan killing over 120,000. This shifted world politics in favour of the USA who thought that it would allow them to negotiate better with the USSR. However it meant that Stalin was even more determined to create a buffer zone. It wasn't until 1949 that the Soviet Union created the atom bomb. The idea of a weapon that could kill millions made tensions even worse.
		Sep 1945	End of the Second World War		
Satellite States	A nation that was once independent but is now under the control of another. In the Cold War this term is usually used to describe nations under the control of the Soviet Union.	1946	Winston Churchill made his Iron Curtain	What was the impact of the Long & Novikov Telegrams?	Long telegram — George Kennan, a US diplomat in the Soviet Union claimed in a telegram that Stalin wanted to destroy capitalism and was worried that the rest of the world was hostile and looking to destroy communism. It also stated that Stalin would back down if facing strong resistance. It was responsible for the policy of containment. Novikov telegram — Nikolai Novikov was a Soviet diplomat who claimed that the USA wanted to use its large military to dominate the world. Further it claims that with Roosevelt dead the USA was less interested in co-operating with the USSR and he believed that the American people supported the idea of a war against the Soviet Union.
Colonialism	Economic, Political and cultural control of another country.	1946	Long Telegram and the Novikov telegram sent.	What was the affect of foreign policy on relations?	Truman Doctrine — As a response to the fact that most of Europe was bankrupt Truman announced that capitalism was good and communism was evil and he promised to send economic aid and troops to support countries that resisted it. Marshall Plan — Following the Truman doctrine the USA started to give out economic aid to the countries of Europe to prevent the spread of communism. By 1952 the US had given \$12.7 billion of aid, the USA had become the undisputed leader of the capitalist west. Aid was offered to the satellite states of Eastern Europe and the USSR but it was rejected as there were too many conditions that Stalin wouldn't agree to.
Reparations	Payments in money or goods, after a war, from the losing country to the victors. Reparations are compensation for loss of life and damage to land.				
London Poles	A group of politicians who left Poland after the German invasion in 1939 and formed a government-in-exile first in Paris then in London.	1947	Truman Doctrine and Marshall plan were	What was the impact of international organisations on US-Soviet Relations	Cominform — (Communist Information Bureau) This organization was used to make sure that the satellite states governments were controlled by the USSR. They encouraged trading between cominform countries and all contact with non-communist countries was discouraged. In its first meeting it rejected the Marshall Plan. Comecon — (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance) This was the Soviet answer to the Marshall Plan. This organization attempted to support the economic development of its member states. It arranged trade and credit agreements between members as well as encouraging rapid industrial growth through 5-year-plans. This organization was created as a response to the Marshall plan. NATO —(North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) In response to Stalin's threat to Berlin NATO was created. This had a collective security agreement that meant if any country was attacked all other countries would support them. This organization resulted in a continued American military presence in Europe. Warsaw Pact —When West Germany were allowed into NATO the USSR became concerned about a powerful Germany bordering them to the west. Within a week of West Germany joining NATO the Soviets created the Warsaw Pact which is a defensive military alliance between its satellite states which was referred to as the 'Eastern Bloc'.
Veto	Forbid or refuse. Permanent members of the US security council can stop resolution being passed with a single 'no' vote, even if all the other members think it should be passed.	1947	The Cominform was created	Why was there a Berlin Crisis and how did it affect Germany?	After the war Germany had been split into four sections being ruled by France, Britain, the USA and the Soviet Union. The three western nations and the Soviet Union had different ideas for how they would treat Germany. The western countries wanted to build up Germany's economy, whereas the Soviet Union was mainly focused on taking materials from Germany to rebuild the USSR. Talks broke down in March 1948 between the three western countries and the USSR and so the three western countries merged their zones to create 'Trizonia', meaning Germany now was only split into two. In Trizonia a new currency, the Deutschmark, was introduced. This angered the Soviets as it created a separate economy for the West. In response to this Stalin cut off the land route to Berlin, which was far into Soviet land but was part of Trizonia. He stopped shipments of food coming in hoping that this would make the three western allies give up West Berlin. Any attempt to supply West Berlin along the road would be seen as the west being the aggressor and starting a war. To get around this the three western allies airlifted food into Berlin as they knew if the Soviets shot down their planes they would be seen as the aggressor. They were able to ship 1,000 tons of food a day and after almost a year of blockade Stalin gave in. This event made it clear there would be no reunited German and so two nations were formed the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG). The FRG elected its own parliament and chancellor. Its new capital was in Bonn. The GDR was only recognized by the Eastern Bloc and was under the control of the Soviet Union.
Isolationism	Staying apart, not getting involved in the affairs of others. The USA followed a policy of isolationism after the First World War. It was forced to abandon this policy in 1941 when Japan bombed Pearl Harbour. In 1945 many Americans hoped they would return to this.	1948	The Berlin Crisis led to the division of Germany	Did the arms race affect US-Soviet relations	In 1945 the United States completed the atomic bomb and by 1949 the USSR had also completed the atomic bomb. By 1952 the USA had developed the Hydrogen bomb that was 1,000 times more powerful. By 1953 the Soviet Union also had it. In 1957 the USA developed inter-continental ballistic missiles (ICBM) and a few months later the USSR also had them. Both sides were spending huge sums of money to try and keep up with the other side. By the 1950's both sides had enough weapons to destroy the world numerous times. This made it less likely they were going to engage in war because both sides understood the risks of total destruction associated with going to war.
Containment	Limited the spread of something. In US foreign policy 'containment' meant preventing the spread of communism outside of a small number of countries	1949	Comecon and NATO were established.		
Conventional	Ordinary or normal. Conventional weapons are defined by the International Committee of the Red Cross as any weapon that is not nuclear, biological or chemical.	Aug 1949	The first successful Soviet atom bomb test.		
Deterrent	A force that prevents something from happening in the Cold War, many politicians believed in the nuclear deterrent. They believed a country would be deterred from using nuclear weapons if there was a danger their enemy would reply with equally devastating force.	1955	The Warsaw Pact was formed.	What was the Hungarian Uprising?	In 1956 Hungarian people started to protest their lack of political freedoms. There were riots in cities and so Soviet troops were sent in to keep peace. Khrushchev, the new Soviet Leader, replaced Hungary's prime minister and thought this would end the protests. The new leader, Imre Nagy immediately released political prisoners and encouraged the Red Army to leave. Nagy went on to announce Hungary would leave the Warsaw Pact. In response to this Khrushchev, who was worried this would lead to more countries leaving, invaded Hungary and killed up to 20,000 Hungarians. They asked for help from the west but none came. Nagy was executed. Nagy had expected internal support as it had been offered financial support as part of the Marshall plan. Though the USA was sympathetic and some western countries took in refugees no military support was offered. Though the USA was willing to support any country fighting communism it was unwilling to involve itself in the satellite states. The USSR became more certain that the USA would not risk war and it became clear to the Warsaw pact nations that no support would come from the West.
		July-Nov 1956	The Hungarian Crisis.		

Knowledge Organiser— The End of the Cold War 1969-1979

KEY TERMS		TOPIC	KEY INFORMATION
Détente	A period of peace between two groups that were previously at war, or hostile to each other.	What agreements were made in the 1970's	In the Early 1970's relations between the USA and USSR thawed leading to the SALT 1 agreement. The SALT 1 agreement was result of difficult negotiations between both parties and focused on the limiting of certain weapons. It limited the number of Anti-Ballistic-Missiles and Inter-Continental-Ballistic-Missiles. The agreement set out steps to avoid nuclear war with both sides agreeing to make every effort to avoid the risk of war. It's success however was limited as both sides had more than enough weapons to destroy each other still and it did not address new technologies that had been introduced. At Helsinki the nations of the Warsaw Pact and NATO met and agreed three main points; the borders of the European nations could not be altered by force, both sides would endeavor through trade and technological co-operation to work for closer relations and they will respect the rights and freedoms of the people of Europe. This was the high point for the détente. At the SALT 2 both sides agreed to limit missile launchers and strategic bombers, as well as a ban on testing new types of ICBM. However this was never ratified because of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and its affect on US-Soviet relations.
Interim	Temporary, short-term.		
Ratification	Formal approval. If the Senate had ratified SALT 2, the terms would have become official US policy.	How significant was the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan?	Afghanistan was an important neighbour for the Soviet Union and after a 1979 revolution led to the Shah being replaced by an Islamic fundamentalist group the USSR felt it had to intervene to prevent this fundamentalism spreading to protect its own interests. In 1979 it invaded Afghanistan supposedly at the request of its President Amin. Amin was then assassinated and replaced by the pro-Soviet Kamal. The Soviet Union stayed in Afghanistan for ten years. This was seen as an attempt to spread communism. This led to Carter pulling out of the SALT 2 agreement. It also led to Carter pronouncing the Carter Doctrine in which Carter claimed that the invasion of Afghanistan was the biggest threat to peace since the Second World War. In his state of the union address in 1980 Carter claimed that the USA would repel by force any threat to US interests in the Persian Gulf. It went on to impose economic sanctions on the Soviet Union and begun to fund and arm the rebels in Afghanistan.
Shah	A King or Emperor. Iran was ruled by shahs until the 1979 revolution	Why were Olympics boycotted	In protest against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan the United States called for a boycott of the 1980 Olympic games held in Moscow, over 60 countries supported this. This had a large influence as the Olympics reached a global audience and the boycott demonstrated the global American influence. Some countries, such as Britain, did not ban their athletes from participating but encouraged them not to take part. Other countries let their athletes take part as individuals but not representing their nations. But American athletes were told that if they attempted to travel to Moscow they would have their passports taken. With some of the world's best athletes not taking part some events in the Moscow games looked second rate. This angered the Soviet Union as they had seen it as an opportunity to showcase communism, which had been undermined by the USA, this led to a further cooling of relations. In 1984 the Soviets attempted to boycott the Olympics in Los Angeles, they were joined by 15 communist countries .
Economic Sanctions	Measures taken to damage a country's economy, usually involving a trade ban.	How did Reagan's election affect US- Soviet relations?	When President Reagan was elected to the Presidency he brought a tough new attitude to the Soviet Union. This led to increased hostility and the period often referred to as the Second Cold War. He had made it clear in a speech in 1983 that he considered the USSR to be an 'Evil Empire' and described the USA as being on the side 'good'. He pushed congress to increase spending on the military and trialled new innovations such as the Trident submarine and the stealth bombers. He understood that the Soviet Union was struggling financially and so claimed as part of the Reagan doctrine that the USA would fund not just anti-communist nations but anti communist groups within communist nations. Evidence of this can be seen in Nicaragua and El Salvador where the USA supported anti communist insurgents and started what many considered to be the biggest rollback of communism since the Second World War. Reagan also started the Strategic defence Initiative (SDI) which was also known as 'star Wars' this was a series of satellites with lasers aboard which were theoretically capable of destroying Soviet Missiles. However it was years away from being ready and was directly opposed to the 1967 Outer Space Treaty. The SDI created panic in the Soviet Union who had spent a lot of money on their missile systems only to find them seemingly redundant in the face of the new American technology. The Soviet Union knew it would have to heavily invest to bring its own systems up to the level of the USA's and it was financially unable to do this. This was an important factor behind Gorbachev's 'new thinking' when he became premier in 1985.
Abdicate	To step down from office or power.	How did Gorbachev's 'new thinking' change Soviet policy?	In 1985 Mikhail Gorbachev became the leader of the Soviet Union. At this point the Soviet Union were facing numerous problems, these were: - There was little industrial growth or improvement to the Standard of living during the Brezhnev era because all of the money was spent on the arms race with the USA. - Some satellite states were dealing with unrest over the poor standard of living and the lack of human rights. An example of this would be in Poland where the trade union 'Solidarity' movement gained support leading to the authorities having to declare martial law in 1981. -The Soviet Union was having to rely heavily on secret polices to keep peace in the satellite states.. -The Soviet Union had been poorly led for a number of years. This was partially because it had had a series of leaders in poor health who ruled briefly and did not have time to implement change. Gorbachev was determined to reform communism in the USSR and he introduced a series of policies that would have a massive impact on US- Soviet Relations. These policies included: -He introduced the perestroika policies that reformed the Soviet economy and introduced certain aspects that had made capitalism successful. -He also believed there should be less corruption in government and more openness. He believed that people should not fear their government . This policy known as Glasnost would allow opposition parties and would hopefully encourage people to have a better understanding of the government. -The Brezhnev doctrine that had dominated Soviet polices and had led to the 'Prague Spring' would be scrapped and instead the Soviet union would no longer get involved in domestic affairs of other communist countries. -The Soviet Union would also withdraw from Afghanistan and reduce spending on arms and defence. This was contrasted by Ronald Reagan's new tougher thinking . This was seen as a real opportunity by the USA to adapt a more open approach to the Soviet Union from the USA . Gorbachev made significant steps towards limiting nuclear weapons in his first 4 years of leadership.
Perestroika	Russian for reconstruction. It was used in the Gorbachev era to describe his programme of reorganising the Soviet State.		
Glasnost	Russian for openness or transparency. In the 1990's it was used to describe Gorbachev's new more open policies.	Did the fall of the Soviet Union mean the fall of the Warsaw Pact?	Once it was announced the Soviet Union would abandon the Brezhnev Doctrine the satellite states of Eastern Europe were given freedom as to how their countries would be run. As well as this the reforms seen in the Soviet Union added to the clamor in these nations for reforms that would improve their standard of living and increase their individual freedoms. There were many demonstrations between 1989 and 1990 all over Eastern Europe that led to widespread changes and the effective end of the Warsaw Pact.
SALT	Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty	How significant was the fall of the Berlin wall?	There were scenes of great emotion as families that had been split by the wall for up to 30 years were now reunited and so many people took hammers and chisels to get souvenirs from the wall. However the event itself was main symbolic. By November 1989, east Germans could already travel to the west through Austria. Also throughout Eastern Europe communist governments were falling and the Soviet Union showed it had no intention of stepping in to stop the wave of protests and demand for reform. The Warsaw Pact, that has been set up to help the Soviet Union coordinate forces to defend the communist East from the West, as Europe became two armed camps. It also was an effective way of keep the satellite states in order, which can be seen in 1956 in Hungary and 1968 in Czechoslovakia. However as communist governments in Eastern Europe came under pressure in 1989 it became impossible for the Warsaw pact to survive. Military co-operation between the member states ended in 1990 and the Warsaw Pact officially ended in 1991. The breakup of the Warsaw pact meant that Europe was no longer split into two different camps and the Cold War was over. The end of the pact also led to many countries becoming independent. Every single one of the satellite states eventually abandoned communism. Due to all these changes Gorbachev was blamed for the fall of Eastern Europe, which was made worse when the Baltic states declared themselves independent in 1990. In 1990 there was a failed coup against Gorbachev which weakened Gorbachev's leadership and led to 12 soviet republics declaring independence. Gorbachev could not continue to rule in these circumstance and so he resigned and the Soviet Union almost immediately broke up.
KEY DATES			
1972	SALT 1 Agreement		
1975	Helsinki Agreement		
1979	SALT 2 Agreement		
1979	Soviet Union invades Afghanistan		
1979	Carter Doctrine		
1980	Moscow Olympics		
1983	Ronald Reagan makes 'Empire of Evil' speech		
1984	Los Angeles Olympics		
1985	Geneva summit		
1986	Mikhail Gorbachev becomes leader of the Soviet Union		
1986	Reykjavik summit		
1986	Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster		
1987	INF treaty		
1989	Fall of the Berlin Wall		
1991	Warsaw Pact dissolved		
1991	Gorbachev removed from power		

