

Review: Soviet Rule under Josef Stalin



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The "COLD WAR" thaws



March 5, 1953....Stalin dies
Nikita Khrushchev becomes
"premier" of USSR



"DE-STALINIZATION"

- Khrushchev's plan to eliminate some of Stalin's policies
 - Forced labor camps started to close
 - Gulag workers began to be let free

The Berlin Wall

- Shortly after the Bay of Pigs failure...Nikita Khrushchev built the Berlin Wall

August 13, 1961 = Communist troops started to construct a wall that would divide east and west Berlin

- Khrushchev wanted to prevent the people of East Berlin to escape into West Berlin



Results of the Berlin Wall:

- Increased tensions between the USA and Soviet Union
- The wall becomes the symbol for the Cold War



Communism starts to fall

- Trouble in 2 "Satellite Countries"



1) Hungary (1956)



Imre Nagy

- Nagy promises free elections and wanted Soviet troops to leave the country
- Soviet military took over Budapest, and captured & executed Nagy





2) Czechoslovakia (1968)

- Khrushchev is removed,
Leonid Breshnev takes his place



-- Breshnev limited Freedom of Speech and Worship in the USSR

Alexander Dubcek

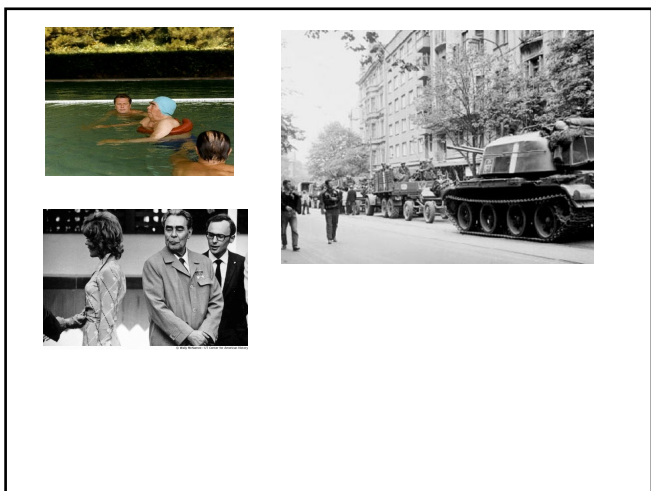


- Loosens control on censorship
- Introduced elements of Democracy



"Prague Spring"

- Soviets and other members of the Warsaw Pact send in the military to end the reforms

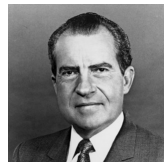


From Brinkmanship to Detente

"Brinkmanship" = the willingness to go to war (nuclear) to gain a political advantage

"Detente" = reduce Cold War tensions between the two superpowers

-Richard Nixon tried to move toward Detente


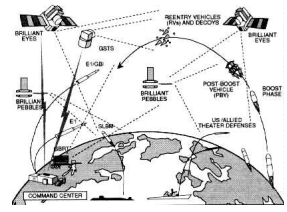
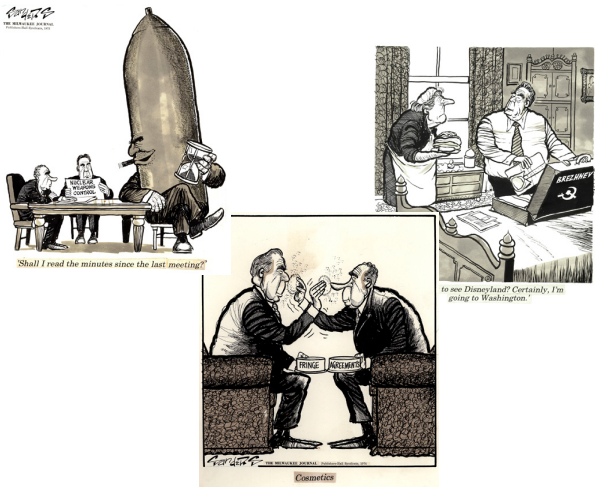


ex) SALT I – treaty signed by USSR and USA that limited the numbers of Nuclear missiles each country could have

1979 -- Carter tried SALT II

Congress said NO - (USSR invaded Afghanistan)

1980 -- Reagan moves USA away from detente
 ex) Strategic Defense Initiative (aka "Star Wars")
 - Increases defense spending

Mikhail Gorbachev - becomes leader after Brezhnev

Major Reforms of Gorbachev



- 1) Glasnost (1985)**
 - translates into "openness"
 - restrictions on individuals' freedoms are lifted (i.e. freedom of speech & religion)
- 2) Perestroika (1987)**
 - translates into "restructuring"
 - Introduces elements of capitalism into Soviet economy
 - Often compared to Lenin's N.E.P.
 - Permitted some private ownership of businesses

1989 -- Berlin Wall 'falls'




1990 -- Germany is re-unified
 Fall of Berlin Wall and the re-unification of Germany are considered to be the events that symbolized the end of the Cold War

1991 -- Communism in Russia no longer exists



No Warsaw Pact (Satellite Nations)....
 - Replaced by CIS, Commonwealth of Independent States