

GCSE History Topic 2: Conflict and Tension between East and West 1945 – 1972



Key topic 3 – Transformation of the Cold War

Key people	
John F Kennedy (JFK)	US President 1961 - 1963
Fidel Castro	Cuban political leader (1959–2008) who transformed his country into the first communist state in the Western Hemisphere.
Nikita Khrushchev	Leader of the USSR 1953 – 1964
Richard M Nixon	US President 1969 - 1974
Leonid Brezhnev	Leader of the USSR 1964 - 1982
Batista (Fulgencio Batista Zaldivar)	President of Cuba 1952 – 1959
Alexander Dubcek	Leader of Czechoslovakia 1968 – 1969 when he was forced from power

Key Tier 3 vocabulary	
Defection	The act of changing loyalties from one country to another
Embargo	A ban on trade with a particular country
Exile	Being forced to away from your home; this can be forced, or it can be a choice if the consequences of going home are arrest or death
‘Brain Drain’	The emigration of highly trained or qualified people from a particular country.
Eastern Bloc	also known as the Communist Bloc, the Socialist Bloc, and the Soviet Bloc
Checkpoint Charlie	the best-known Berlin Wall crossing point between East Berlin and West Berlin during the Cold War
DEFCON	The US system to describe the state of readiness of its armed forces, referred to as ‘defence condition’ or DEFCON. DEFCON 5 meant that forces were on a normal level of readiness. DEFCON 1 meant all out nuclear war was imminent.
Détente	Improving relations between the USA and the USSR in the 1970s

The Cuban Missile Crisis 1962

- 1959 Fidel Castro and Che Guevara topple the pro-American government in Cuba. •US boycotted buying Cuban sugar, so Castro sold it to Khrushchev, and receive arms from USSR.
- 1961 CIA trained Cuban exiles to invade Cuba and overthrow Castro (Bay of Pigs invasion) but failed as USA backs out of air support and Cuban army superior to exiles. Makes USA look very bad!
- Khrushchev sent nuclear missiles to Cuba to help defend from future US attacks. USA discovers them in 1962
- Kennedy decides to blockade Cuba to stop missiles arriving from USSR.
- Khrushchev sent a telegram saying he would remove missiles from Cuba if USA wouldn’t invade.
- Khrushchev then sent another telegram adding he wanted US missiles removed from Turkey too.
- Kennedy responded to first telegram publicly and second one secretly, increasing his reputation as a strong leader, making Khrushchev look like he backed down maybe why he was dismissed as leader of USSR in 1954
- Moscow-Washington Hotline set up and 3 treaties (Test Ban 1963, Outer Space 1967, Non-Proliferation 1968) signed to reduce testing and spread of nuclear weapons. Détente 1970s
- After the Cuba crisis the USA and USSR

Détente 1970s

- After the Cuba crisis the USA and USSR wanted to get on better in the 1970s this thaw (peaceful period) in the Cold War is called détente
- Both needed to focus on economic and social problems at home, not war
SALT 1 1972- Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. Limited the number of nuclear weapons both sides had
Helsinki Accords 1975- agreed to respect borders, work for closer relations and respect human rights.
SALT 2 1979- Tried to introduce restrictions on missiles, but USA didn’t trust the USSR after invasion of Afghanistan so US withdrew from talks

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Key dates

1961	April - Bay of Pigs
	June - Vienna Summit
	August - Berlin Wall is constructed
	October - The USSR explodes the most powerful bomb in history
1962	October - Cuban Missile Crisis
1963	Kennedy travels to Berlin and makes his 'I am a Berliner'
1968	January - August - the Prague Spring
	November - Brezhnev Doctrine

Source Analysis

Content - what can you take from the source? What is it saying? What can you see?

Provenance - what is the NOP of a source?

N - nature (type of source)

O - origin (when the source was made, where the source was made, who made the source)

P - purpose (why the source was made, who the intended audience was, what the intended message was)

How can this affect the reliability of the source?

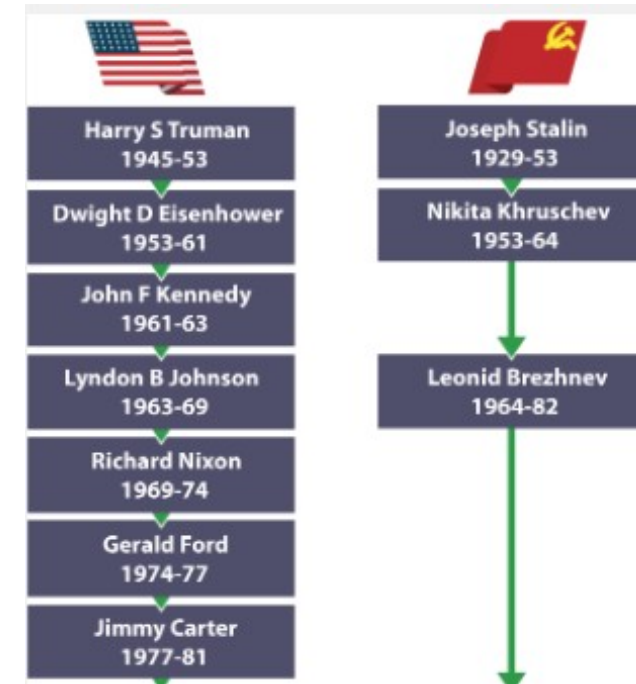
Accuracy - How accurate is the source? What own knowledge do you have that can support or challenge the source.

Prior knowledge required:

- World War Two
- Nazi Germany

Provides building blocks for:

- A Level - Britain 1930 - 1979



Czechoslovakia 1968

- Alexander Dubcek introduced reforms 'Socialism with a human face'. Not anti- communist, just wanted more freedom. This became known as the Prague Spring.
- Brezhnev worried about reforms spreading so invaded with 500,000 troops. Czechs didn't fight back- learn their lesson from Hungary!
- Brezhnev Doctrine- actions of any individual country affected whole Eastern Bloc, so he would use Warsaw Pact troops to stop any reforms.