

# **Cold War Activity**



# 1: Stalin's Policies

## Collectivization

- Consolidated private farms into huge collective farms worked in common by farmers
- On a collective farm, peasants shared the scarce modern farm machinery.
- Farmers submit portion of agriculture products to government
- Many rebelled and were forced to submit

## Purges

- A large-scale elimination of party members who were supposedly disloyal to him.
- Brutality, intimidation, and public trials staged to rid the party of members who he claimed were disloyal
- Expanded to include the general population. People could be imprisoned without a trial for minor offenses.

## Command economy

- The government controlled all economic decisions.

## Five Year Plans

- Stalin wanted to double the production of oil and coal, and triple the output of steel
- Goal: to turn the Soviet Union into a modern, industrialized society
- Led to hardships on the people, yet the economy grew significantly

# 2: Space Race



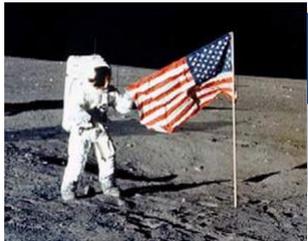
**1957**

**USSR launched Sputnik—1<sup>st</sup> satellite**



**1961**

**USSR 1<sup>st</sup> manned flight in space**



**1969**

**U.S. 1<sup>st</sup> to land on moon**

**1970s**

**U.S. and USSR cooperated in docking spacecraft**

**2000**

**International Space Station (ISS) began—completed in 2011**

# 3: 1950-1960s Key Events

- **1956—Destalinization:** After Stalin died in 1953, Nikita Khrushchev became the dominant Soviet leader. In 1956, the shrewd, tough Khrushchev denounced Stalin for jailing and killing loyal Soviet citizens. His speech signaled the start of a policy called destalinization, or purging the country of Stalin's memory. Workers destroyed monuments of the former dictator. Khrushchev called for "peaceful competition" with capitalist states. This process was called destalinization.
- **1960—U2 Incident:** A United States U-2 spy plane was shot down while in Soviet airspace. US pilot Gary Powers was released 9 months later in a prisoner exchange between the US and USSR.
- **1961—Berlin Wall Built:** The wall completely cut off West Berlin from East Germany by land.
- **Oct. 1962—Cuban Missile Crisis:** The Soviets secretly built 42 missile sites in Cuba. President Kennedy demanded that they be removed. This crisis led to the fear of WWIII. After 13 days, Khrushchev agreed to remove the missile sites if the US would remove their missiles from Turkey in 10 months.

# 4: 1970s Key Events

- **Détente:** The United States backed away from its policy of direct confrontation with the Soviet Union. Détente, a policy of lessening Cold War tensions, replaced brinkmanship under President Richard M. Nixon.
- **1972—SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Talks):** The US and USSR sign a weapons reduction agreement to limit the nuclear capacity of each nation.
- **1973—Peaceful Coexistence:** A stagnant period of the Cold War where the threat of war is eliminated, and the US and USSR compete peacefully.

# 5: Gorbachev (1985-1991)

Mikhail Gorbachev (mih•KYL GAWR•buh•chawf). Gorbachev's supporters praised his youth, energy, and political skills. The Soviet people welcomed Gorbachev's election. At 54, he was the youngest Soviet leader since Stalin. Gorbachev was only a child during Stalin's ruthless purge of independent-minded party members. Unlike other Soviet leaders, Gorbachev decided to pursue new ideas.

Past Soviet leaders had created a totalitarian state. It rewarded silence and discouraged individuals from acting on their own. As a result, Soviet society rarely changed, and the Soviet economy stagnated. Gorbachev realized that economic and social reforms could not occur without a free flow of ideas and information. In 1985, he announced a policy known as glasnost (GLAHS•nuhst), or openness. Glasnost brought remarkable changes. The government allowed churches to open. It released dissidents from prison and allowed the publication of books by previously banned authors. Reporters investigated problems and criticized officials.

In 1985, Gorbachev introduced the idea of perestroika (PEHR•ih•STROY•kuh), or economic restructuring. In 1986, he made changes to revive the Soviet economy. Local managers gained greater authority over their farms and factories, and people were allowed to open small private businesses. Gorbachev's goal was not to throw out communism, but to make the economic system more efficient and productive. Foreign investments were allowed as well as the production of more consumer products.



# 6: End of Cold War

Gorbachev's policy was not to intervene in the Eastern Bloc.

1989—  
Czechoslovakia—  
ended communist  
government

1990—  
East &  
West  
Germany  
reunited

## Eastern Europe

1988-9—  
Poland  
established  
non-  
communist  
government

1989—Berlin  
Wall  
dismantled

Summer 1991—Baltic  
republics indep.—  
Latvia, Lithuania,  
Estonia

1992—Elected  
President Boris  
Yeltsin (of Russian  
Republic)

## Soviet Union

Dec. 1991—USSR dissolved—  
replaced w/ Commonwealth of  
Independent States (Russian  
Republic)

- Communist party terminated