

Unit 8 Review

Lecture 49 – Rise and Fall of the Cold War

The Cold War was a state of tensions between the US and Soviet Union without any direct armed conflict, except in supplying other countries in small brush wars. George Kennan first proposed the idea of containment, or stopping communism from expanding. A major part in the cold war was MAD, or Mutually Assured destruction, which is the idea that you build up weapons as a threat but never use them, and if you are attacked, you will take them down with you.

The first political action that increased tension was NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), which was a defensive alliance of North American and Western European countries. Eastern Europe responded with the Warsaw Pact, which bonded Eastern European countries with the Soviet Union.

The traditional view of Communism is that we are good, and that Communism is monolithic – all the same and all rooted from Russia. The Revisionist view is that communism is different all over the world, and can't all be linked to the USSR.

Lecture 50 – Foreign Policy Since WWII

Khrushchev led the Soviet Union from 1953-1964. Although he called for “peaceful coexistence”, he signed the Warsaw Pact and crushed a Hungarian uprising, which increased antagonism between the US and Soviets. In 1957, the US was shocked by the launch of Sputnik, the first manmade satellite in space. The US responded with their own space program, NASA, and also an increased priority for math and science and defense programs. In Cuba, Fidel Castro took power in 1959. The Soviets then sent missiles to Cuba to protect them, and this culminated in the Cuban missile crisis in 1962. This is the closest that the US and USSR reached nuclear warfare, but the Soviets removed their missiles in face of a possible war.

Brezhnev, Soviet leader from 1964 to 1985, was the first Soviet leader to truly better the relations with the US with the policy of détente, or relaxation of tensions. Meeting with Nixon and participating in Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty (SALT) talks helped improve relations. As president, Reagan even went as far as calling them the “focus of evil”, and with the shooting of Korean plane KAL 007, relations quickly deteriorated.

In 1985, new leader Gorbachev promoted glasnost, “openness” and perestroika “economic restructuring.” The Soviet economy could not deal with the radical changes, and the “velvet revolution” soon swept through Eastern Europe. In 1991 the Soviet Union collapsed, giving birth to Russia.

Multiple Choice

Alex MC

1. Which is a crucial feature of MAD?

- A. All communism is monolithic.
 - B. NATO will protect the Western World.
 - C. The Domino Theory
 - D.** Build up of weapon arsenals.
2. The revisionist view of the Cold War is:
- A. NATO signaled the start of the Cold War.
 - B. All Communism is the same.
 - C.** Not all Communism is monolithic.
 - D. MAD assured that war would never take place.
3. The Warsaw Pact was a direct response to:
- A.** NATO
 - B. ICBM
 - C. SALT
 - D. MAD
4. What was Khrushchev's attitude toward Stalin?
- A. He order Stalin's death after a coup.
 - B. He firmly followed in Stalin's footsteps.
 - C.** He criticized Stalin's actions.
 - D. He admired Stalin.
5. What did Sputnik NOT cause directly?
- A. The creation of NASA and increase in defense programs.
 - B.** The Gary Powers U-2 incident.
 - C. The launch of the Vanguard rocket.
 - D. The idea that the Soviets were far ahead in the space race.
6. The SALT talks were meant to:
- A. Solve the Cuban Missile Crisis.
 - B. Decrease tensions of the Bay of Pigs Invasion.
 - C. Organize the Soviet withdrawal of Vietnam.
 - D.** Decrease nuclear weapons arsenals.
7. Which leader worked best at decreasing Cold War tensions?
- A. Lenin
 - B. Stalin
 - C. Khrushchev
 - D.** Brezhnev
8. Which best describes the Cold War.
- A. Direct confrontation with use of nuclear weapons
 - B. Direct confrontation without use of nuclear weapons
 - C.** Indirect confrontation in form of brush wars.
 - D. Use of brush wars to pit US and USSR troops against each other
9. Which is not true about the Bay of Pigs invasion?
- A. It gave bad reputation to Kennedy
 - B.** The Soviet troops were able to crush the rebellion
 - C. The rebellion failed due to lack of air support
 - D. The rebellion was eventually linked to the US
10. McCarthyism is most similar to:
- A.** The Red Scare

- B. The response to the publishing of The Communist Manifesto
- C. The Vietnam anti-war movement
- D. The 1920s conservative politics

Chris MC

1. Which of the following best symbolizes the Cold War?
 - A.** The Berlin Wall
 - B. A hot stove
 - C. Guns and butter
 - D. Détente
2. What was significant about Gorbachev and Reagan being leaders simultaneously?
 - A. Their hate of each other increased tensions.
 - B.** They got along which lessened tensions
 - C. There was no significance
 - D. They both enjoyed Monday Night Football
3. The Velvet Revolution was “velvet” because
 - A. After it was over, velvet was a sign of good faith
 - B. The leaders in charge wore velvet
 - C. It was a good name at the time.
 - D.** It was not a violent revolution
4. The Kitchen Debates were illustrative of:
 - A. Reagan’s “Teflon” presidency
 - B.** Communism vs. Capitalism
 - C. Nixon’s hate of Khrushchev
 - D. China’s growing involvement in world affairs.
5. The idea that communism would spread from one country to another is known as:
 - A. Containment
 - B. Detente
 - C.** The Domino Theory
 - D. KFC
6. Which of the following were used to fight the Cold War?
I propaganda, II spying, III Arms race, IV Open and total war
 - A.** I, II, III
 - B. I and II
 - C. II and IV
 - D. All of the above
7. Total war is best defined as
 - A. An economic policy geared toward winning.
 - B. Nixon’s plan for Vietnam.
 - C. A world at war.
 - D.** A country dedicating all of its resources and labor to the war.
8. The US view of the USSR’s government is most similar to:
 - A. Fascism
 - B.** Totalitarianism
 - C. Bureaucracy
 - D. Democracy

9. Which of the following was a dramatic effect of the uprising in Hungary?
- A. It forced the US into a violent war with the USSR
 - B. It illustrated a communist domination of all of Europe.
 - C.** It was violently put down by Khrushchev
 - D. Increased tensions with the British
10. The Cuban Missile Crisis can best be described as:
- A. Berlin Wall, Take 2
 - B. Atomic hot potato
 - C. Sticky theater seats
 - D.** Nuclear chicken

Dopesheet Terms

Cold War – state of tension without direct armed conflict between the US and USSR.

Domino Theory – The idea that if one country falls to communism, it will be followed by its neighbor, and then its neighbor, and so on.

NATO – North Atlantic Treaty Organization. A defensive alliance of Western Europe and North American nations against any exterior aggression.

Warsaw Pact – A binding alliance of Eastern European countries and the Soviet Union in response to NATO.

Bay of Pigs - A 1961 attempted invasion of Cuba. Miserable failure for US. Bad rep for Kennedy.

Détente – relaxation of tensions

Cuban Missile crisis - US found installation of Soviet missiles on Cuba. Imposed an embargo and USSR backs down first. Closest world got to nuclear war.

Richard M. Nixon - Held SALT negotiations with Soviets and even traveled to Russia.