NUCLEAR AGE AND THE COLD WAR

GRADE 9
DEFINITIONS

• Allies-As state formally cooperating with another for military or other purpose
• Reparations- payments for damage they caused
• Automatic bomb – powerful and dangerous bomb
• The Cold War: An ideological war fought between the Capitalist West and the Communist East
• Capitalism-Form of government that practice private ownership
• Communism- Form of government where the state own everything
• Manhattan Project- Secret Code given to the atomic bomb
• Enola Gay- The plane loading /carrying the bomb
• Little boy- it was the first bomb dropped at Hiroshima
• NATO-This is the National Atlantic Treaty Organisation(it was a military alliance)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEARS</th>
<th>EVENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>The house of the UN A</td>
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<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>Truman Doctrine passed National Security</td>
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<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>Truman is Re-elected</td>
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<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>NATO is formed and China falls to Communist forces</td>
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<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Congress passes McCarran internal Security Bill</td>
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<td>1951</td>
<td>Julius and Ethel Rosenberg convicted of espionage</td>
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<td>1952</td>
<td>United States develop first hydrogen bomb</td>
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Europe After WWII
What was the Cold War?

- Conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union: The Super Powers
- It began in 1945 and ended in 1989
- There was no direct fighting between the United States and the Soviet Union
- The Cold War was fought in different ways
- Roosevelt USA
- Stalin USSR
- Churchill Britain
- They competed in the space race, arms race and the Olympic Games
- They got other countries to fight on their behalf
- Capitalism versus Communism: They tried to prove their system was the best
- They threatened and spied on each other
## COMMUNISM VS CAPITALISM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communism</th>
<th>Capitalism</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State ownership of property</td>
<td>Private ownership of property</td>
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<tr>
<td>State controls everything</td>
<td>Free Trading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Every one is paid equally</td>
<td>Make your own profit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government rules in the interest of all</td>
<td>Government does not control the economy</td>
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<tr>
<td>No democracy</td>
<td>Democracy</td>
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• The allies (Britain, France and the USA) had a fall out with Stalin

• During the conferences of Casablanca, Yalta and Potsdam, the Allies and Russia had a common enemy, Germany.

• The purpose of these conferences was to decide how they would organise the world after WWII

• At the conference in Yalta they had to decide how to treat those nations that were under Nazi occupation
• Stalin wanted control over the German controlled nations and so sent in his troops to take over these areas

• The Red army was a huge army made up of peasants and workers.

• The Postdam conference was held from the 17 July 1945 to 2 August 1945

• It failed to re-confirm the promise made at Yalta for independent elections in Eastern Europe

• Stalin learnt about the American atomic bomb and realised that Russia was years behind in terms of modern weapons.
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE USA AND USSR

• Before the end of WWII the Soviet Union gradually extended its influence in Europe
• • By 1944 the red army had liberated large parts of Eastern Europe
• • By 1945 at the Yalta conference the Soviet Union obtained the Curzon line
• • As the war was nearing an end the Soviet Union consolidated its power in Eastern Europe
THE BEGINNING OF THE NUCLEAR AGE

- Albert Einstein is a well known scientist
- He was not directly involved in the making of the nuclear bomb but his theories were used to develop the first nuclear bomb
THE MANHATTAN PROJECT

• This project was started in 1939
• The leader of the project was Robert Oppenheimer
• The Manhattan project was a top secret research project to research and produce an atomic bomb
• The code name of the bomb was called Gadget
• On the 16 July the Gadget was exploded in a desert near Los Alamos in New Mexico
• The heat was so hot that it turned sand into glass
THE BOMBING OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

• 1940 the Japanese signed a treaty with Germany and Italy
• 7 December 1941 the Japanese bombed the US naval base at Pearl Harbour
• Soon after the United States joined the allied forces in the war
• 7 May 1945 the Germans surrendered
• 6 August 1945 Enola Gay (aircraft) dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima
• Hiroshima was an industrial city with military operations
• The bomb destroyed 90% of the city
• On the 9 August 1945 the second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki
• Nagasaki was Japan's oldest city port
• It missed its target and destroyed half the city
The Superpowers and the Cold War

- After the second World War, the Soviet Union and the USA emerged as superpowers
- Both of them wanted more power
- This resulted in tension and led to a situation where they did not actively fight one another but they both felt threatened
- The Soviet leader was determined that the red army would control Poland, dominate eastern Europe and prevent Germany from starting another war
- The USA wanted Europe to be rebuilt according to their capitalist ideas
AREAS OF CONFLICT AND COMPETITION BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS IN THE COLD WAR

• 1. Arms Race
  • This was a competition between the two superpowers to accumulate weapons
  • The USA was the first country to use nuclear weapons
2. The space race

- This was a race to the moon between the Soviets and the United States
- The Soviet Union kick started the space race when they launched the first ever satellite on the 4 October 1957, called Sputnik 1.
- The Americans changed the education system which became known as the Sputnik crises
- After 4 months the US launched explorer 1
- On the 4 November 1957 the Soviet Union sent a dog called Laika into space
- Yuri Gagarin became the first man to orbit the earth in space (12 April 1961)
- 20 July 1969, Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin took their first steps on the moon.
- The space race cost both countries billions
- After 1969 the space race was reduced
DIVISION OF GERMANY

- At the Potsdam conference Germany was divided into 4 military occupation zones
  - The French was in the southwest, the British in the Northwest, the USA in the southwest and the USSR in the east.
  - Germany was divided into east and west Germany.
  - In May 1949 the allies combined their occupied zones and formed west Germany
  - The Soviet Union followed in October 1949 by forming east Germany
- Berlin was also divided into 4 zones.
  - The French was in the southwest, the British in the northwest, the USA in the south and the USSR in the east.
  - Berlin was divided into East and West, which led to the building of the Berlin Wall
THE BERLIN WALL

- In the 1950’s many people from east Germany moved to west Germany because they could not accept the living conditions there.
- Many of the skilled workers left east Germany
- In 1960 Khrushev (leader of the Soviet Union) restricted the way people moved between the east and west
- The number of people leaving east Germany increased
- In August 1961 Khrushchev ordered the building of the Berlin Wall
- The wall increased the tension between the USA and USSR and the iron curtain turned into a physical division.
PROXY WARS

• A proxy war is a war where two powerful countries use third parties as a substitute for fighting one another directly. Timeline:
  • 1949: the communist took over China.
  • 1950: the USA and Japan signed a peace treaty which led the Soviets and China to support the invasion of South Korea by North Korea.
  • 1956: Khrushchev sent tanks into Hungary and Poland
  • 1962: The Cuban Missile crises. The US spy satellites discovered that the Russians installed medium range nuclear missiles in Cuba
  • 1957-1975: Vietnam war was fought between communist North Vietnam and south Vietnam.
  • The US entered the war in support of the south Vietnamese. After 18 years of fighting Vietnam was unified under the rule of the communist party.
THE END OF THE COLD WAR

• In 1989 there was civil unrest in the eastern bloc

• On the 12 June 1987 the US president (Ronald Reagan) challenged Mikhail Gorbachev to tear down the wall

• Hungary opened its border with Austria and over a three day period over 13 000 East Germans escaped

• The government clamped down on travel and this led to demonstrations

• The East Germany head of state resigned and the 9 November 1989 the new government announced regulations that lifted travel restriction for east German citizens.
FALL OF THE SOVIET UNION

• In the 1980’s the Soviet leader Gorbachev introduced the glasnot and Perestroika
• This led to civil unrest as people wanted more freedom
• The army was called in to squash the demonstration
• This was seen as threat to peoples freedom
• So on the 8 December 1991 they declared their independence from the USSR
• A few weeks later the rest of the USSR did the same
• On the 25 December Gorbachev resigned