H2 History (Paper 1)

Theme 1: Understanding the Cold War

Overall Timeline

Date	Event	Ongoing Phenomena
wwii		
Aug 1939	Nazi-Soviet Pact	
1940	Katyn Forest Massacre	
Jun-Nov 1941	Operation Barbarossa	
1941	Atlantic Charter	
1944	Warsaw Uprising	
1944	Morgenthau Plan	
6 June 1944	Delayed opening of the Second Front	
Sept 1944	Communist coup in Bulgaria	Sovietisation of Eastern Europe
4-11 Feb 1945	Yalta Conference	[BPHRC]
Feb 1945	Declaration of Liberated Europe	
Mar 1945	Kidnapping of the Polish Provisional Government	
Apr 1945	Death of Roosevelt	
12 May 1945	End of US lend-lease aid to the USSR	
July 1945	Churchill replaced by Attlee	
17 July-2 Aug 1945	Potsdam Conference	
July 1945	US development of the atomic bomb	
6, 9 Aug 1945	US deployment of the atomic bomb	
	Start of Bipolarity	
Jan-Mar 1946	Delayed Soviet withdrawal from Iran	
22 Feb 1946	George Kennan's Long Telegram	
5 Mar 1946	Churchill's Iron Curtain speech	
14 Mar 1946	Stalin's <i>Pravda</i> response	

Date	Event	Ongoing Phenomena
30 Mar 1946	Start of Greek Civil War	
2 June 1946	Communist gains in French and Italian elections	
7 Aug 1946	Soviet escalation of Turkish Straits Crisis	
6 Sept 1946	Byrnes' Speech of Hope	
24 Sept 1946	Clifford-Elsey Report	
Feb 1947	Communist coup in Poland	
12 Mar 1947	Truman Doctrine	
29 May 1947	Formation of Bizonia in Western Germany	
5 June 1947	Marshall Plan	
2 July 1947	Molotov Plan	
8 July 1947	Publication of the Long Telegram	
22 Sept 1947	Zhdanov's Two Camps speech	
5 Oct 1947	Creation of COMINFORM	
Oct 1947	Communist coup in Hungary	
Dec 1947	Communist coup in Romania	
Feb 1948	Communist coup in Czechoslovakia	
20 June 1948	Operation Bird Dog	First Berlin Crisis
24 June 1948	Start of Berlin Blockade	
26 June 1948	Start of Berlin Airlift	
1 Aug 1948	Formation of Trizonia	
25 Jan 1949	Formation of Soviet COMECON	
4 Apr 1949	Formation of NATO	
12 May 1949	End of Berlin Blockade	
23 May 1949	Formation of West Germany	
29 Aug 1949	Successful atomic bomb test by the USSR	
1 Oct 1949	Formation of the People's Republic of China	

Date	Event	Ongoing Phenomena
7 Oct 1949	Formation of East Germany	
14 Feb 1950	Sino-Soviet Friendship Treaty	
7 Apr 1950	NSC-68	
25 June 1950	Start of Korean War	Korean War
5 Mar 1953	Death of Stalin	
27 July 1953	End of Korean War	
23 Oct 1954	Decision to allow West Germany to enter NATO	
6 May 1955	Accession of West Germany into NATO	
14 May 1955	Warsaw Pact	
	Peaceful Coexistence	
15 May 1955	Allied withdrawal from Austrian occupation	
1955	Removal of Soviet bases from Finland	
17 Apr 1956	Dismantling of COMINFORM	
23 Oct 1956 UN creation of International Atomic Energy Agency		
	Heightened Tensions	
23 Oct-4 Nov 1956	Soviet suppression of Hungarian Revolution	
Oct 1957	Sputnik Crisis	
1 May 1960	U2 Incident	
17-20 Apr 1961	Bay of Pigs Invasion	
4 June 1961	Vienna Summit	
13 Aug 1961	Construction of the Berlin Wall	Second Berlin Crisis
17 Oct 1961	Formalisation of the Sino-Soviet split	
22-28 Oct 1961	Checkpoint Charlie standoff	
16-29 Oct 1962	Cuban Missile Crisis	Cuban Missile Crisis
	Detente	
June 1963	Creation of hotline	
5 Aug 1963	Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (PNTBT)	

Date	Event	Ongoing Phenomena
2 Aug 1964	Start of Vietnam War	Vietnam War
14 Oct 1964	Removal of Khrushchev	
20 Jan 1968	Start of Tet Offensive	
1 July 1968	Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)	
21 Aug 1968	Soviet suppression of Prague Spring	
12 Nov 1968	Brezhnev Doctrine	
3 Nov 1969	Nixon Doctrine	
22-30 May 1972	Nixon's visit to Moscow	
26 May 1972	Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty (SALT I)	
26 May 1972	Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (ABM)	
27 Jan 1973	Paris Peace Accords	
22 Nov 1973	Mutual Balanced Force Reduction Proposal (MBFR)	
30 July- 1 Aug 1975	Helsinki Accords	
18 June 1979	Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty (SALT II)	
The Second Cold War		
11 Feb 1979	Iranian Revoluton	
17 July 1979	Sandinista Coup in Nicaragua	
4 Nov 1979	Start of Iran Hostage Crisis	
24 Dec 1979	Soviet invasion of Afghanistan	Soviets in Afghanistan
4 Jan 1980	Carter's grain embargo	
23 Jan 1980	Carter Doctrine	
May 1981	Operation RYAN	
18 Nov 1981	Zero Option Proposal	
8 June 1982	Reagan's address to the British Parliament	
12 June 1982	Nuclear Freeze rally at Central Park	
8 Mar 1983	Reagan's Evil Empire speech	
23 Mar 1983	Strategic Defence Initiative	
1 Sept 1983	Shooting of KAL 007	

Date	Event	Ongoing Phenor	nena
11 Nov 1983	US-NATO Exercise Able Archer 83		
6 Feb 1985	Reagan Doctrine		
	End of Bipolarity		
11 Mar 1985	Gorbachev comes to power		
19-20 Nov 1985	Geneva Summit		
Sept 1986	Daniloff-Zakharov Affair		
11-12 Oct 1986	Reykjavik Summit		
Mar 1987	Iran-Contra Scandal		
28 May 1987	Mathias Rust Incident		
12 June 1987	Reagan's "Tear down this wall!" speech		
19 Oct 1987	Black Monday		
11 Nov 1987	Yeltsin Affair		
8-10 Dec 1987	Washington Summit		
8 Dec 1987	Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF)		
29 May-3 June 1988	Moscow Summit		
15 May 1988	Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan		
8 Dec 1988	Unilateral Soviet troop reductions		
May 1989	Hungary dismantles its fence with Austria	Democratisation	
4-18 June 1989	Polish elections	of E. Europe [PRGHCBA]	
23 Aug 1989	Human chain from Talinn to Vilnius		Collapse of
25 Oct 1989	Sinatra Doctrine		USSR
9 Nov 1989	Fall of the Berlin Wall		
16-25 Dec 1989	Romanian Revolution		
2-3 Dec 1989	Malta Summit		
18 Mar 1990	East German elections		
25 Mar 1990	Hungarian elections		
Mar-May 1990	Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia unilaterally declare independent	ce	
20 May 1990	Romanian elections		

Date	Event	Ongoing Phenor	nena
30 May-3 June 1990	Washington Summit		
1 June 1990	Chemical Weapons Accord		
8-9 June 1990	Czechoslovakian elections		
10-17 June 1990	Bulgarian elections		
3 Oct 1990	Reunification of Germany		
19-21 Nov 1990	Paris Summit		
19 Nov 1990	Conventional Forces of Europe Treaty (CFE)		
31 Mar 1991	Albanian elections		
31 Mar 1991	Dissolution of Warsaw Pact		
12 June 1991	Yeltsin is elected as President of Russia		
12 June 1991	Russia declares itself 'autonomous'		
31 July 1991	Bush visits Yeltsin and Nazabaev in Moscow		
July 1991	Moscow Summit		
31 July 1991	Strategic Arms Control Talks Treaty (START)		
19 Aug 1991	August Coup		
6 Sept 1991	Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia recognised as independent		
1 Dec 1991	Ukraine votes for independence		
8 Dec 1991	Minsk Declaration / Belovezha Accords		
21-22 Dec 1991	Alma-Ata Protocols		
25 Dec 1991	Gorbachev resigns		
27 Dec 1991	Yeltsin replaces Gorbachev at the Kremlin		
31 Dec 1991	Dec 1991 USSR ceases to exist		

Reasons / Manifestations of Tensions

US / West	Soviets
Early suspicions ■ Delayed opening of the Second Front	Early suspicions ■ Nazi-Soviet Pact

US / West	Soviets
Early end of US lend-lease aid to the USSR Deployment of the atomic bomb	Involvement in the Katyn Forest Massacre Refusal to help during the Warsaw Uprising Kidnapping of the London Poles
Provocations Iron Curtain speech Rehabilitation of Germany, repudiating the Morgenthau Plan Byrnes' speech Formation of Bizonia and Trizonia Operation Bird Dog (provoking the Berlin Blockade) Truman Doctrine Marshall Plan (provoking the Molotov Plan) Publication of the Long Telegram (provoking Zhdanov's Two Camps speech, creation of COMINFORM) Formation of NATO Accession of West Germany into NATO (provoking the Warsaw Pact)	Provocations Iran Crisis Sovietisation of Eastern Europe, repudiating the Declaration of Liberated Europe Bulgaria Kidnapping of the London Poles Hungary Romania Czechoslovakia Turkish Straits Crisis (provoking the Truman Doctrine) Molotov Plan, and preventing states from accepting Marshall Aid Berlin Blockade (provoking the Berlin Airliff) Formation of COMECON Warsaw Pact
Interests US need for open markets Atlantic Charter Rehabilitation of Germany Marshall Plan US desire for democratic government Atlantic Charter Declaration of Liberated Europe Truman Doctrine	Interests Soviet insecurity due to geographical vulnerability North European Plain Operation Barbarossa Insistence on German reparations Sovietisation as a security curtain

Korean War

us	Soviets	China	Local Actors
Initial reluctance Withdrawal of US troops from South Korea Acheson's Press Club speech	Initial reluctance	Initial reluctance Protracted civil war that just ended in 1949 Preoccupation with regaining Taiwan	Consistent desire for reunification Sudden partition after WWII Kim requested for permission thrice Rhee initiated border skirmishes

us	Soviets	China	Local Actors
	Conditional support based on Mao's agreement		
Reasons for entry NSC-68 McCarthyism Fall of China Aversion to appeasement after Chamberlain Reasons for relying on the UN Misguided belief in South Korea's ability to defend itself Delayed recognition of Korea's direct importance to US national security Wanted to shore up UN legitimacy Soviets were boycotting the UNSC, making this possible Reasons for rollback Expectations of a quick morale-boosting victory Hope of expelling communism from the Korean peninsula Miscalculation of Chinese and USSR non-entry MacArthur's military successes gave him latitude to pursue hawkish policy	Reasons for permission	Reasons for entry Geographical insecurity as US forces pushed towards the Yalu US 7th fleet in the Taiwan Straits Sense of communist solidarity to avoid a major military setback	Driver of invasion Initiator of the June 25 attack Aid from superpowers was limited Soviet advisors and equipment Chinese training and equipment But conditional on superpower backing Kim's repeated requests for permission
Reasons for armistice Mounting military costs Political pressure from NATO allies Domestic opposition to war led to electoral losses 50% disapproval by Feb 1952 Truman needed to save face after the MacArthur affair Eisenhower elected on the promise of an armistice	Reasons for armistice	Reasons for armistice	Restrained from opposition to armistice US silencing of Rhee after POW saga Rhee unexpectedly released 27,000 POWs and enlisted them into the South's army \$200m economic aid and a mutual security pact USSR and Chinese pressure on North Korea to accept an armistice Signing of armistice in spite of Rhee's refusal to put pen to paper
Legacy US rising defence presence and spending in Asia US 7th fleet in the Taiwan Straits Mutual defence pact with South Korea	Legacy Laid the foundations for the Sino-Soviet split	Legacy Increased Chinese prominence Laid the foundations for the Sino-Soviet split	Legacy Increased aid from superpower backers \$\simes\$ \$\\$200m\$ economic aid and a mutual security pact for South Korea Development assistance for

us	Soviets	China	Local Actors
 Increased aid to Japan Expansion of NATO Greece, Turkey and West Germany 			the battle-stricken North

Cuban Missile Crisis

US	Soviets	Cuba
Provocation of Cuba • Monopolistic dominance of industries • 90% of mineral wealth • 80% of utilities • 50% of railways • 40% of sugar • 25% of land • Elimination of sugar quota • Elimination of foreign aid • Imposition of trade embargoes • Cutting diplomatic relations • Repeated attempts at deposition • Bay of Pigs invasion • Operation Mongoose • Operation ORTSAC		Provocation of US La Coubre incident Nationalisation of oil refineries — then all US property
Reasons for involvement Kennedy needed to rehabilitate his foreign policy record Bay of Pigs invasion Berlin Wall Kennedy's continued rhetoric about a 'missile gap'	Reasons for involvement Ideological affinity with communist Castro Genuine fears of a US invasion Bay of Pigs invasion Operation Mongoose Operation ORTSAC Khrushchev wanted to use Cuba as a bargaining chip Over US missiles in Turkey Over Western control of West Berlin Khrushchev wanted to redress USSR's missile disadvantage by reducing ICBM dependence Kennedy perceived as weak Berlin Crisis	Reasons for involvement US military domination in the region Guatemala US economic domination in the region Inter-American Development Bank Kennedy's Alliance for Progress US diplomatic domination in the region Organisation of American States Genuine fears of a US invasion Bay of Pigs invasion Operation Mongoose Operation ORTSAC
Aggravated the crisis 22 Oct: Kennedy addresses the	Triggered the crisis 14 Oct: U2 spy plane detects	

us	Soviets	Cuba
nation and informs the USSR to remove its missiles 24 Oct: US naval blockade of Cuba begins 24 Oct: US Strategic Air Command was ordered to DEFCON 2; rest of armed forces at DEFCON 3	construction of Soviet missile launcher at San Cristabel 15 Oct: U2 spy plane spotted Soviet missiles in Cuba 19 Oct: U2 spy plane showed 4 operational missile sites	
Reasons for backing down Fears of a nuclear confrontation US Jupiter missiles in Turkey were antiquated anyway	Reasons for backing down Fears of a nuclear confrontation 162 nuclear warheads were on Cuba Cuban violations of Soviet orders made de-escalation pressing Cuban rebels' shooting of a U2 spy plane Soviet missiles were not deployed yet, leading to minimal costs to dismantle	
Legacy Reputational boost for Kennedy Removal of Turkey missiles was kept secret Victories in the 1962 elections Strained relationships with allies French unhappiness over lack of consultation led to its pursuit of independent nuclear capabilities	Legacy ■ Reputational loss for Khrushchev □ Removal of Turkey missiles was kept secret ■ Khrushchev's removal in 1964 ■ Sino-Soviet split	Successfully retained power and fended off any US invasion Deterioration of relations with the USSR Khrushchev's non-consultation with Castro Status of Guantanamo not addressed Became a Soviet proxy
Legacy New period of detente Hotline Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (PNTBT) Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty (SALT) Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (ABM) Mutual Balanced Force Reduction Proposal (MBFR)		○ Angola○ Accession into COMECON

Vietnam War

us	Vietnamese	Communist powers
First Indochinese War (1946-54)		

us	Vietnamese	Communist powers
Reasons for French support Fear of communism Feared Soviet support of Vietminh Fall of China Communist insurgencies in Malaya Economic gain from Vietnam US need for French support Cooperation on German rehabilitation	Reasons for war Harsh colonial repression French reluctance to decolonise Pervasive Vietnamese nationalism under Ho Chi Minh	Reasons for limited support China was preoccupied with its own conflicts Civil War Korea USSR regarded Vietnam as a lesser priority Korea Stalin's death USSR wanted to avoid a direct confrontation with the US
	The Forgotten Years (1954-64)	
Eisenhower's restraint No confidence in fighting a land war Need for restraint after the Korea debacle Refused to send US troops Main assistance in the form of aid Shi in aid Military advisors Special forces Training Kennedy's escalation Kennedy needed to redeem his foreign policy image Overthrow of pro-US government in Laos Failed Bay of Pigs invasion Weak response to Berlin Wall Cuban Missile Crisis Increased aid and advisors Defoliants Strategic Hamlet Programme	South Vietnamese unpopularity	
Second Indochinese War (1964-73)		
Reasons for Johnson's entry Domino theory stoked fears of a red flood Assumed the Vietcong could be defeated easily by a limited war Goldwater accused Johnson of inaction and weakness in Vietnam ahead of the 1964 elections Hoped to widen the Sino-Soviet split		

us	Vietnamese	Communist powers
as China and the USSR compete over Vietnam To avoid a humiliating US defeat		
Reasons for Nixon Doctrine Military failures, exposed by the televisation of war Operation Rolling Thunder Search and Destroy missions Tet Offensive My Lai massacre Mounting war costs, leading to debt, deficits and inflation Increasing public opposition 26% support after the Tet Offensive Decreasing morale Quadrupling of desertion rates from 1966 "Search and evade" operations Larger policy of detente (Later) Pentagon Papers	Forced to negotiate	Reasons for peace • Military stalemate • USSR and China each wanted improved relations with the US • Detente • Sino-Soviet split
Growing disillusionment with US role in the Cold War Return to neo-isolationist restraint in foreign commitments	Legacy	

End of Bipolarity

us	USSR	People's Power	
	Renewed Containment (1980-84)		
Reasons for renewed containment Soviet invasion of Afghanistan Loopholes in arms parity Loopholes in arms treaties Developments in technology Reagan wanted to rehabilitate the US's foreign policy record Vietnam Iranian Revolution Sandinista Coup Iran Hostage Crisis	Strains on the Soviet budget Increase in defence budget Mounting costs in Afghanistan \$20bn a year but holding their own Remained in Afghanistan Matched US missile increases Operation RYAN KAL 007 Unconcerned about the SDI Long time before it could see		

us	USSR	People's Power
Renewed containment	any fruition	
	Thawing Relations (1985-89)	
Reasons for cooperation Walter Mondale's criticism of Reagan's lack of arms treaties during 1984 elections Domestic criticism of Evil Empire speech Able Archer 83 Iran-Contra Scandal Black Monday Working relationship with Gromyko and Gorbachev 1984 talks with Gromyko Annual summits with Gorbachev Cooperation Brandenburg Gate speech Annual summits INF Treaty CFE Treaty START	Reasons for cooperation Glasnost unleashed resentment Resentment towards party elites Resentment due to declining standards of living Resentment towards Brezhnev's Russification Stagnation of Soviet economy and failure of perestroika Unsustainable military expenditure Subn in Afghanistan Mathias Rust incident Yeltsin Affair Cooperation Glasnost and perestroika Annual summits INF Treaty CFE Treaty START Unilateral withdrawals Afghanistan 1988 reductions Exemption of the SDI and asymmetric reductions under the INF Treaty	Western activism

Collapse of the USSR (1985-89)

US	USSR	People's Power
	■ Glasnost unleashed resentment	Human chain / Baltic Way Declaration of independence