

Unit 1 – ESSENTIAL OUTLINE

Section 4 How did the Cold War develop? 1943–56

- The widening gulf between the Allies: the development of the 'iron curtain' and the Soviet control of Eastern Europe and the Allied response 1945–47.
- The development of the Cold War, 1948–49 following the Berlin Airlift.
- Hungary: the tightening of control.

Amplification of content

- The Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam Conferences, the attitudes of Stalin and Truman and the ideological differences between the superpowers.
- The establishment and control of the Soviet satellite states; Cominform and Comecon. The growing involvement of the USA in Europe, the Truman Doctrine, the Marshall Plan, Bizonia, the Berlin Blockade/Airlift and the formation of NATO. Military developments and the beginnings of the arms race.
- The impact of Soviet rule on Hungary, Rakosi, de-Stalinisation and optimism, Nagy and his demands, Soviet reaction and uprising, the death of Nagy, the re-establishment of Soviet control and international reaction.

Section 5 Three Cold War crises: Berlin, Cuba and Czechoslovakia c1957–69

- Berlin: a divided city.
- Cuba: The world on the brink of war.
- Czechoslovakia: The Prague Spring.

Amplification of content

The three flashpoints in the Cold War:

Berlin: the refugee problem, Khrushchev's challenge to the USA, Summit Conference and Eisenhower, challenge to Kennedy, construction of the Berlin Wall and its impact, Kennedy's visit to Berlin, 1963.

Cuba: the arms race to 1961, Cuba's drift from the USA, Bay of Pigs, Castro's friendship with the Soviet Union, economic ties, missile bases, the 13 days, immediate and longer-term results, 'hot line', Test Ban Treaty (1963) and the moves to détente.

Czechoslovakia: opposition to Soviet control, Dubcek as party secretary, the 'Prague Spring' reforms, the re-establishment of Soviet control and international reaction.

Section 6 Why did the Cold War end? The invasion of Afghanistan (1979) to the collapse of the Soviet Union (1991)

- The collapse of détente — the effects of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (1979).
- Reagan and the US reaction.
- Gorbachev and Eastern Europe, the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Amplification of content

The impact of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, détente in the 70s and its collapse (Helsinki, SALT 1, SALT 2), the Second Cold War, US reaction and Reagan's approach, Olympic boycotts, SDI. The changes after 1985: Reagan and Gorbachev's changing attitudes, summit conferences, INF, the loosening Soviet grip on eastern Europe, the Berlin Wall 1989, the end of the Cold War, the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Warsaw Pact.