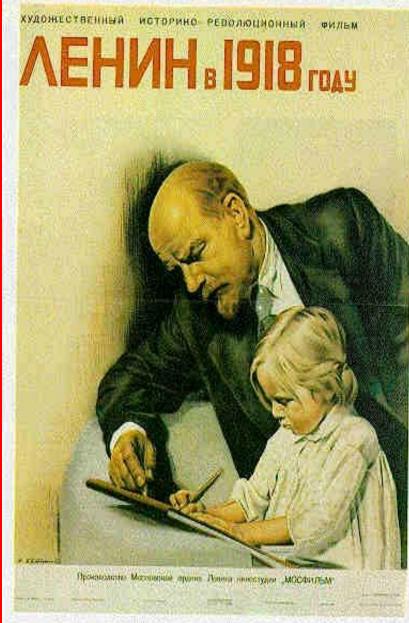
End of the Cold War, 1985-91

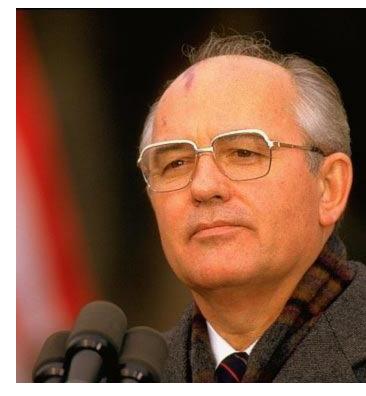






Mikhail Gorbachev

- Became the general secretary of the Soviet Union's Communist party in 1985.
- He began a process of reforming the Communist system at home and modifying its dealings with foreign powers.
- Once begun, the reforms assumed a momentum of their own, sometimes exceeding Gorbachev's intentions.



o Glasnost (openness)

- Wanted more freedom of expression and less censorship and government secrecy
- Many dissidents were released from prison
 - Writers could criticize government
 - Forbidden films, plays, and books were allowed
 - Permission to emigrate and travel abroad
 - Government tolerated demonstrations, strikes, and religious beliefs

 Perestroika (restructuring)
Primarily economic reforms designed to rebuild the struggling economy
Problems:

- Deficient Agricultural production: Had to import Western grain despite having more farmers
- High defense expenditures
- Lack of technology (personal computers in 1988: tens of thousand; U.S.: 20 million)

Reduced centralized control of the economy In 1986-87 the government began allowing some private alternatives to state enterprises. (ex. Restaurants) Foreign businesses were allowed to sign commercial agreements (ex. Pizza Hut) Gorbachev wanted to increase both worker productivity and quality control and to restructure prices and salaries to reflect real market values.

 Democratizatsiya (democratization)
Increased participation of Soviet citizens in the political process

Efforts to reduce the role of the Communist Party

Secret-ballot, multiple-candidate (although not multiparty) elections, term limits (10 years) for public officials

 Gorbachev believed he could reform the Soviet system without destroying it.

Gorbachev's Three Crises, 1988-91: Crisis #1:Ethnic

- issues
- Soviet Union was made up of over 100 ethnic nationalities that had been tied together by state repression and kept under the control of the Russians.
- The Soviet Baltic Republics of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania insisted on complete independence in 1990-91.
- Increasingly, other republics began pushing for national autonomy, including the huge Russian Republic (RSFSR), which declared itself sovereign in 1990.



Gorbachev's Three Crises, 1988-91: Crisis #2: Political extremes

- Gorbachev had always battled against conservative forces within the Communist Party that feared change
- By the late 1980s, Gorbachev also faced criticism from those who thought he was not enough of a reformer
- One critic was Boris Yeltsin who was elected as the leader of Russia
- Gorbachev bowed to pressure and agreed to a multiparty system in 1990



 Gorbachev's Three Crises,
1988-91: Crisis #3: the Economic Crisis

- By the late 1980s, the Soviet economy was in a tailspin because of the difficulties associated with transforming the old planned economy.
- Food supplies and consumer goods declined while inflation and unemployment increased.
- When Gorbachev enacted currency reform and price increases in 1991, his popularity fell to an all-time low.







- By the time Gorbachev took power in 1985, Ronald Reagan's "Peace through Strength" program had largely succeeded.
- It was clear to Gorbachev that the Soviet economy could not continue to keep pace with U.S. defense spending. The arms race was just too expensive for the stagnant Soviet economy.
- After his reelection in 1984, Reagan began making efforts to ease U.S.-Soviet tensions.

Second Term-USSR



Changes attitudes w/ USSR

- Why? Mikhail Gorbachev
 - Andropov and Chernenko died within 18 months
 - Gorby seen as a savior in USSR

Economic Reforms

- Glasnost-Openness
 - Allow freedom of press & to dissent
- Perestroika-Economic Change
 - <u>Calls for more individual</u> <u>involvement, choice, & private</u> <u>ownership</u>

Dealings w/ USSR

Geneva (1985)

- Reagan and Gorby could not agree on passage of SALT II or what to do with Star Wars
- Relations between the 2 improved
- Reagan said that he would give up SDI technology to USSR



Dealings w/ USSR



<u>Reyjkavik (October 1986)</u>

- Gorby called for an end of all Nukes by 2000
- Reagan had to give up SDI
- Reagan would not go <u>through with it</u>
- Laid the Foundation for a successful agreement at Washington

Reagan-Berlin

- June 12, 1987
 - Reagan gave a speech at the Brandenburg
 Gate asking
 Gorbachev to
 "Tear Down
 That Wall."



Reagan & Gorby

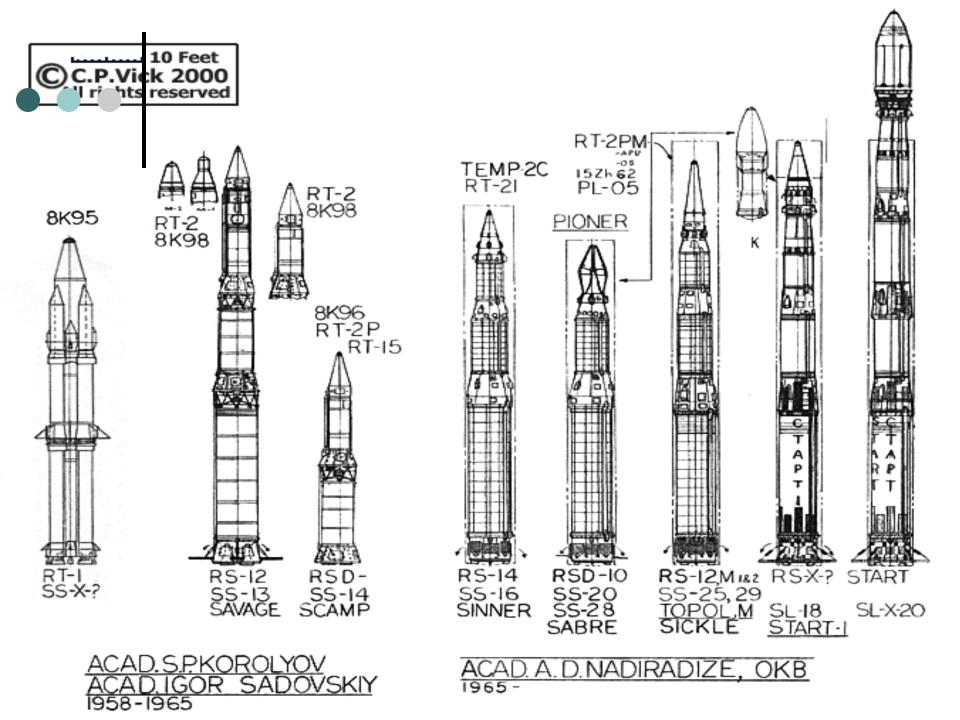


Washington (December 1987)-INF Treaty

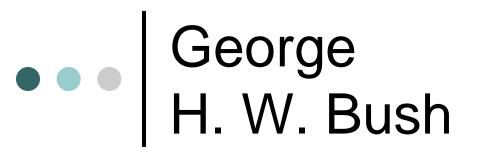
- Eliminated all US/USSR intermediate missiles through on-site inspections
 - Removed all missiles from Europe
 - <u>4% overall reduction in</u> <u>nuclear arsenals</u>
 - An entire class was dismantled
 - US 846 dismantled, USSR 1848 dismantled
- April 1988-USSR withdrew from Afghanistan
 - US support to Mujhadeen had been successful

Gorbachev and Foreign Policy

- Gorbachev called his foreign policy "new thinking"
- He renounced "ideological struggle"
- By the end of 1988 Gorbachev had met with Reagan on 5 occasions in 3 years, producing limitations on arms and improved U.S.-Soviet relations.









- Bush and Gorbachev continued summit diplomacy and disarmament talks after Bush's election in 1988.
- The two leaders quickly became involved in a "disarmament race," as the two leaders began to reduce arms.
- At their meeting at the Malta summit (Dec. 2-3, 1989) Bush and Gorbachev agreed that they were no longer enemies.

Eastern Europe

- Gorbachev stressed Soviet links to Western Europe in what he called our "common home"
 Gorbachev's domestic reforms in the Soviet Union encouraged political reforms throughout Eastern Europe.
- Gorbachev did not intervene because any intervention would damage his efforts at reform at home and his relations with the West.
 - Economic stagnation in the Soviet bloc and a costly arms race appeared to him more threatening to Soviet security than Eastern Europe political reforms.

Revolutions of 1989

• 1989 brought an end to the Communis domination of Eastern Europe that had lasted for over 40 years. Soviet troops would not be used to prop up Communist governments. • Soviet troops left Afghanistan in 1989. Gorbachev repudiated the "Brezhnev Doctrine" By the end of 1989 old-line Communist leaders had been replaced throughout the former Eastern European bloc nations in a series of revolutions Communist party rule ended in Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and Romania.

• The Reunification of Germany

- The Berlin Wall, which had stood as a symbol of the Cold War, fell on November 9, 1989
- Helmut Kohl, who had been the Chancellor of West Germany, became the head of a reunified Germany in October 1990.







The dismantling of the wall was a symbolic end to the Cold War





'Beginning of the End' for Communism

Gormany Re-unified

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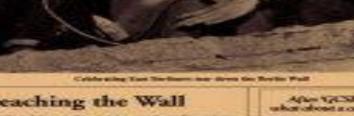
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Breaching the Wall

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Iron Curtain dissolves

 The Warsaw Pact dissolved in 1991 and Soviet troops began leaving Eastern Europe.

 NATO remained; however, the U.S. promised to make it more of a political alliance, not strictly a military alliance

НАРОД И АРМИЯ ЕДИНЫ!

Gorbachev Criticized at Home

- By 1991 Gorbachev was admired far more abroad than at home.
- His domestic economic policies seemed to only worsen conditions.
- As Yeltsin and other leaders of national republics criticized Gorbachev, he finally gave ground and agreed to a new compromise union treaty, officially transferring many powers to the republics.

••• August Coup, 1991

- Fearing the disintegration of the Soviet Union, conservative leaders attempt to reverse the changes. They placed Gorbachev under house-arrest and tried to take control of the government.
- Foreign pressure from George Bush and domestic demonstrations by Boris Yeltsin led to the failure of the coup attempt as Gorbachev was released.
- It created an immediate backlash against the Communist part and Gorbachev resigned as its general secretary.

• • • The Collapse of the U.S.S.R.



- On December 8, 1991, Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus agreed to disband the union and instead form the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). They then phoned George Bush and received his "approval".
 - On December 21, eight other republics joined the CIS.
- Now a president without a country, Gorbachev resigned his office on December 25, 1991.





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