**The Cold War in the 1970s**

Brezhnev emerged after the fall of Khrushchev

Built Soviet army and navy at huge cost

Saw detente as a way of advancing Soviet interests without direct confrontation with the US

Tightened control over Eastern Europe throughout the 70s - Brezhnev Doctrine

Nixon (1968/69-1974) pursued a more systematic and open form of detente

Nixon (under Kissinger guidance) believed that national self-interest was more important in foreign policy than was ideology

Nixon and Kissinger wanted to use the strength of the American economy as an inducement to the Soviets to enter into international agreements

* USSR economy was burdened with armaments
* Desperately needed technology
* Western investment credits
* Western grain
* Western and American bankers made huge loans to East European states
* East and West Germany cooperated in trade and were recognized as separate states in the UN in 1973

Kissinger and Nixon viewed the world no long as bi-polar - now for power blocs

* USSR
* Western Europe
* Japan
* China

The US believed that normalization of relations with China was important in this reality

* Supported its entry into the UN in 1971
* Supported the transfer of the seat on the Security Council from Taiwan to China
* Nixon visited Beijing in 1972
* Initiated diplomatic and economic relations after visit

As the USSR approached nuclear parity with the US and the sluggish Soviet economy, Brezhnev participated in the renewed SALT talks

Detente continued under president Ford

Helsinki Conference on Security & Cooperation in Europe held in 1975

* NATO Countries
* Warsaw Pact Countries
* Non-aligned countries
* Economic cooperation
* Cultural cooperation
* Human Rights - USSR thought little of this
* Ratified the defacto boundaries of 1945

Carter took office in 1976/77

Linked economic aid to human rights

* Freedom for dissenters
* Emigration for Russian Jews
* End of coercion of Poland

Detente was shaken and the arms race continued

Despite tough negotiations SALT II was signed din 1979

Afghanistan invasion

* SALT II was never ratified
* US thought it threatened their interests - oil
* Grain embargo
* Technology embargo
* Aid to the Afghan guerrillas
* Increased military spending
* Began to reinstate the draft
* European and other allies did not support US embargos
* Olympics

Ronald Reagan took office in 1980/81

Détente officially over

Convinced the US had fallen behind the Soviets in arms

Sponsored the largest peacetime military budget in US history

Sent arms and aid to

* Afghanistan
* Pakistan
* Nicaraguan anti-communists
* Anti-communist regimes in Central America
* Returned foreign policy to a more ideological basis

SDI - Star Wars