# Cold War 1947-1991\*

Record in your notes at least the text in italics/black

\*Generally used dates, there are disagreements. 1991 is when the Soviet Union dissolved into its republics.

# Why Cold?

- Diplomatic term
- There is also hot (active fighting) and warm (talks taking place, but prepared to fight)
- Two major players never actually fought
- Beliefs were shown through who they supported and supplied

#### Who

- United States
- USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)

#### What

- Clash if ideologies post WWII
- Competing social and economic ideologies (Capitalism vs. Communism)
- Both USA and USSR were vying for dominance and expansion around the world

## Capitalism

- Private ownership of means of production and goods for profit
- What we have in Canada
- Includes: private property, wages, and competitive markets

### Communism

- All property is held in common
- The community or state is the owner technically, the individual has nothing
- All economic and social activity is controlled
- Rights are reduced and no reward for hard work are just a few of the issues with communism

### Weren't they WWII allies?

- Technically, yes
- Pre WWII they had made their hatred known
- They were only allies as they shared an enemy, Nazi Germany
- Despite being allies, there was an extreme distrust between the two countries

#### Post WWII Goals: USA

- Prevent open markets for goods to prevent another depression
- Promote democracy throughout the world
- Stop the spread of communism

#### Post WWII Goals: USSR

- Increase security for itself (lost many people in WWII and feared a strong Germany)
- Spread communism

#### Arms Race

- 1949, USSR exploded its first atomic bomb which increased tensions
- 1952, USA exploded its first hydrogen bomb (1000x more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb) which further increased tensions
- 1935, USSR produced a hydrogen bomb
- Many feared the cold war was going to be a nuclear war due to each side stocking up and researching to demonstrate power
- However, it can be said that the power and destruction available is what prevented the war due to the fear associated with hydrogen bombs
- In the 1960's the concept of MAD was understood (Mutually Assured Destruction). If one attacked the other with nuclear technology, the other would retaliate equally and there would be no victor due to the immense destruction

#### Hydrogen Bombs in the News

- North Korea
- January, 2016
- Threat to international peace and security, specifically for South Korea
- Treaty on nuclear weapons from 1970 (made indefinite in 1995) aimed for complete end and destruction of nuclear weapons was signed by North Korea, but they later withdrew from the treaty.
- United Nations is discussing and evaluating this situation

#### Space Race

- Connected to arms race as developments in space research can easily be connected to military research/strategy
- Surrounded around artificial satellites and manned aircraft
- October 4, 1957: USSR launched *Sputnic I* the first satellite into orbit
- April 12, 1961: Yuri Gagarin (USSR) became first human and space and first to orbit Earth
- USA then felt a lost of prestige, and in turn increased funding for the space program and science education
- July 16, 1969: Apollo 11 landed on the moon (USA) and first man walks on moon (Neil Armstrong)

#### Spies

- Part of the Cold War 'game'
- Both sides used spies
- Provided knowledge to their loyal country
- Also spread false information about their loyal country
- Highly dangerous job
- Little chance of being rescued if caught
- End of the cold war reduced this espionage (spies), but it did not end

#### John Diefenbaker (Prime Minister)

- Internationally Canada objected the spread of nuclear weapons
- USA wanted Canada to have dual control of nuclear warheads (atomic and hydrogen bombs)
- Diefenbaker was hesitant as Canadians had a growing anti-nuclear attitude
- USA claimed that failure in this regarding would change Canada from USA's ally to a neutral party in the war
- Diefenbaker came across a USA memo instructing then president Kennedy to push Canada on the nuclear issue
- NORAD (North American Aerospace Defense Command) was approved by Diefenbaker as a USA-Canada relationship. This resulted in the DEW line being established (distant early warning) which was radar set up in Northern Canada to detect and warn North America of any sea or land invasion

#### What about Canada?

- Canada was a middle power in the world, not the most important but by no means silent or minimal
- Canada was thrust into the Cold war unexpectendly. In September 1945 Igor Gouzekno (Russian) walked into the newsroom of the Ottawa Citizen and announced that he had proof of a large spy ring in Canada.
- Canada's connections geographically, politically, and militarily caused an easy choice in who to support (USA)
- When the USSR tested its first atomic bomb, Canada significantly increased military spending
- Canada supplied troops to the UN when North Korea (Communist) invaded South Korea (USA backed)