

Cold War Timeline ~ April Madness

The Cold War – The open yet restricted rivalry that developed after World War II between the United States and the Soviet Union and their respective allies. The Cold War was waged on political, economic, and propaganda fronts and had only limited recourse to weapons. The term was first used by the English writer George Orwell in an article published in 1945 to refer to what he predicted would be a nuclear stalemate between “two or three monstrous super-states, each possessed of a weapon by which millions of people can be wiped out in a few seconds.”

Directions: Your group will be assigned to research and write up a brief identifying summary for several of the 32 identifications listed below. Update the shared Google Slides presentation with your information. Slide must have:

- 3 bullet points to summarize, describe, define, characterize your identification.
- An image (photo, painting, chart, map, etc.) that relates to your identification with a brief caption to describe it
- A statement of significance explaining how your identification relates to the lesson focus question

FOCUS QUESTION: In the period from 1945 to 1991, the Cold War conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union enveloped most of the world in a period of heightened tension. Develop an argument that evaluates the significance of major events and concepts related to the Cold War as they worked to either increase or decrease global tensions.

In researching your assigned identifications and determining the significance, think about the following:

- Examine the conflicting strategic and political ideas behind the conflict of the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. and consider the effects of the Cold War on Europe and the rest of the world.
- Understand the circumstances of its formation and early development as a conflict driven by competing interests and goals for the postwar world.
- Assess how the Cold war endured until 1991 by examining issues such as the proliferation of nuclear armaments, the balance of global power, and the role of alliance systems.
- Analyze the effects of the Cold War on Russian, European, and American society.

1. October 1945 – **United Nations** formed
2. March 1946 – Churchill’s **Iron Curtain** Speech
3. August 1946 – **Turkish Straits Crisis**
4. March 1947 – in response to Greek Civil War, **Truman Doctrine (Containment)**
5. June 1947 – **Marshall Plan**
6. June 1948 – **Berlin Blockade**
7. April 1949 – **NATO** formed
8. October 1949 – establishment of **The Peoples Republic of China**
9. June 1950 – **Korean War** begins (ends in 1953)
10. July 1954 – French Indo China - **Geneva Accords**
11. September 1954 – Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (**S.E.A.T.O.**)
12. May 1955 – **Warsaw Pact**
13. October 1956 – **Hungarian Revolution**
14. October 1956 – **Suez Canal Crisis**
15. November 1957 – **Sputnik**
16. January 1958 – European Economic Community (**EEC**) established (predecessor to the **European Union**)
17. Early 1960s – **Domino Theory** in Southeast Asia
18. March 1961 – U.S. creates the **Peace Corps** to develop Third World Nations
19. April 1961 – **Bay of Pigs** Invasion
20. August 1961 – construction of the **Berlin Wall**
21. October 1962 – **Cuban Missile Crisis**
22. November 1963 – **Assassination of Diem** in South Vietnam
23. August 1968 – Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia / **Prague Spring**
24. July 1969 – **Moon Landing**
25. May 1972 – Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty (**S.A.L.T.**)
26. October 1973 – **Yom Kippur War**
27. December 1979 – **Russians in Afghanistan**
28. June 1982 – Strategic Arms Reductions Talks (**S.T.A.R.T.**)
29. June 1987 – **Glasnost and Perestroika**
30. June 1989 – **Tiananmen Square**
31. November 1989 – **Fall of the Berlin Wall** / German Reunification
32. December 1991 – **Collapse of the Soviet Union**