

## FACT SHEET: Lesson 12 – The consequence of the Berlin Ultimatum – the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961.

### The Background:

The four summit meetings held by America and the Soviet Union produced **no agreements or compromise**. Khrushchev was determined to prove his power over the new, young and inexperienced American President, **John F. Kennedy** and re-instated his idea of the **Berlin Ultimatum**. Khrushchev was determined to **control all of Berlin**, and that way, stop the thousands of East German refugees leaving for the West, every month. Kennedy was not prepared to give in to the Berlin Ultimatum and kept Western troops in Berlin. Both sides were keen to **avoid a war**, as this would likely result in nuclear war. Therefore, Khrushchev took another action which would have lasting consequences.



### The Building of the Berlin Wall 1961

- No solution had been made about Khrushchev's Berlin Ultimatum during all of the summit meetings. The relationship between the USA and the Soviet Union had broken down completely, despite Khrushchev and Eisenhower's friendly, personal relationship in Vienna and Camp David.
- More East German refugees decided to leave through West Berlin as they were worried Khrushchev might close the border at any day.
- On just one day in August 1961, 40,000 East Germans crossed into West Germany to escape the East.
- In response, Khrushchev ordered soldiers in East Germany to build a barbed wire fence around Berlin. This would stop anyone from the East of the city crossing to the west.
- There would only be one, closely controlled checkpoint called 'Checkpoint Charlie'.
- Work was quickly started on a concrete wall which would be 165km long around the city.
- By October 1961, no East German could access West Berlin.
- Soviet tanks guarded the wall and orders were given to shoot any East German attempting the crossing.

### The consequences and importance of the Berlin Wall

- Anyone trying to escape was now shot. Many East Germans were killed. East German border guards were told to shoot anyone crossing. Over 130 people were killed.
- As the wall was erected so quickly, some families were divided between East and West.
- The Berlin Wall even cut through streets and even buildings as it divided the city.
- There were many escape stories in the first 2 months.
- The West Berlin Fire Service helped East Germans escape through windows by providing blankets for them to land on.
- The Berlin Wall was made stronger with a double wall containing 'no man's land' where minefields, barbed wire, lookout towers and machine nests would be built.
- The Berlin Wall became symbolic of the divide between the Capitalist West and Communist East.

	Negative Consequences of the Berlin Wall	Positive Consequences of the Berlin Wall
<b>SOVIET UNION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Khrushchev did not get what he wanted in the Berlin Ultimatum. He did not control all of Berlin.</li> <li>• The building of the wall looked bad for the Soviet Union as it showed the Soviet Union had to literally 'lock' people in East Germany to stop them leaving.</li> <li>• The building of the wall proved the people living under communism preferred capitalism.</li> <li>• British, French and US troops stayed in Berlin – going against what Khrushchev wanted in his Berlin Ultimatum.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Berlin Wall successfully stopped East German people from leaving the Soviet Union.</li> <li>• The building of the Berlin Wall showed that the Soviet Union was not willing to give up its Communist control of East Berlin or East Germany.</li> <li>• Khrushchev believed he had shown his strength by building the wall. He was then confident enough to send Soviet Missiles into Cuba.</li> </ul>
<b>USA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Soviet Union had been able to close the border without permission from the USA. This made John F Kennedy look weak.</li> <li>• With the Berlin Wall built, there was nothing Kennedy could do without potentially starting a nuclear war to remove the wall.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The USA poured even more money into West Berlin to make it look even more prosperous for those in the east. West Berlin became a symbol of freedom against Communism.</li> <li>• John F Kennedy gained a better reputation when he visited West Berlin in 1963. He was a hero in the West.</li> </ul>
<b>THEIR RELATIONSHIP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The two sides had been arguing about Berlin since the Second World War. Nothing had been solved and now the Soviet Union had built a concrete wall dividing Germany. This reminded people of Churchill's 1946 Iron Curtain speech.</li> <li>• The Berlin Wall became a powerful symbol of the differences between East and West for almost 30 years until it came down in 1989.</li> <li>• Europe was now completely divided between East and West. This division was literal with the Berlin Wall.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Now the wall was built and there was a definite divide, it was less likely that the two sides would go to war. President Kennedy famously said that a wall was better than a war.</li> <li>• It could be argued it reduced the tension as both sides accepted the building of the wall and there was little else they could do apart from fight.</li> </ul>

### The importance of Kennedy's visit to Berlin in June 1963

- John F Kennedy gained a better reputation when he visited West Berlin in 1963.
- He was treated like a rock star and his route was covered in flowers while crowds chanted his name.
- He praised the freedom of the West and famously said 'Ich bin ein Berliner' (I am a citizen of Berlin).
- This speech proved he was not soft on communism.
- The fact he travelled there was a symbol of how much he wanted West Berlin to remain part of the West



## FACT SHEET: Lesson 13 – The Cuban Revolution (1959) → The Bay of Pigs (1961) → The Cuban Missile Crisis (1962).

### The Background:

Cuba is a country located in the Caribbean. Its government was taken over by two 'revolutionaries' named Che Guevara and Fidel Castro. Castro decided to support communism and became allies with Khrushchev. In response, US President Kennedy planned to remove Castro from power. He did not want to invade Cuba using the US military, but secretly planned to persuade ex-Cuban citizens to carry out the threat. The attempted revolution took place in a location known as The Bay of Pigs in April 1961. This failed and humiliated the USA and brought even more support for Castro and Communism. By 1962, the USA became more worried about the strong relationship between Cuba and the Soviet Union. American Spy-Planes spotted weaponry which could be used to carry nuclear weapons in Cuba. The American Intelligence Agency also reported a fleet of Soviet ships sailing to Cuba. There was now a massive crisis as America were worried that the Soviets were going to use Cuba as a missile launching site to attack the USA. Kennedy had to deal with this crisis during a time known as 'The Thirteen Days' in October 1962. Finally, Kennedy's tactics of a naval blockade against the Soviet Ships was successful. However, this did not stop the rising tension around the world that a nuclear war would start.

### The NARRATIVE of the events that led to the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962

#### STEP 1:

##### THE ORIGINS OF THE CRISIS 1959

- ❑ Two revolutionary leaders named Che Guevara and Fidel Castro took over Cuba in 1959.
- ❑ Despite being close to America, the leaders no longer wanted anything to do with America as they hated the power and influence the USA had over Cuba.
- ❑ Americans in Cuba lost the land they owned which was then given to the Cuban government.
  - ❑ Consequently, America became worried about losing important business links with Cuba. A number of Americans left Cuba as they were worried about Castro.

#### STEP 2:

##### CUBA BECAME ALLIES WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

- ❑ Any land owned by the Americans in Cuba, was taken away from them and taken under the control of the Cuban government.
- ❑ Fidel Castro had then started putting communists into his government. Castro then made an agreement with Khrushchev in the Soviet Union in 1960. The Soviets agreed to buy Cuban sugar in return for giving Cuba economic aid.
- ❑ There was a secret agreement between Cuba and the Soviet Union that meant Cuba would allow weapons from the Soviet Union to be based in Cuba.

#### STEP 3:

##### AMERICA STARTED TO WORRY!

- ❑ A Communist government was now being created 145 miles away from the USA.
- ❑ Eisenhower banned all trade with Cuba in 1960 and then all political relationships with Cuba were ended in 1961. The relationship between the two countries worsened.
- ❑ America believed they needed to do something to stop the influence of the Soviet Union in Cuba.

#### STEP 4:

##### THE BAY OF PIGS 1961

- ❑ Newly elected President Kennedy did not want Cuba being Communist due to how close it was to the USA.
- ❑ He agreed to a plan by the CIA to launch an invasion into Cuba to overthrow (remove) Castro from power.
- ❑ They planned to use ex-Cuban citizens to do this so it looked like a Cuban revolution not an attack by the USA. This way, the USA would say they were not involved.

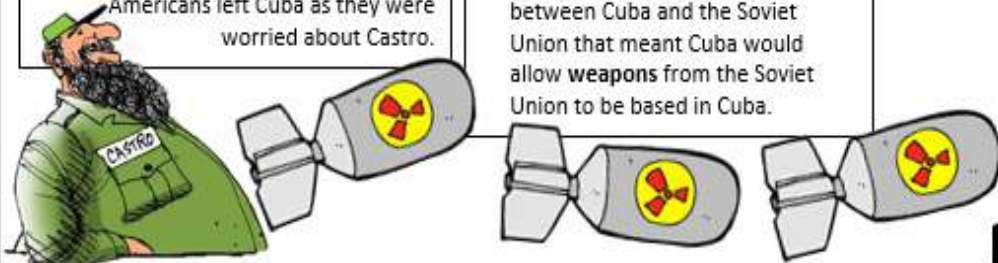
##### WHAT HAPPENED?

- ❑ In April 1961, 1,400 ex-Cuban exiles invaded at a location known as 'The Bay of Pigs' in Cuba.
- ❑ They aimed to remove Fidel Castro and put a US friendly government back in charge.

#### STEP 5:

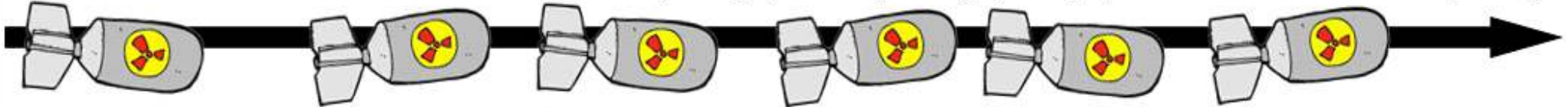
##### THE BAY OF PIGS FAILURE

The attempted revolution failed. The ex-Cuban soldiers had little military experience. The USA were not able to use their own military in support as they needed it to look like a Cuban revolution. Castro found out about the invasion plans and he had 20,000 Cuban soldiers waiting to fight off the 1,400 Cuban exiles. Most ordinary Cuban people did not support the USA and so did not help with the invasion.





## FACT SHEET: Lesson 13 – The Cuban Revolution (1959) → The Bay of Pigs (1961) → The Cuban Missile Crisis (1962).



### STEP 6: THE MISSILE CRISIS 1962

- ❑ In 1962, American spy-planes took images of launch pads for medium range ballistic missiles. These types missiles were designed to carry nuclear weapons. These could clearly cause damage to the USA if they were fired from Cuba.
- ❑ The CIA also told Kennedy that a fleet of Soviet ships were sailing to Cuba and it was presumed (although not known) that they were carrying the nuclear missiles themselves.
- ❑ This was the crisis that Kennedy had to deal with. It was thought by the USA that the nuclear missiles could be ready in 2 weeks to be fired on the USA.

### STEP 7: KENNEDY'S ACTIONS

- ❑ Kennedy had to try and deal with what to do with the missiles in Cuba without causing a full blown nuclear war with the Soviet Union. This was a crisis for America and the rest of the world watched to see how Kennedy would deal with the issue.
- His problems were:
- 1 = **TIME:** The missiles would be active in 2 weeks – he had little time to decide what to do.
  - 2 = **PUBLIC PRESSURE:** The American public would be putting Kennedy under pressure to deal with Cuba.
  - 3 = **US ELECTIONS:** There were elections in the USA coming up. He needed to deal with the missiles or loose votes.
  - 4 = **PUBLIC IMAGE:** Kennedy needed to stay strong against Khrushchev. He did not want to seem weak.

### STEP 8: THE THIRTEEN DAYS OCT 1962

- ❑ **MEETING:** On 16<sup>th</sup> October, Kennedy called a meeting to discuss what the USA should do. They met every day for 13 days. The world watched as it was believed a nuclear war could start any day.
- ❑ **NO ATTACK:** On 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Kennedy decided **NOT** to attack or invade Cuba. This was too risky.
- ❑ **NAVAL BLOCKADE PLAN:** He set up a naval blockade around Cuba, where no ships would be allowed to pass without permission.
- ❑ **TV APPEARANCE:** Kennedy also appeared on TV that evening to announce his plans. It was the first time the public were told of the missiles heading to Cuba.
- ❑ **WORRY OF NUCLEAR WAR:** Many of the American public believed the Soviets would ignore the naval blockade, America would have to attack and there would be a nuclear war.
- ❑ **BOMBERS READY:** Just in case of this outcome, Kennedy asked for 54 bombers with nuclear missiles in case war broke out. The world held its breath.
- ❑ **SOVIET SHIPS RETREATED:** On 24<sup>th</sup> October, the Soviet ships reached the blockade – **AND TURNED AROUND!!!** The Soviet Union had backed off and retreated. It seemed Kennedy's plan had worked.
- ❑ **TELEGRAM FROM KHRUSHCHEV:** The Soviet Union agreed to remove the missile sites if the USA promised not to invade Cuba and remove their own missiles from Turkey.

### STEP 9: THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

- NO WAR:** Direct war between both sides was avoided because of the naval blockade.
  - REDUCTION IN TENSION:** War was so close that both sides were frightened into making more agreements which led to a reduction in the tension.
  - KENNEDY'S POPULARITY:** Kennedy became more popular in the USA – People believed he had avoided a nuclear war and defeated the Soviet Union. Both leaders were under pressure from their government and their people to react and start a war but neither leader did.
  - THE HOTLINE:** A direct communication was set up between Moscow (Soviet Union) and Washington (USA) known as the 'Hotline'. This way, both sides could talk before taking any action.
- STEP 10: AGREEMENTS MADE:
- TEST BAN TREATY:** In 1963, **Test Ban Treaty** was signed where both sides promised to stop the testing of nuclear weapons in outer space, under water or in the atmosphere. This controlled the use of nuclear weapons further.
  - OUTER SPACE TREATY: 1967 Outer Space Treaty** – Both sides agreed not to use space for military reasons such as putting nuclear weapons into space.
  - NUCLEAR NON PROLIFERATION TREATY: 1968 Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty** – Signed by both sides to stop the spread of nuclear weapons. Both sides were not allowed to share their nuclear technology with any other country.
  - FALL OF KHRUSHCHEV:** The Soviet Union however believed that Khrushchev had been humiliated with the retreat of the Soviet ships. He was sacked from his leadership in 1964 as a result.



## FACT SHEET: Lesson 14 – The Prague Spring (1968) and resulting Brezhnev Doctrine.

**The Background:** From 1945, countries in Eastern Europe had been part of the Soviet Union's **satellite states**. Countries such as Czechoslovakia lived under a **Communist government** which was ruled from Moscow. Life was strictly controlled by the Soviet Union. However, by the late 1960s, Czechoslovakia had seen some important '**reforms**' (changes) through a new Communist leader named **Alexander Dubcek**. He pushed for more freedoms in a time known as the **Prague Spring** (Prague is the capital city of Czechoslovakia). However, this was too much freedom for the new Soviet leader **Leonid Brezhnev**. Brezhnev soon reacted to the Prague Spring with a **Soviet invasion**. He then introduced a policy known as the **Brezhnev Doctrine** to prevent other Eastern European countries attempting to gain freedom.

### CZECHOSLOVAKIA BASIC FACTS:

Czechoslovakia was an **Eastern European** country in the Soviet Union's '**Eastern Bloc**'. It was a **satellite country** under Communist control.

### WHY WAS THERE OPPOSITION TOWARDS THE SOVIET UNION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN THE 60S? ECONOMIC

- All **goods** made the country were taken to the Soviet Union. This meant people had little to buy.
- **Poor economy**. Czech people had very **few goods, fuel and food**.

### POLITICAL

- There was **no freedom of speech**.
- **No democracy** (voting) as the Communist Party were the only party allowed.
- TV, radio and newspapers were **censored**.
- Stalin had ordered '**purges**' (violent attacks and executions) on anyone opposed to Communism. This included politicians and members of the military.

### SOCIAL

- Czech people complained about their **poor standard of living**.
- Czech people were banned from **travelling** to the West.

### A TIME FOR CHANGE

- **In January 1968**, a new communist leader of Czechoslovakia came to power called **Alexander Dubcek**
- He was still a communist but had a more '**liberal**' (free) idea of what Communism should be like.
- He called his more liberal version of Communism '**Socialism with a Human Face**'. In other words, he still believed strongly in communism but cared more about the conditions of his people.
- He wanted people to **enjoy** their lives and be able to express their views without the fear of being punished.
- The Soviet Union liked and trusted Dubcek and wanted him to make Communism **more popular**.
- Dubcek also strongly wanted to stay in the Warsaw Pact and had no intention of leaving.
- Dubcek made **reforms** (changes to the law) that gave **more freedom** to the Czech people.
- This time of **freedom** in Czechoslovakia was known as **The Prague Spring** as the reforms started in April (Springtime). Prague was the capital of Czechoslovakia and where the changes started to take place.

### THE EVENTS OF THE PRAGUE SPRING?

- There was **less censorship** so people could openly criticise Communism and the Czech government.
- **Trade Unions** (that helped workers with pay and conditions) were allowed.
- The **government control** of land and industry was relaxed. **Trade** with countries outside the Eastern Bloc was allowed.
- Czech people were given the **freedom to travel** to countries outside the Eastern Bloc.
- There was **open discussion** about allowing political parties other than the Communist Party.

### THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE PRAGUE SPRING

- Most people in Czechoslovakia welcomed the changes and liked their new freedom.
  - The Soviet Union had a **new leader** in 1968 called **Brezhnev**. He **disliked** the Prague Spring and the new freedoms given to the Czech people.
  - Brezhnev worried that other Eastern European countries would want to gain more freedom and this would damage the powerful image of the Soviet Union.
- The Soviet Union needed to make message clear that no other Eastern European country should attempt to make the same reforms.**

### HOW DID BREZHNEV REACT?

- **Brezhnev warned** Dubcek not to weaken communism and to stay strict.
- Brezhnev ordered his **Warsaw Pact troops** to carry out military practice just outside the border of Czechoslovakia as a warning. Brezhnev decided then to **take military action** and invaded.
- **20<sup>th</sup> August 1968**, **500,000 Warsaw Pact troops** invaded Czechoslovakia and stop the Prague Spring.

### HOW DID DUBCEK REACT TO THE SOVIET INVASION?

- Rather than fight back, Dubcek ordered his army and the people to **remain peaceful** as there would be no chance of defeating the Soviet Troops anyway.
- Some individuals attacked Warsaw Pact soldiers and blocked roads but it remained a peaceful.
- **The final outcome for Dubcek**
- **Dubcek was arrested** and ordered by Brezhnev to change his reforms.
- He was **replaced** with a hardliner (strict/tough) communist leader.
- For the next 20 years, Czechoslovakia was under **strict Soviet control** again to prevent another 'Prague Spring'.

### MAIN CONSEQUENCE OF THE PRAGUE SPRING & SOVIET INVASION: THE BREZHNEV DOCTRINE 1968

A doctrine is a '**belief**'. Brezhnev said that if any communist country attempted freedom, Warsaw Pact troops would be sent in. This was a way to stop any other countries from attempting their own Prague Spring. He did this in Sept. 1968.

### The importance of the Prague Spring and the invasion of the Soviet Union

#### The impact in Czechoslovakia

- The Soviet invasion ended the time of the Prague Spring. The Soviet invasion led back to strict Soviet control again.

#### The impact on the relationship with other communist countries:

- Other countries such as Yugoslavia and Romania spoke out against the Soviet invasion which made their relationship with the Soviet Union worse. Communist political parties in Italy and France cut their links to the Soviet Union.
- The massive invasion of the Soviet Union led to a very tight control over other Eastern European countries to prevent others trying to gain more freedom. The invasion showed the massive power of the Warsaw Pact troops.

#### The impact on the relationship between the USA and the Soviet Union:

- The USA were outraged by the invasion of Czechoslovakia and made public protests.
- The Soviet Union realised that nobody could really do anything about their invasion apart from use words against it.
- It showed that the USA was keen to criticise the Soviet Union but was very unlikely to actually carry out any action against it. The USA had started a war in Vietnam and so this made action against the Soviet Union more unlikely.



## FACT SHEET: Lesson 15 – The 1970s Détente – SALT 1 (1972), Helsinki Accords (1975) and SALT 2 (1979).

### The Background:

The tension between the two sides of the Cold War reached a climax during the 1960s. Both sides knew the risk of a nuclear war was too great. Therefore, there was a period of 'peace' known as DÉTENTE throughout the 1970s. This however, ended when the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979.



### Why did both sides follow the policy of Détente in the 1970s?

#### A threat of Mutually Assured Destruction M.A.D.

- During the 1960s, events such as the building of the Berlin Wall, the Bay of Pigs, the Cuban Missile Crisis & the Prague Spring, had brought the two sides close to war.
- Both sides had developed enough nuclear weapons to destroy each other. It was a worry that if war did break out, the results would be complete destruction. This was known as Mutually Assured Destruction or MAD.
- Both sides agreed that a nuclear war was too much of a risk and so tried their best to avoid this by the 1970s.

#### Public Pressure for Peace in the USA

- The USA had been involved in the Vietnam War. It had cost billions of dollars and the death of over 60,000 American soldiers. There were mass protests against the war all over America and the West.
- President Nixon gave in to this public pressure, he believed the public would react strongly against any nuclear war which risked the lives of more US soldiers.

#### More money and time to solve social issues

- America had vast social problems such as inequality between blacks and whites. Black Civil Rights leader, **Martin Luther King** was assassinated in 1968. A policy of détente would allow the USA more money and time to help people in their own country.
- The Soviet Union had very poor living standards and there was increasing pressure from the people living there to improve this rather than spend money building more weapons.

#### Pressure from West Germany

- There was pressure for Détente on both sides from the leader of West Germany called **Willy Brandt**. He publically called for a **better relationship** between East and West Germany as well as America and the Soviet Union.
- This pressure from Willy Brandt was called '**Ostpolitik**'.
- Willy Brandt had huge influence over the decisions made by the USA and the USSR

### SALT 1 (1972) Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty

Who signed the SALT 1 agreement? - President Nixon & Brezhnev

1. The **Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty** stated that ballistic missiles were **only** allowed on two military sites and a maximum of 100 missiles were allowed.
2. The **Interim (short term) Treaty** put a restriction on the number of long range missiles called ICBMs (Inter-Continental Ballistic Missiles) that each side was allowed.
3. The **Basic Principles Agreement** Was a set of rules about **where** missiles could be placed. E.g., no nuclear missiles were allowed on submarines or on the seabed.

#### The negative consequences of SALT 1:

- In reality, if war broke out, it was unlikely that both sides would stick to the agreement just because they had signed a piece of paper.
- Both sides still owned enough nuclear weapons to destroy each other anyway.
- The SALT treaty did not include even newer nuclear technology such as missiles which could carry more than one nuclear warhead on a single missile.

#### The positive consequence and importance of SALT 1:

- It showed that both sides were willing to negotiate and seek détente.
- It showed that both sides wanted to reduce the likelihood of war.
- It was a major symbolic importance and publically demonstrated that both sides wanted peace.
- After signing SALT 1, President Nixon visited the Soviet leader Brezhnev in Moscow in 1972. In 1973, Brezhnev then visited the USA. In 1974 negotiations started for SALT 2.

### HELSINKI ACCORDS 1975

Helsinki is in Finland where the 33 nations from the Warsaw Pact and NATO all met to build on the idea of détente and co-operation. It was announced 1975 that all nations at the agreed on what they called 3 main 'baskets'.

#### BASKET 1: EUROPEAN BORDERS

- The borders between East and West Germany and the Soviet Controlled areas were formally agreed.
- It was now illegal for either side to force a change in these borders and 'invade' the other side's territory.

#### BASKET 2: INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

- The agreement that both sides would continue to work for a better relationship.
- This included a trading agreement, an exchange of technology and a joint space mission.

#### BASKET 3: HUMAN RIGHTS

- The agreement that both sides would respect human rights and freedom of speech, religion and free movement of people across Europe.
- The soviets were worried however that they were going to be spied on for the USA to check they were respecting human rights.

### SALT 2 (1979)

Both sides wanted détente to continue worked towards a second SALT agreement. This time, President Carter negotiated with Brezhnev.

#### What was first agreed in SALT 2?

Further restrictions on missiles and a ban on testing a new type of ICBM (Inter-continental ballistic missile)

#### Why did détente fail by the late 1970s?

- LACK OF TRUST** - There was a growing believe in the USA that the Soviets could not be trusted to keep their side of the agreements.
- FURTHER COMMUNIST SUPPORT** - The USA were not happy that the Soviet Union had given more support to other communist countries around the world.
- A STRONG IMAGE** - American workers were captured by Islamist fighter in Iran (Middle East). The American public demanded a more aggressive approach rather than détente to make America look strong again.
- POLITICAL PRESSURE** - American politicians were beginning to demand a stronger attack on Communism and the Soviet Union due to ongoing Soviet aggression.
- NEW US PRESIDENT CARTER** – Wanted to be tougher against Communism.
- A TURNING POINT IN SALT 2.....**

#### THE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN 1979

- In December 1979, the Soviet Union invaded a nearby country called Afghanistan and once again showed its aggression and force.
- As a consequence of this aggression, President Carter refused to fully sign and agree to SALT 2. Therefore, it was never formally agreed.
- This symbolised the end of a period of détente between the two sides.