**Cold War and Postwar Changes and Revolution in China**

**Significant Events**

1. Yalta Conference, 1945. divide Germany into zones of occupation controlled by the Allied military forces, Germany also would have to pay the Soviet Union to compensate for its loss of life and property, Stalin agreed to join the war against Japan, also promised that Eastern Europeans would have free elections. A skeptical Winston Churchill predicted that Stalin would keep his pledge only if the Eastern Europeans followed “a policy friendly to Russia.” Ltr. A

2. United Nations established, 1945

Ltr. B

3. Winston Churchill delivers his Iron Curtain speech, 1946 Iron Curtain represents Europe’s division into

mostly democratic Western Europe and Communist Eastern Europe.

4. Truman Doctrine, 1947

Ltr. F

5. Berlin Blockade/Airlift, 1948-1949 Stalin decides to take over West Berlin, June 1948; no trucks or trains could bring supplies into the cities. British/American pilots flew over West Berlin every day for 10 months and dropped supplies

6. NATO created, 1949

See ltr. D

7. Communists gain control of China, 1949

See ltr. K

8. Korean War, 1950-1953

See ltr. L

9. Joseph Stalin died, 1953

10. Warsaw Pact, 1955 - The Soviet Union saw NATO as a threat and formed it’s own alliance and included the Soviet Union, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, and Albania.

11. Sputnik launched by the Soviet Union, 1960 - The world's first artificial satellite; began a period of public fear and anxiety in Western nations about the perceived technological gap between the United States and Soviet Union; triggered the creation of NASA

12. Tiananmen Square Massacre:

**Important People**

13. Winston Churchill Prime Minister of Great Britain during WWII: Iron Curtain Speech

14. Dean Acheson – An American statesman and lawyer who played a significant role in the Cold War; helped develop the Marshall Plan, the Truman Doctrine, and NATO

15. Nikita Khrushchev – Led the USSR during the Cold War and also began destalinization

16. Alexander Solzhenitsyn – A Russian novelist and historian who raised awareness of the Gulag forced labor camps because of his outspokenness; Nobel Prize for literature, never accepted it; 1974 banished from Russia

17.Tito – Yugoslavian communist who lead the Partisans during WWII; considered by some a benevolent dictator and was a popular figure of symbolizing unification.

18. Imre Nagy – Hungarian leader, declared Hungary a free nation on November 1st, 1956 and promised free elections, Soviets attacked Budapest, reestablished control and executed him

19. Alexander Dubcek Communist leader of Czechoslovakia; reformist, including freedom of speech, press, and travel, relaxed censorship, gradual democratization; “Prague Spring”; Soviets invaded, 1968, crushed the movement

20. Charles de Gaulle – war hero, statesman; helped establish a new French gov’t (1946) called the Fourth Republic; strong Parliament, weak presidency; ineffective

21. John F. Kennedy – US President, 1960-1963

22. Martin Luther King, Jr. - African-American clergyman and political leader of the twentieth century; the most prominent member of the civil rights movement. Assassinated 1968

23. Simone de Beauvoir – significant to the post-war women’s liberation movement; wrote *The Second Sex*; argued that as a result of male dominated societies, women had been defined by their differences from men and received second class status; this book influenced both the American and European women’s movements.

24. Ho Chi Minh - A Vietnamese revolutionary leader of the twentieth century; led the communists of Vietnam in their efforts to drive out the forces of Japan in the 1940s (see World War II), France in the 1950s (see Dienbienphu), and the United States in the 1960s (see Vietnam War). He died in 1969

25. Sun Yat-sen - The first great revolutionary leader in 20th century China who founded the Alliance League in 1905. The League aimed to overthrow the Qing Dynasty to make China a republic, get rid of foreign powers and distribute land to peasants. He created the three principles of the people, Nationalism, Socialism and Democracy.

26. Chiang Kai-shek - A Chinese general and political leader of the twentieth century. He was president of China until he was overthrown in 1949 by Chinese communist forces under Mao Zedong, who established the People's Republic of China

27. Mao Zedong - Chinese Communist dictator and theorist. A founder of the Chinese Communist Party (1921), he commanded troops in the Chinese Civil War (1927-1949) and proclaimed the People's Republic of China in 1949.

28. Deng Xiaoping - Chinese communist leader, who was the most powerful figure in the People's Republic of China from the late 1970s until his death in 1997.

29. Richard Nixon - the 37th U.S. president, is best remembered as the only president ever to resign from office; policy of détente

30. Fidel Castro - established the first communist state in the Western Hemisphere after leading an overthrow of the military dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista in 1959. He ruled over Cuba for nearly five decades

31. Kill Il Sung – 1953; dictator of The People’s Republic of Korea (North); Communist

32. Mikhail Gorbachev - He was the eighth and last leader of the Soviet Union; policies of glasnost ("openness") and perestroika ("restructuring")

Ronald Reagan -40th **President** of the United States from 1981 to 1989; negotiated a nuclear arms reduction agreement with the Soviets and is credited with helping to bring a quicker end to the **Cold War; Mr. Gorbachev, tear down that wall!”**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

33. Satellite state – a state that is economically and politically dependent on a larger, more powerful state

34. Policy of containment – the policy of the United states regarding the Soviet Union, with the goal of keeping communism within its existing boundaries and preventing further Soviet aggression

35. Arms race – the buildup of huge arsenals of nuclear weapons and missiles by the United States and the Soviet Union

36. Deterrence - the United States and the Soviet Union each built a stockpile of nuclear weapons. Soviet policy rested on the conviction that a nuclear **war** could be fought and won. The United States adopted nuclear **deterrence**, the credible threat of retaliation to forestall enemy attack.

37. Domino theory – the belief held by US policy makers that if the Communists succeeded in South Vietnam, other countries in Asia would fall (like dominoes) to communism

38. Heavy industry – the manufacture of machines and equipment for factories and mines

39. De-Stalinization – the process of eliminating the more ruthless policies of Stalin

40. Welfare state – a state in which the government takes responsibility for providing citizens with services and a minimal standard of living

41. Bloc – a group of nations with a common purpose

42. Real wages – the actual purchasing power of income

43. Iron curtain-Winston Churchill, represent Europe’s division into mostly democratic Western Europe and Communist Eastern Europe.

44. Cold War - indirect military engagement; the rocky relationship and a battle of political philosophies primarily between the USA and the USSR after World War Two; ends with the fall of communism and the Soviet Union, 1991

45. Détente – 1970s description of the Cold War. It was marked by a relaxation of tensions and improved relations between the two superpowers

46. SALT: Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty; limit the amount of nuclear weapons the US and USSR produced; Pres. Nixon and Premier Brezhnev

47. Kremlin: the executive branch of the government of Russia or of the Soviet Union, especially in regard to its foreign affairs

48. Guomingdang/Kuomintang:

49. Self-determination: a nation gets to determine for itself what its government will be

50. buffer zone – a strip of neutral or friendly territory between two enemy nations

51. Duck and Cover: If nuclear war came, people should duck under a table and cover their heads with their hands; taught in schools

52. Guerilla warfare: an indirect form of fighting. In which combatants use ambushes and surprise attacks

53. Vietminh/Vietcong – Vietnamese communists

54. Khmer Rouge – 1975-1979 when Cambodia was ruled by a communist regime

55. Autonomy: synonym for independence

56. Ronald Reagan -40th President of the United States from 1981 to 1989; negotiated a nuclear arms reduction agreement with the Soviets and is credited with helping to bring a quicker end to the Cold War; Mr. Gorbachev, tear down that wall!”

57. Red Guards - a militant youth movement in China (1966–76) that carried out attacks on intellectuals and other disfavored groups as part of Mao Zedong's Cultural Revolution.

58**. The Great Leap Forward** - It was an effort made by the Communist Party of China (CPC) under the leadership of Mao Zedong (also known as Mao Tse-tung) to transform China into a society capable of competing with other Western industrialized nations, within a short, five-year time period.

59. **Cultural Revolution** - was a chaotic mass movement in the People's Republic of China. Mao Zedong launched it in 1966, claiming that elitists were undermining the government and Chinese society.

60. **Marshall Plan** – See ltr. G

61. **Mutually Assured** Destruction - a doctrine of military strategy and national security policy in which a full-scale use of nuclear weapons by two or more opposing sides would cause the complete annihilation of both the attacker and the defender

62. **Perestroika** - was a political movement for reformation within the Communist Party of the Soviet Union during the 1980s until 1991 widely associated with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and his glasnost (**meaning** "openness") policy reform.