



# Year 9 Summer Term Learning Journey for Cold War *Ad Astra*

Big Question: How close did the world get to World War III?

## How does this unit link to prior learning?

Following on from the study of World War Two, the causes of the conflict as well as key turning points throughout the war, this new unit builds on the tensions developing in the immediate post war world. In our previous unit we learnt about the role and involvement of both the USA and the USSR in WW2 and considered the leadership of these two nations – which is fundamental to an understanding of the early stages and outbreak of Cold War.

## What will you be learning about?

In this new unit we will be learning more about the emergence of Communism in Russia and the creation of the USSR, before moving on to the increasing tensions between the USA and the USSR and the beginning of the Cold War. We will then consider a number of key events during this Cold War period, such as the Berlin Blockade, the Cuban Missile Crisis, Korea and Vietnam. We will then turn our attention to the 1990s when the Cold War thawed and ultimately the Soviet Union collapsed, bringing with it the end of this period of tension but non-fighting.

## We will develop our learning each week by focusing on:

1. The Russian Revolution and Communism	RAG	6. The Cuban Revolution and Cuban Missile Crisis	RAG
2. Start of the Cold War		7. Problems in Vietnam	
3. Berlin Blockade		8. Vietnam War	
4. War in Korea		9. Second Cold War and war in Afghanistan	
5. The construction of the Berlin Wall		10. End of the Cold War	

## Key vocabulary

Communism	Capitalism	Satellite states	Vietcong	Grand Alliance	Cold War
Democracy	Containment	Soviet Union.	Arms Race	Ideology	Proxy War

## How will this help you in the future?

<b>KS4</b>	<b>Beyond LHS</b>
Year 11 – Cold War Paper 2 – study of the early development of the Cold War, key events in the conflict such as Cuban Missile Crisis and the war in Afghanistan, as well as the eventual collapse of the Soviet Union in the 1990s.	Skills of judgement and justification useful skills at A-Level and post 16 studies, also useful skills in careers such as law, policing, teaching and politics.



# Glossary

**38th Parallel:** Geographical line dividing North and South Korea.

**Agent Orange:** Strong weed killer used to clear plants and trees in the Vietnamese jungle; caused birth defects.

**Bay of Pigs invasion (1961):** America trained Cuban exiles to invade Cuba and overthrow Castro; the invasion failed.

**Berlin:** Capital of Germany.

**Blockade:** Physically stopping goods or supplies from reaching an area.

**Bolsheviks:** A communist political party in Russia led by Lenin.

**Capitalism:** An economic system where people and businesses can own property and make profits.

**Communism:** An idea for how society should work: all property owned by the community/government and wealth shared equally.

**Cuban Revolution:** Cuban rebels led by Fidel Castro overthrew the American-backed leader of Cuba.

**Domino Theory:** The idea that if one country became communist, nearby countries would also fall to communism.

**East Germany (GDR):** German Democratic Republic (communist).

**Gorbachev:** Leader of the USSR from 1985 who wanted to reform how it was run.

**Glasnost:** Idea that the USSR should be more open and transparent.

**Grand Alliance:** Formed during WWII to defeat Nazi Germany (USSR, USA, Great Britain).

**Guerilla Warfare:** Surprise attacks and raids causing fear and confusion; tactic used by the Viet Cong.

**Ideology:** A set of beliefs or ideas that guide how people think about the world.

**JFK:** Term used for President John F. Kennedy, leader of the USA during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

**Khrushchev:** Leader of the USSR during the Cuban Missile Crisis (Nikita Khrushchev).

**Kim Il Sung:** Communist leader of North Korea; grandfather of Kim Jong Un.

**Marshall Aid:** USA gave \$13 billion to countries at risk of becoming communist.

**Mujahedeen:** Muslim fighters funded by the USA.

**Napalm:** Chemical used in Vietnam to burn jungle and caused severe burns to humans.

**NATO:** North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (1949), a defensive pact led by the USA and allies.

**Naval Blockade:** America used ships to stop Soviet missiles reaching Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

**Perestroika:** Policy to reform the USSR's economy by allowing more competition and private enterprise.

**Potsdam Conference:** July 1945 meeting of USSR, USA, and Great Britain leaders in Germany.

**Reagan:** US President elected in 1981 who described the USSR as an "evil empire."

**Satellite states:** Eastern European countries with communist governments loyal to the USSR.

**Search and destroy:** US tactic of searching Vietnamese villages and burning them.

**Second Cold War:** Early 1980s period of increased tension between the USA and USSR.

**Sigmund Rhee:** Unpopular leader of South Korea.

**Stalin:** Leader of the Soviet Union from 1924–53.

**Tactic:** Strategy or plan to defeat an enemy.

**Truman:** President of the USA from 1945–53.

**U2:** Spy plane used by the USA.

**Ultimatum:** A demand which, if refused, can lead to a breakdown in relations.

**USSR:** Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

**Viet Cong:** Communist guerrilla force in South Vietnam.

**Warsaw Pact:** Defensive pact led by the USSR with its satellite states.

**West Germany (FRG):** Federal Republic of Germany—democratic and capitalist.