



Taking Sides

- After World War Two ended, the Allies found it difficult to get along.
- As soon as WW2 ended, the Cold War began.

Superpowers

- USA and Soviet Union (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) didn't trust one another.
- USSR (and allies) worried about being invaded by the USA.
- USA (and its allies) were worried about the spread of Communism.
- Soon, much of the world was divided into two camps: with the USA or with the USSR.

Why call it a cold war?

- ◎ No actual fighting ever occurred directly between the USSR and USA.
 - War of propaganda
 - War of spying
 - Use of military aid/economic aid to develop new allies and new areas of influence.

Cuba Vietnam Afghanistan Korea

Iron Curtain

- ◎ Joseph Stalin
 - Leader of the USSR
 - Made a speech declaring that the USA and USSR were 'two worlds'
 - Communism
 - Capitalism
- ◎ Winston Churchill
 - In a speech, he said that the 'iron curtain' of Communism had fallen over Europe.



Close to conflict

- ◎ Some Cold War Conflicts:
 - Vietnam
 - Korea
 - Cuban Missile Crisis
 - Afghanistan
- ◎ In most cases, there was a real possibility that the United States and the Soviet Union would go to an all-out nuclear war.

End of the Cold War

- ◎ Mikhail Gorbachev
 - Became leader of USSR in 1985 and introduced:
- ◎ **Glasnost**
 - Openness with USA
- ◎ **Perestroika**
 - Restructuring the Soviet Union to not be as big a military power.



Gorby's Influence

- ◎ He introduced free elections in the USSR.
- ◎ Encouraged a free-market economic (Capitalist) system, like the one we use.
- ◎ Received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1990.



Russian Spy

End of the Cold War

- ◎ After Gorbachev's policies were enacted, the old Communist regime was soon to fall.
- ◎ With the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991, the threat of nuclear war decreased significantly.
- ◎ Cuba remains a bitter reminder to the United States of what could have been...


