

# The Frost Before the Thaw



# U-2 Incident

- ▣ Several incidents under Eisenhower, JFK, and LBJ proved that nuclear war was very possible!
- ▣ U-2 incident
  - Soviets shot down the second U-2 spy mission over Russian territory
  - US tried to cover it up and looked foolish
  - Destroyed any chances of progress at the Four Power Paris Summit in 1960



# The Berlin Wall

- By 1961, over 3 million East Germans had moved to the West
- At Khrushchev's insistence, East Germany built a wall separating West Berlin from East Germany
  - Soviets said it was to protect East Germany from the fascist West
  - Really, it was to keep any more people from leaving the Eastern Bloc
- Becomes a symbol of the Cold War and communist oppression



# The Cuban Revolution

- ▣ 1959
  - Fidel Castro overthrew the Cuban dictator
  - Established a Soviet-supported regime
- ▣ 1961
  - Americans use CIA-trained Cuban exiles to attempt a coup
  - FAIL! At the Bay of Pigs



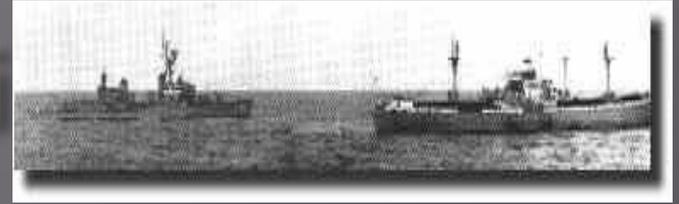
# Cuban Missile Crisis

- ▣ Nikita Khrushchev promised to defend Cuba with Soviet arms
  - 1962 flow of Soviet weapons to Cuba increased greatly - including nuclear missiles
- ▣ Kennedy - “US will not tolerate nuclear weapons in Cuba”
  - October 14, US planes take pictures of Soviet bases in Cuba - missiles ready

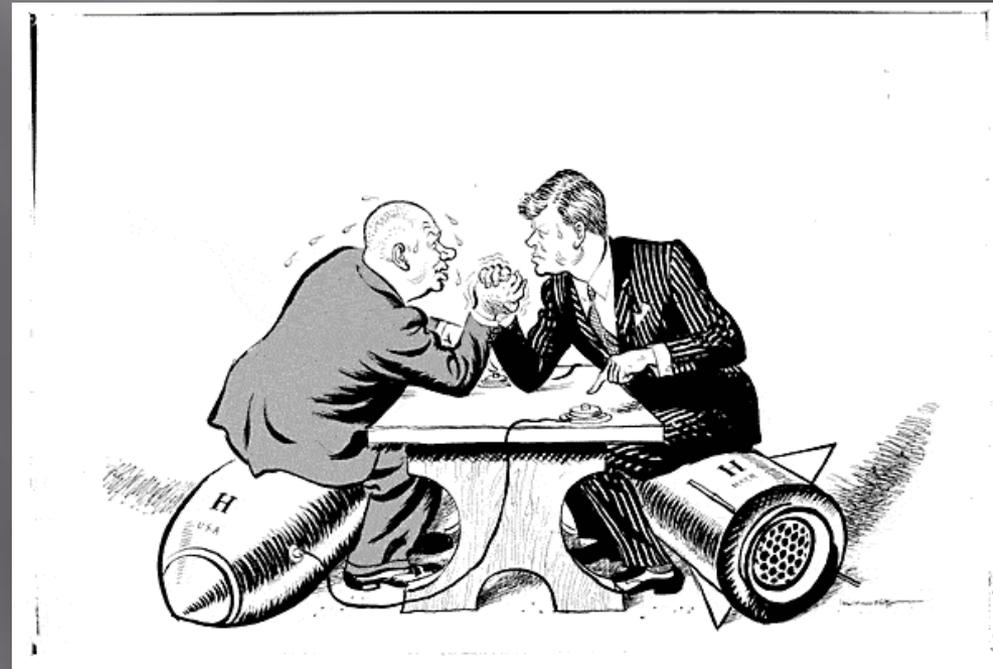




# Cuban Missile Crisis



- ❑ Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>, Kennedy informed the nation of the existence of Soviet missiles in Cuba
- ❑ The next six days the world faced the terrifying possibility of a nuclear war
- ❑ More Soviet ships were headed toward Cuba
- ❑ American Reaction:
  - Brinkmanship!!!



# Cuban Missile Crisis

- ▣ US responded with a quarantine – ships cannot come within 500 miles of Cuba
  - In Florida, 100,000 troops waited
- ▣ Soviet ships stopped “ships were eyeball to eyeball, no one blinked”
  - BRINKMANSHIP!!!!
- ▣ Khrushchev offered to remove the missiles if the US promises not to invade Cuba
  - US also secretly agreed to remove missiles from Turkey



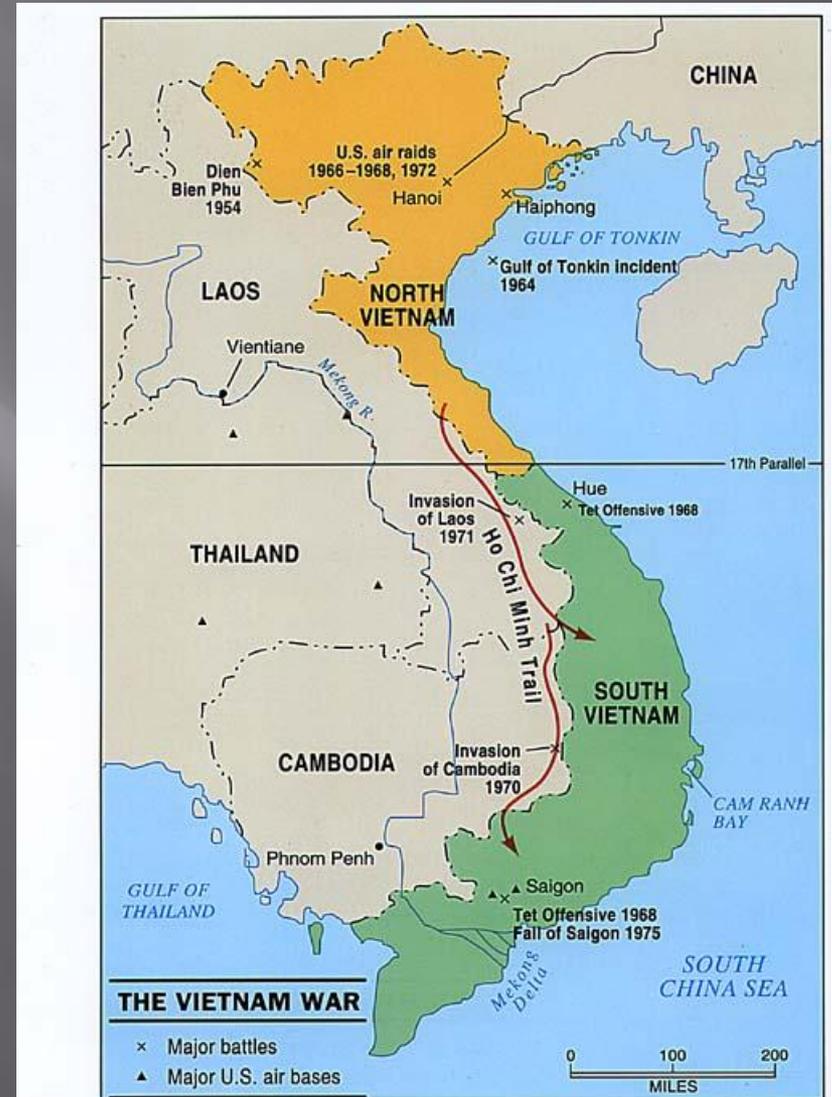
# Cold War Begins to Thaw

- Kennedy and Khrushchev knew that the world was on the verge of destruction!
- Created the Hot Line
  - Direct line from the Kremlin to the White House!
  - The Red Phone!



# Domino Theory

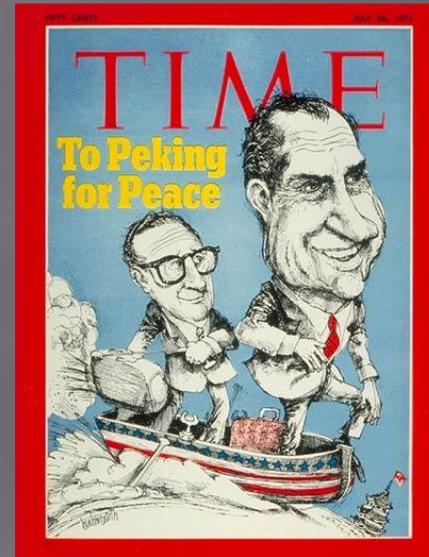
- Under LBJ, America becomes more heavily involved in the Vietnamese Civil War
  - Goal: Protect new Asian countries from Chinese communism
- Result: Disaster for the United States
  - Huge military losses
  - Complete lack of support at home and in Europe
  - Containment ☹️
  - Change in America's relations with China



The Vietnam War

# US Adopts Detente

- Nixon established this policy to reduce Cold War tensions (not just with Soviets...but with the Chinese)
  - Based upon Bismarck's idea of realpolitik
  - Nixon became the first president to visit Communist China
- SALT I (1972)
  - Reduction in nuclear weapons
- Helsinki Accords - 1975
  - 33 nations agree to use Détente
  - Recognition of postwar borders
  - Protection of human rights



# Willy Brandt – European Detente

- ▣ Ostpolitik - 1970
  - Détente policy adopted by West German Chancellor Willy Brandt
  - Reestablished peaceful relations with Eastern European states
  - “Two German States within one German nation”
    - ▣ First acceptance of East Germany since 1945

