

Cold War Timeline

1945	<p>February 4-11: Yalta Conference meeting of FDR, Churchill, Stalin - the 'Big Three' Soviet Union has control of Eastern Europe. The Cold War Begins</p> <p>May 8: VE Day - Victory in Europe. Germany surrenders to the Red Army in Berlin</p> <p>July: Potsdam Conference - Germany was officially partitioned into four zones of occupation.</p> <p>August 6: The United States drops atomic bomb on Hiroshima (20 kiloton bomb 'Little Boy' kills 80,000)</p> <p>August 9: The United States drops atomic bomb on Nagasaki (22 kiloton 'Fat Man' kills 70,000)</p> <p>August 15: Emperor surrender broadcast - VJ Day</p>
1947	<p>March 12: Truman Doctrine</p> <p>June : Marshall Plan is announced for helping war ravished western European countries</p>
1949	<p>April 4: NATO ratified</p> <p>29 August: Russia tested its first atomic bomb</p>
1950	<p>January 30: Truman approved H-bomb development</p> <p>February: Joe McCarthy begins Communist witch hunt and loyalty tests</p> <p>June 24: Korean War begins. North Korea who invades South Korea with Soviet weapons</p>
1953	<p>July: Korean War ends</p>
1954	<p>July: Vietnam split at 17th parallel</p>
1955	<p>May: Warsaw Pact formed</p>
1957	<p>October 4: Sputnik launched into orbit</p>
1959	<p>January: Cuba taken over by Fidel Castro</p>
1960	<p>December 19: Cuba openly aligns itself with the Soviet Union and their policies.</p>

1961	<p>August 13: Berlin border is closed</p> <p>August 17: Construction of Berlin Wall begins</p>
1962	<p>U.S. involvement in Vietnam increases</p> <p>October: Cuban Missile Crisis</p>
1965	July: Announcement of dispatching of 200,000 U.S. troops to Vietnam
1969	July 20: Apollo 11 (Neil Armstrong) lands on the moon
1972	July: SALT I signed
1973	January: Cease fire in Vietnam between North Vietnam and United States
1975	April 17: North Vietnam defeats South Vietnam which falls to Communist forces
1979	July: SALT II signed
1985	Mikhail Gorbachev becomes leader of the Soviet Union initiating a campaign of openness called "glasnost" and restructuring called "perestroika"
1986	October: President Reagan and Gorbachev resolve to remove all intermediate nuclear missiles from Europe
1987	October: Reagan and Gorbachev agree to remove all medium and short-range nuclear missiles
1989	<p>November: Berlin Wall is demolished and East Germany allows unrestricted migration to West Germany</p> <p>Decline of the Soviet empire</p>
1990	October 3: Germany reunited
1991	August: End of Soviet Union and the Cold War Ends