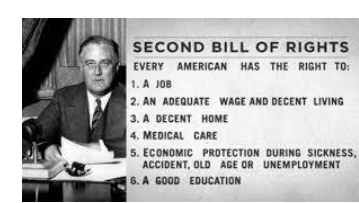
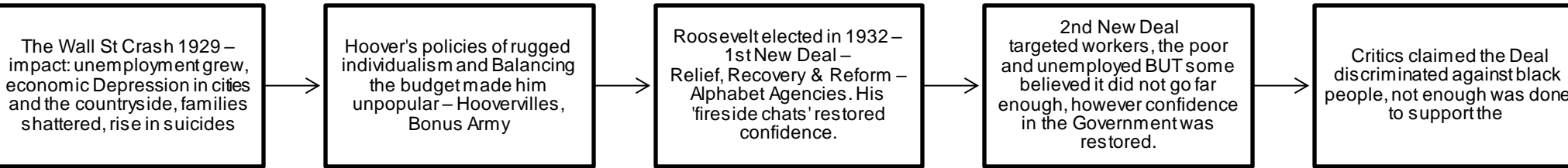
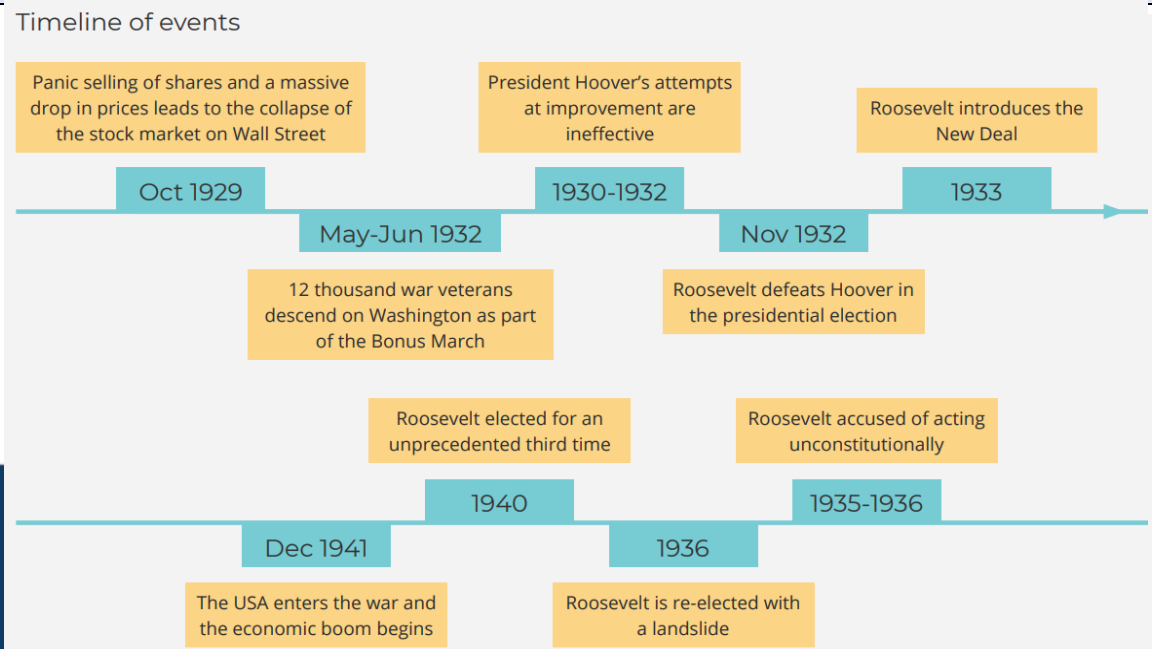


1 GCSE Knowledge Organiser – USA 1929-2000



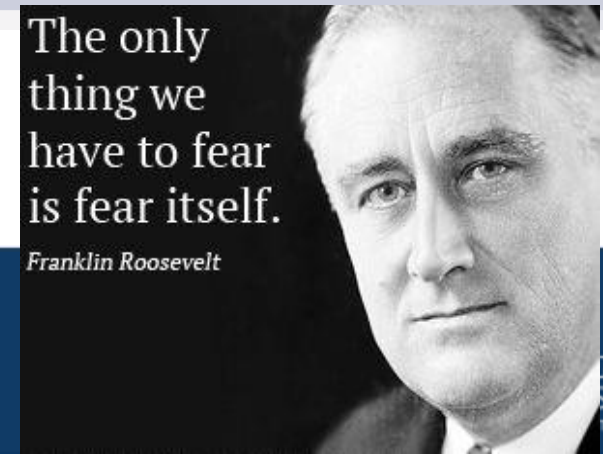
Key Question 1 : How was the USA affected by the Great Depression between 1929 and 1945?



Wall St Crash	the collapse of the US stock market in October 1929
Great Depression	the economic and social slump caused by the collapse of the stock market in 1929
Hooverville	shanty towns built for the unemployed
Hobo	an unemployed migrant seeking work
Bonus Army	war veterans demanding early payment of bonuses
New Deal	Roosevelt's policies to deal with the Great Depression
Alphabet Agencies	nickname given to the organisations within the New Deal
Rugged individualism	the view that Americans are responsible for their own lives and do not need external help
Balancing the budget	ensuring that government revenue matches spending

Important concept

The USA entered an unprecedented time of economic and social hardship after the Wall St. Crash. Roosevelt's actions dealt partially with the issues but ultimately entry into the war lifted the USA out of depression.

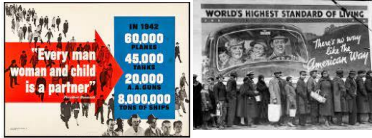




Impact of WW2 and post-war developments

Industrial Output

1. Roosevelt established the War Production Board and by 1944 the US was producing almost 50% of the weapons in the world.
2. Increased job opportunities and conscription reduced unemployment.
3. By 1945, the USA was out of depression and had the most powerful economy in the world.



Consumerism & suburbanization

1. Post war affluence meant many Americans could afford 'luxury' goods. Purchase of War Bonds helped.
2. Hire purchase and consumer credit enabled cheap products.
3. The Cold War meant US industry made weapons boosting the economy.
4. Suburbs grew.



'Poverty amidst plenty'

1. However, by 1959, 29% of the population lived below the poverty line. 'Hillbillies', Hispanics, many black people lived in ghettos. There was no national health service.

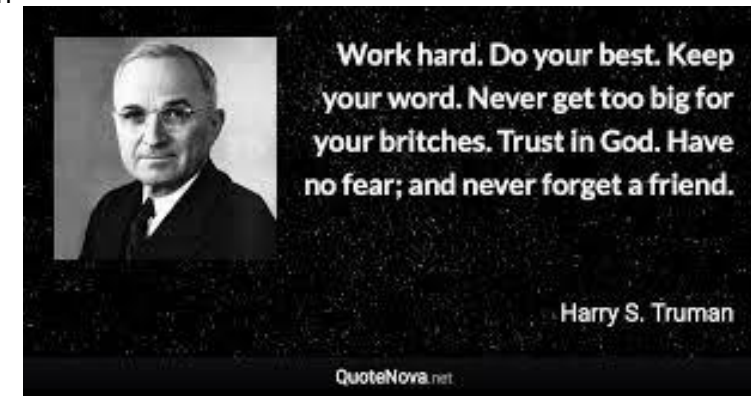


Key words

Lend Lease	system by which the USA aided wartime allies
War bonds	bought by citizens to help the war effort
Fair Deal	the domestic policies of Truman
Suburbia	residential areas outside towns and cities
Affluence	times of increased wealth and prosperity
Baby boom	a temporary marked increase in the birth rate
Gross National Product	total value of goods produced by a country in a given period
Hire purchase	buying on credit by paying instalments
Conscription	requirement for citizens to join the armed forces

Important concept

The war acted as a catalyst for recovery and in a time of relative prosperity many searched the "American Dream". However there was still "poverty amidst plenty".



Key Question 2 : How had the economy of the USA changed by the 1960s?

3 GCSE Knowledge Organiser – USA 1929-2000

In the outbreak of the WW2, many Black Americans enlisted in "Jim Crow" segregated regiments carrying out boring tasks and dangerous work rather than seeing active service.



As the war progressed, Black Americans began to see action and served with distinction namely the Tuskegee airmen.



Eisenhower showed his support for integrated units, by the end of the war many black Americans had become officers.



JFK
assassinated
1963



Civil Rights Act, 1964

The Civil Rights Act declared:

- no segregation in public places
- no discrimination in employment based on race, gender, or national origin

De-segregation in the navy happened in 1946 and other branches of the military by 1948.



With many black Americans on active service, opportunities improved for male and females in factories. They were still treated as second class citizens which gave rise to the "Double V" campaign – victory abroad and victory at home. Discrimination led to increased membership of the NAACP.



America's War Effort

Key words	
Lend Lease	system by which the USA aided wartime allies
War bonds	bought by citizens to help the war effort
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Suburbia	residential areas outside towns and cities
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"People always say that I didn't give up my seat because I was tired, but that isn't true... No, the only tired I was, was tired of giving in."
—Rosa Parks

If you don't stand for something you will fall for anything.
— Malcolm X



Education

- Little Rock High School
- James Meredith
- Brown vs Topeka



Civil Rights Legislation

- Civil Rights Act 1964 – banned racial discrimination in employment and gave black Americans equal rights to enter public places.
- Voting Rights Act 1965 – stopped racial discrimination over the right to vote and ended literacy tests.
- Supreme Court Ruling 1967 – ruled that state laws banning interracial marriages were unconstitutional.
- Fair Housing Act 1968 – racial discrimination made illegal in the property market.

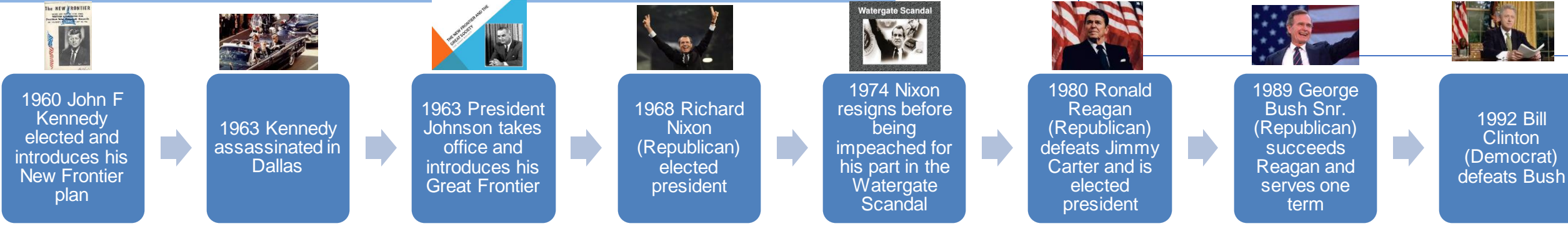
Important concept

The war furthered civil rights but the pace was slow. After 1945, there were legal test cases that declared segregation unconstitutional but change remained slow and was regionalised. Racism continued even after governmental legislation was implemented.

I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear. - MLK

Key Question 3: Why was it difficult for Black Americans to gain equal rights between 1941 - 1970?

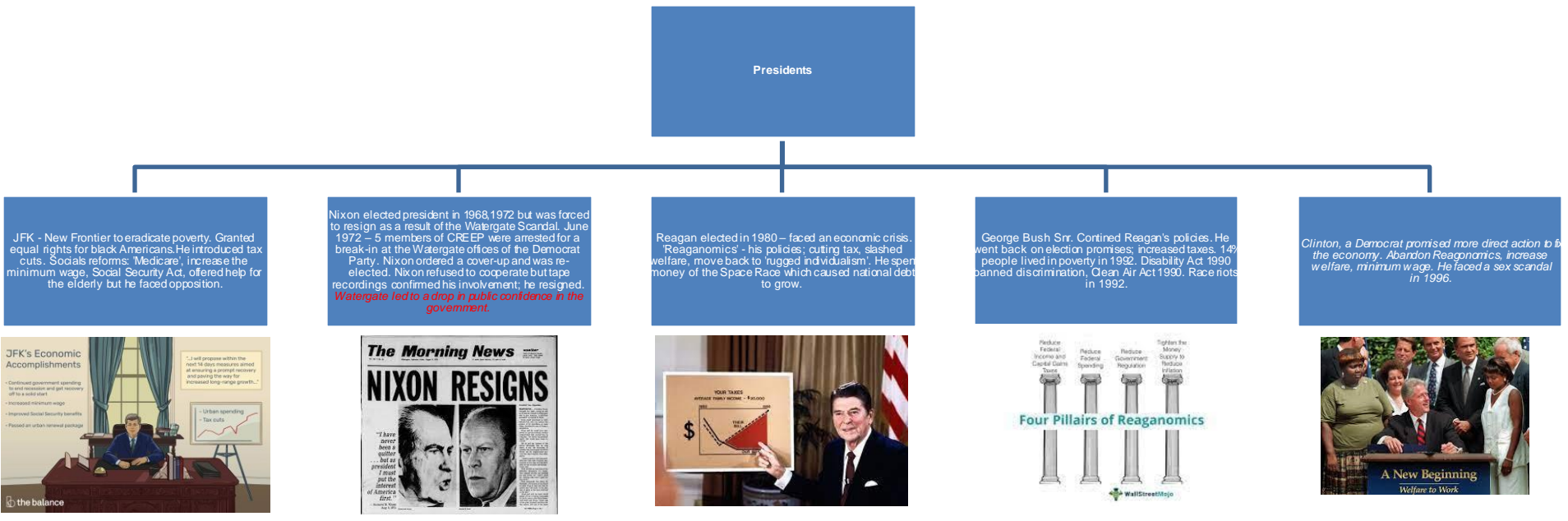
4 GCSE Knowledge Organiser – USA 1929-2000



Key words	
New Frontier	the reform policies of Kennedy in the early 1960s
Budget deficit	a countries overspending
National Debt	monies owed by a country
Recession	a general slow down in economic growth
Reaganomics	nickname given to Reagan's economic policies
CREEP	campaign to Re-elect Pres. Nixon in 1972
Watergate Scandal	the "dirty tricks" campaign which led to Nixon's resignation
Impeachment	to bring the president to trial for treason
Indirect taxes	taxes levied on goods rather than income

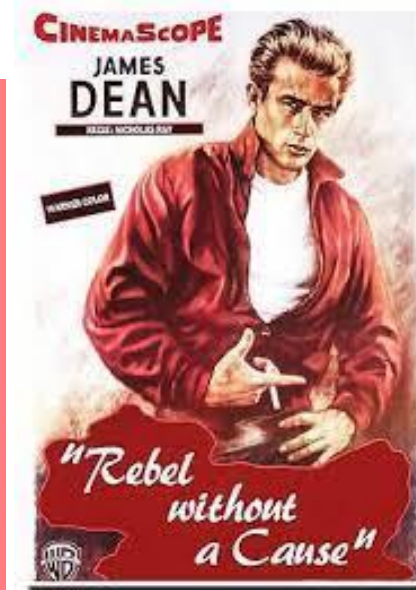
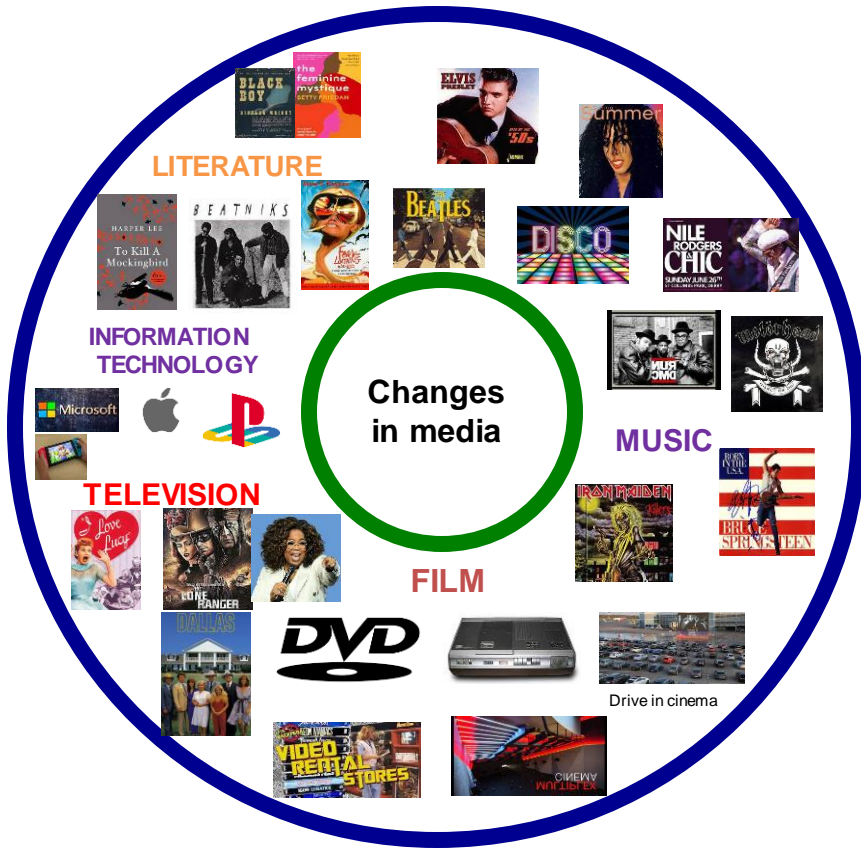
Important concept

The early 1960s was a time of optimism but this was shattered by the assassination of Kennedy. The nation lost confidence in politics and politicians after Watergate but political credibility began to be restored with Reagan's presidency.



Key Question 4: What were the main political developments in the USA between 1960 and 2000?

What was the impact of these changes in popular culture?



Key words

Anti-hero	character in a film lacking the qualities of the norm
Counterculture	way of life opposed to that regarded as normal
Beatnik	a member of the Beat Generation
Hippy	someone who rejects convention
Women's Liberation	a radical movement demanding female equality
Feminist	a supporter of equal rights of women
NOW	National Organisation for Women
Drive-in	a cinema where films can be watched from a car
SDS	students for a Democratic Society founded in 1959

Important concept

Society was influenced greatly by changes in popular culture with perhaps the most dramatic effect being the emergence of the teenager. The period was a time of experimentation and excess and important advances were made in music and literature along with the changing rights of women.

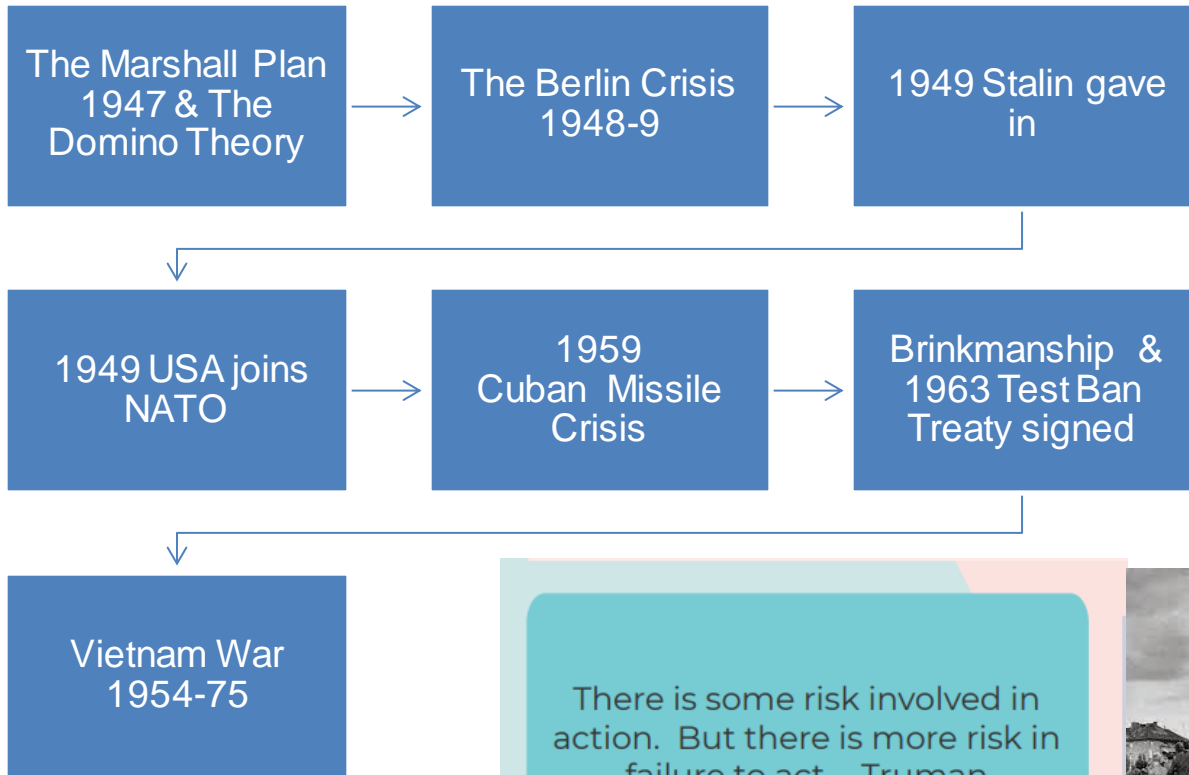
If you want to keep your memories, you first have to live them.

— Bob Dylan —



Key Question 5: How did American society change between 1950 & 2000?


6 GCSE Knowledge Organiser - Cold War Rivalry



Key words	
Cold War	conflict between the USA and USSR without direct action
Superpower	term to describe the most powerful countries
Iron Curtain	Churchill's reference to the split in Europe in 1946
Containment	actions of the US to prevent the spread of communism
Truman Doctrine	Truman's pledge to help any country threatened by communism
Marshall Aid	programme of economic aid given to countries
Domino Theory	belief in the knock-on effect of communism
NATO	a defensive alliance of countries headed by the USA
Vietcong	communist guerrilla force fighting in Vietnam

Vietnam War 1954-75

There is some risk involved in action. But there is more risk in failure to act. - Truman




The Truman Doctrine and containment of communism

The USA and USSR had put their political differences aside and become allies during the Second World War. With Germany defeated in May 1945 the two emerged as **superpowers** and entered a **Cold War** which was to last between 1945 and 1991.

Reasons for worsening relations

- The USSR had established communist in their **satellite states** in Eastern Europe.
- The USA failed to inform Stalin of the development of the atom bomb.
- When the Allies decided to divide post-war Germany, Stalin was clear that he opposed holding free elections in his zones of occupation.
- March 1946 – **Churchill's "iron curtain"** speech emphasised the division of Europe.
- March 1947- the **Truman Doctrine** was announced which committed the USA to contain and prevent communism as part of the **Domino Theory**.
- Truman's announcement was backed up by economic aid to countries threatened by communism as part of **Marshall Aid**.

The Berlin Crisis 1948-49

After the Second World War was split into four allied zones of occupation. Berlin, deep inside the Soviet zone, was divided in the same way.

- By June 1947 the US, British and French zones had merged and began to cooperate economically.
- 24 June 1948 – Stalin ordered that all communication links between West Berlin and West Germany should be **blocked**.
- In response the West organised an **airlift** to fly in supplies.
- May 1949 – Stalin stepped down and all routes into West Berlin were re-opened.
- Truman recognised the need for **collective security** and in 1949 the USA and 11 other western powers formed the **North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)**.
- 1955 – the USSR set up its rival organisation – the **Warsaw Pact**.

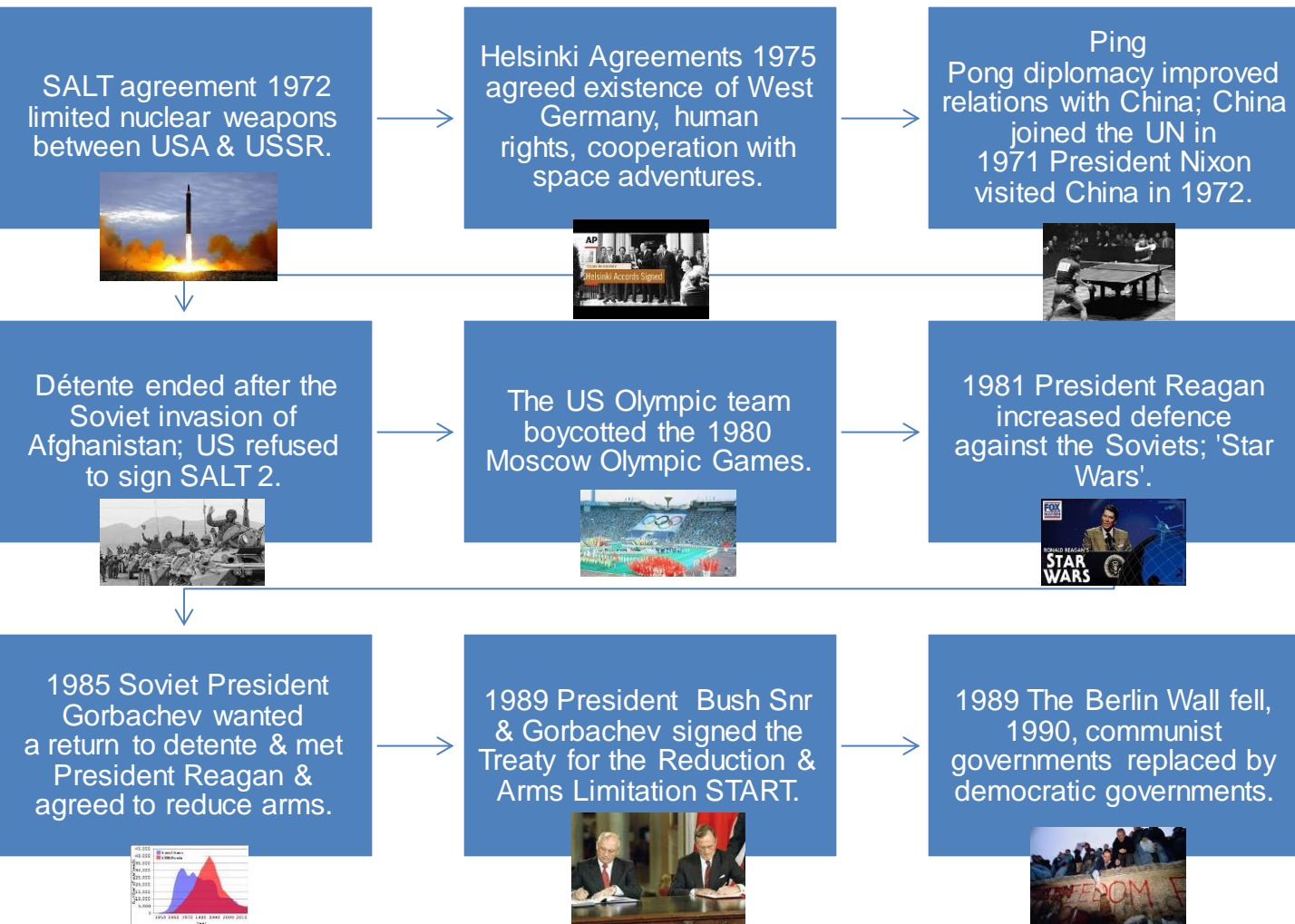
The creation of two powerful military powers heightened the tensions of the Cold War.

Important concept

Relations between the post-war superpowers deteriorated as a result of ideological differences. Both resorted to a Cold War with no direct action and to fighting proxy wars.

Key Question 6: Why did American society change between 1950 & 2000?

7 GCSE Knowledge Organiser - The search for world peace since 1970



Key words	
Détente	attempts to reduce tension during the Cold War
SALT	Strategic Arms Limitation Talks
Helsinki Agreement	a declaration recognising human rights and moves towards better cooperation
"Ping-pong" diplomacy	the exchange of Chinese and American table tennis players which eased relations
Fundamentalism	religious extremism
START	Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty
SDI	Strategic Defence Initiative or "Star Wars"
INF	Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty
Operation Desert Storm	air offensive launched against Iraq in Jan 1991



The fall of communism and the end of the Cold War

On becoming leader of the USSR in 1985 Gorbachev began a process of reform which would lead to the collapse of communism and an end to the Cold War.

- 1989 - Gorbachev informed the leaders of the six communist states in Eastern Europe that the Soviet Union would no longer defend them.
- Members of the Warsaw Pact were told that they could make changes to their countries without external interference.
- November 1989 - The Berlin Wall was taken down and by the end of 1990 democratic governments had been returned in the Eastern bloc.
- Such events served to weaken the USSR and in 1990 the Baltic states declared themselves independent.
- 1991 - Gorbachev resigned and the USSR split further into a Commonwealth of Independent States.

Europe was no longer divided between capitalism and communism and the Cold War was at an end.

US involvement in Iran, Iraq and the Gulf War

- The USA became increasingly involved in the Middle East in the 1980s and 1990s.
- Iran
 - January 1979 - The Shah of Iran, America's closest ally in the region was forced to abdicate.
 - Iran fell under the control of a fundamentalist religious leader, the Ayatollah Khomeini, demanded an end to Western and more especially, American influence in the region.
 - November 1979 - The US embassy in Tehran was stormed and 66 Americans were held hostage for 444 days.
 - President Carter sanctioned a rescue mission in April 1980 which failed causing relations between the USA and Iran worsened.
- The Gulf War (1990-91)
 - August 1990 - The Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein ordered the invasion of Kuwait which threatened US economic interests (oil).
 - The USA, Britain and others launched an invasion of Iraq leading to the defeat of Hussein.

Key Question 7: What has been the USA's role in the search for peace since 1970?