

**Lesson 8.4-A (Pageant Ch 36-40, Brinkley Ch 27-31, Henretta Ch. 25-30, AMSCO Ch 26-30, Fraser Ch. 24-28, Berkin Ch. 24-28):**

**Lesson Topic:** Cold War Commander Part I

**Key Events:**

**1950: Korean War Starts:** The communist run North invaded the democratic/capitalist South triggering a binding UN resolution and military intervention to push the Communist North Koreans back.

**1953: Panmunjom Conference/Armistice:** This conference and armistice is responsible for ending the Korean War. The most important detail from this event is the fact that this armistice is a truce, it is NOT a treaty. In technical legal terms, wars end in treaties. The Panmunjom Armistice is more of a truce. The Korean War technically did not end until 2018.

**1951: Jacobo Arbenz presidency in Guatemala:** His presidency became a major concern for the U.S. since he promoted nationalization of Guatemala's social services and infrastructure. In addition to this being a symptom of communism, those services and infrastructure also happened to be owned by the American owned United Fruit Company.

**1954: CIA executes Operation PBSUCCESS:** This covert operation involved overthrowing President Jacobo Arbenz and replacing him with pro-U.S. military dictator Carlos Castillo Armas. While this operation did prevent Guatemala from becoming communist, the blowback resulted in a bloody civil war which lasted for several decades and also radicalized leftist intellectuals such as Ernesto "Che" Guevara.

**1959: Cuban Revolution:** The July 26th movement under the command of Ernesto "Che" Guervara and Fidel and Raul Castro deposed U.S. backed Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista. Although originally announcing that the movement was democratic and non-communist, Cuba quickly fell to communism after Fidel Castro was insulted by Richard Nixon after being told he could not handle the Russians.

**1961: Bay of Pigs Invasion:** An attempt made by the CIA and a group of Cuban exiles codenamed Brigada 2506 with the expressed goal of removing the Castro regime from power by invading the Bay of Pigs and reconquering the island in a similar way to the July 26th Movement. It failed for many reasons: the brigade was under funded, Kennedy refused to provide them the proper air support and the fact that Kennedy was not responsible for starting the event.

**Key Terms:**

**Korean War:**

**Democratic Republic of Korea v. Republic of Korea:** Democratic Republic of Korea is the official name for North Korea (interestingly enough any country that has the word “Democratic” in its title is usually communist or totalitarian) and the Republic of Korea is the official name for South Korea.

**38th Parallel:** The land of demarcation which separates North Korea from South Korea.

**Landing on Inchon:** A successful amphibious landing by General Douglas MacArthur. This successful military victory was responsible for pushing back the communists (the first time).

**Containment:** A foreign policy strategy championed by Harry S. Truman stating that the U.S. should prevent the spread of communism by all means necessary. It usually follows an escalation of force. It can open with something innocuous as using money and soft power via the Marshall Plan. In the case of the Korean War, it has escalated to armed military conflicts.

**Truman fires MacArthur:** Truman fired MacArthur because he wanted to use nukes on the North Korean/Chinese border. His philosophy was that the irradiated border would be uncrossable for weeks allowing for the U.S. to liberate North Korea and force a surrender without Chinese supports. Truman disagreed and ordered MacArthur to stand down since the President alone has the authority to use nuclear missiles.

**Eisenhower goes to Korea:** As part of his campaign promise, Eisenhower went to Korea to negotiate a diplomatic solution.

### **Guatemala/Operation PBSUCCESS**

**United Fruit Company:** Now known as Chiquita Bananas, this company was responsible for turning Guatemala into a banana republic. They owned the telephone company, the electric companies and the railroads.

**Arbenz’s expropriation policies:** Arbenz wanted to buy out the companies which are owned by the United Fruit Co. These policies scared the U.S. for two reasons: one, expropriation is a symptom of communism and the an American company would lose money from the policies.

**CIA Operation PBSUCCESS:** The CIA codenamed covert operation responsible for overthrowing Jacobo Arbenz.

**Coup d’etat:** A political term describing the removal of a government and replacing it with a new one, usually a military dictatorship.

**Military Junta:** A political term referring to a military dictatorship. This specific terminology can be used to describe a Latin American country.

**Guatemalan Civil War:** A military conflict between the Guatemalan government and leftist peasant “insurgents.” This war lasted for 36 years and hundreds of thousands of deaths and displacements.

**Bay of Pigs Invasion:**

**July 26th Movement:** The movement led by “Che” Guevera and the Castro Brothers responsible for deposing U.S. backed dictator Fulgencio Batista by invading the eastern side of the island and conquering the rest of the island.

**Cuban Exiles:** Anti-Castro Cubans who left Cuba for the U.S. after it became communist.

**Brigada 2506:** A military detachment of Cuban exiles who were trained by the CIA and given the same purpose of reconquering Cuba, the same way the July 26th Movement did.

**Bay of Pigs/Playa Giron:** The site the CIA placed as the landing ground for Brigada 2506.

**B-26 bombers and need for better hardware:** Brigada 2506 was given B-26 bombers since they could easily be purchased on the open market. Brigada 2506 decided they needed more advanced military hardware.

**Plausible Deniability:** A military intelligence term used to sneakily be involved in an action without having any evidence to tie them to the event. In the case of the Bay of Pigs invasion, the CIA intentionally giving Brigada 2506 inferior weapons gave them plausible deniability since those inferior weapons could be bought on the open market, not necessarily the CIA (even though they did come from the CIA).

**Base Trax:**The military base in Guatemala where the CIA was training Brigada 2506.

**Operation Mongoose:** The CIA codenamed mission given after the Bay of Pigs Invasion failed where Cuban exiles would infiltrate Cuba and slowly take over the Castro regime from the inside.

**Operation Anadyr:** The Soviet response to the Bay of Pigs Invasion whereby nuclear missiles were put in Cuba as a deterrent to keep the U.S. from invading Cuba again.

**Key People:**

**Korean War:**

**Harry S. Truman:** President of the United States responsible for committing American troops to Korea after North Korea invaded their southern neighbors. He is also responsible for firing

Douglas MacArthur for his plan to use nuclear weapons against the Chinese, who supported the North Koreans.

**General Douglas MacArthur:** Leader of the military in the Korean conflict. He was fired by President Harry S. Truman over his controversial plan to use nuclear weapons against the Chinese. He also ran for president and his campaign fizzled out.

**Dwight David Eisenhower:** President of the United States after Truman. He made going to Korea to negotiate a peaceful solution to the war.

**Dean Acheson:** Truman's Secretary of State and proponent of the Containment Doctrine.

**Kim Il Sung:** Communist intellectual and founder of North Korea.

**Syngman Rhee:** Leader of South Korea.

### **Guatemala/Operation PBSUCCESS**

**John Foster Dulles:** CIA Director and primary shareholder in the United Fruit Company.

**Allen Dulles:** Deputy CIA Director and primary shareholder in the United Fruit Company.

**Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.:** U.S. Ambassador and primary shareholder in the United Fruit Company.

**Jacobo Arbenz:** Guatemalan President who promoted an agenda of expropriation.

**Colonel Carlos Castillo Armas:** The military dictator backed by the CIA to replace Jacobo Arbenz.

**Ernesto "Che" Guevara:** Argentine doctor and leftist intellectual. Radicalized by the overthrow of the Arbenz administration, Guevara became the intellectual leader of the July 26th Movement.

### **Bay of Pigs Invasion:**

**John F. Kennedy:** President of the United States responsible for ordering the Bay of Pigs Invasion.

**Pepe San Roman:** Commander of Brigada 2506.

**Fidel Castro:** Leader of the July 26th Movement.

**Raul Castro:** Leader of the July 26th Movement.

**Nikita Khrushchev:** Soviet Premier responsible for responding to the Bay of Pigs Invasion by placing nuclear missiles in Cuba.

**Lesson 8.4-B (Pageant Ch 36-40, Brinkley Ch 27-31, Henretta Ch. 25-30, AMSCO Ch 26-30, Fraser Ch. 24-28, Berkin Ch. 24-28):**

**Lesson Topic:** Cold War Commander Part II

**Key Events:**

**1961: Alan Sheppard becomes first American man in space:** Russian Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin was the first man in space aboard *Vostok 1*. Alan Sheppard accomplished the feat aboard *Freedom 7*.

**1962: Cuban Missile Crisis:** The failed Bay of Pigs Invasion resulted in the Soviets retaliating by placing nuclear missiles in Cuba. The U.S. grappled with what they should do with the missiles: remove them via a military “First Strike” or negotiate for their removal. The U.S. elected to negotiate for their removal. As part of their negotiations, the Soviets removed missiles from Cuba under the conditions that the U.S. promise never to invade Cuba again and remove outdated Jupiter Missiles from Cuba.

**1964: Gulf of Tonkin Incident/Resolution:** This event starts the Vietnam War because it involved the *U.S.S. Maddox* being attacked by unknown forces. The ship insisted it was in “International waters” when evidence has been revealed that the vessel was conducting electronic surveillance on the North Vietnamese. This incident triggered a resolution which activated the Selective Services Act and sent drafted American troops to Vietnam in 1965.

**1967: Apollo 1 Mission:** This failed mission resulted in the death of astronauts Ed White, Gus Grissom and Walter Chaffey because of a fire in the spacecraft.

**1968: Apollo 8 Mission:** The first manned spacecraft to orbit the Moon.

**1969: Apollo 11 Mission:** The first manned spacecraft to land on the Moon.

**1975: Fall of Saigon:** The end of the Vietnam War whereby the Communist run North overran Saigon: the Capital of South Vietnam. The fall resulted in the total absorption of South Vietnam by the communist North. Saigon was renamed Ho Chi Minh City.

**Key Terms:**

**Cuban Missile Crisis:**

**Medium Range Ballistic Missiles:** Nuclear missiles with a range of 1,200 miles. In the context of the Cuban Missile Crisis, these missiles could hit any major city in the continental United States except for Seattle and Portland.

**“First Strike” Option:** An aggressive military solution to the Cuban Missile Crisis championed by General Curtis LeMay. It is broken up into the following four stages.

- Stage 1: Launch an airstrike on the known sites.
- Stage 2: Invade with two fronts flanking the capital city of Havana resulting in the deposition of the Castro Regime.
- Stage 3: Target Communist Countries for “Obliterating Attack.”
- Stage 4: In the event of communist countries, prepare for retaliation.

**Naval Blockade/Quarantine:** A less aggressive military strategy by which President Kennedy used the Navy to block Soviet transports from delivering more nuclear hardware.

**Jupiter Missiles in Turkey and Italy:** A bargaining chip used by the U.S. to negotiate the removal of nuclear missiles from Cuba.

**Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD):** The theory that any kind of nuclear exchange would result in the total destruction of both sides. This theory, until now, has resulted in nuclear weapons serving as a deterrent instead of an actual weapon. The threat that everyone could die is more intimidating than actually using them.

### **Space Race:**

**Sputnik:** Name of the first artificial satellite in human history. It was Russian and it was launched in 1957.

**Vostok-1:** Name of the first manned spacecraft to orbit the Earth. It was Russian and manned by cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin. It was launched on April 12, 1961.

**Mercury Program:** American manned space program from 1958-1963 with the expressed purpose of putting a single human in space.

**Gemini Program:** American manned space program from 1962-1966 with the goal of safely transporting two humans into space at the same time. One notable highlight includes dual spacewalks.

**Apollo Program:** American manned space program from 1963 to 1972 with the expressed goal of carrying out Kennedy’s goal of placing a man on the moon and returning him safely back to the Earth.

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA):** America’s space program. Rebranded from the National Advisory Council for Aeronautics (NACA) under the Kennedy administration.

**Apollo-Soyuz Mission:** A post-moon landing geopolitical peace gesture in which an American made *Apollo* capsule docked with a Russian made *Soyuz* capsule in orbit. This feat was accomplished due to massive NASA budget cuts. These original *Apollo* capsules were intended to last until *Apollo 20* whose mission was to scout a site for a lunar colony.

**Skylab Mission:** Another NASA project adjusted for budget cuts. This space station was made from repurposed *Apollo* capsules.

## **Vietnam**

**U.S.S. Maddox and U.S.S. Turner Joy:** Two ships involved in the Gulf of Tonkin incident. The *U.S.S. Maddox* was conducting electronic surveillance of the North Vietnamese ---although it claimed to be in “international waters”--- and the *U.S.S. Turner Joy* arrived to protect it.

**The Domino Theory:** A theory which visualizes the spread of communism like a stack of dominos arranged in a line. Each domino symbolizes a country. If one county/domino falls to communism, it will cause a chain reaction which will cause other dominoes/countries to fall to communism. This theory was used to justify defending South Vietnam under the guise that it was threatened by the communist run North Vietnam. If South Vietnam fell, the neighboring countries of Laos and Cambodia would fall. Then Japan, Micronesia, and eventually... the United States.

**Search and Destroy Missions:** An aggressive military tactic by which the United States targeted suspected enemy strongholds. In this case, the U.S. military targeted North Vietnamese cities and jungles that were suspected of hosting the Ho Chi Minh trail . Due to the media coverage of jungles and villages being destroyed, this factor also caused public opinion to sour.

**Napalm:** A Vietnam era weapon which is gasoline based produced by the DOW Chemical Company, which also produces civilian consumer goods. It's a jelly like substance which deprives oxygen from the air in exchange for combusting into fire. It was used for deforestation to expose Viet-Cong strong points.

**Agent Orange:** Another Vietnam era weapon produced by DuPont. It's a mist like structure responsible for killing vegetation. Much like Napalm, it was used for deforestation to expose Viet-Cong strong points. It is also known for its carcinogenic qualities. Many American soldiers who handled it now have cancer.

**Viet Cong:** The guerilla detachment of the communist North Vietnamese. As guerillas, their efforts often frustrated the Americans since they were unable to decisively target and eliminate.

**North Vietnamese Army:** The formal detachment of the communist North Vietnamese. In addition to the Viet Cong both of them were supported by the communist Chinese through

routes such as the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

**Tet Offensive:** This synchronized effort of surprise attacks by the North Vietnamese --specifically the Viet Cong-- on the South served as a turning point in the Vietnam War since televised accounts of the attacks demonstrated that the war could not be won. Gruesome accounts of buildings being bombed and people getting shot in the street caused public opinion about the war to quickly sour.

**Destruction of Hue:** A major battle in the Tet Offensive where the American soldiers confronted the Viet Cong in the ancient capital city of Hue and ended up destroying it. While technically a victory, the dramatic cost in lives and cultural heritage proved a major loss for the Americans.

**Operation Rolling Thunder:** A famous Johnson era search and destroy mission which targeted and destroyed several North Vietnamese cities.

**Operation Linebacker:** A famous Nixon era search and destroy mission which spread out targets from North Vietnam to nearby Laos and Cambodia.

**Vietnamization/ "Peace With Honor":** A slogan used by Richard M. Nixon to describe a strategy where the United States could leave the Vietnam conflict without losing prestige and protecting South Vietnamese allies.

**Nixon Doctrine:** Nixon's foreign policy strategy indicating that instead of sending troops to fight the communists, the United States would commit training and resources instead.

**Ho Chi Minh Trail:** A network of tunnels and hidden supply lines in which the communist North Vietnamese funneled equipment and troops from the North to strategic targets in the South. The ever changing trail often meandered around South Vietnam and crossed into the territories of Laos and Cambodia. One of the key strategies for the Americans was to target and destroy these supply lines.

**Attacks on Laos and Cambodia:** These two countries were specifically targeted by Nixon's Secretary of State Dr. Henry Kissinger in his efforts of *realpolitik*. By firebombing the neighboring countries, North Vietnam would have no choice but to come to the peace table.

**Paris Peace Accords:** The official treaty which set up timetables for the U.S. to leave the Vietnam conflict and ended the war.

**Vietnam Memorial Wall:** An official memorial to the conflict which was constructed in 1982. The black wall carries the name of the 58,000 servicemen who died or were missing in action.

**Key People:**

**Cuban Missile Crisis:**

**John F. Kennedy:** President of the United States who made final decisions concerning the removal of missiles from Cuba.

**Robert F. Kennedy:** Attorney General and diplomat to the Soviets responsible for negotiating the removal of missiles from Cuba.

**Robert McNamara:** Secretary of Defense and strategist behind the naval quarantine.

**General Curtis LeMay:** Hardline military general responsible for creating and promoting the First Strike option for the missiles. Essentially every hardline and warmongering military leader in movies draws inspiration from him.

**Nikita Khrushchev:** Soviet Premier responsible for placing the nuclear missiles in Cuba. He also brokered for their removal in exchange for the U.S. removing Jupiter missiles from Turkey and Italy.

**Fidel Castro:** Cuban dictator who was intentionally left out of the negotiations on the grounds that he was threatening to use the missiles to “eliminate the imperialist threat” that is the United States.

#### **Space Race:**

**John F. Kennedy:** American President responsible for issuing the challenge of putting a man on the moon by the end of the 1960s. He is responsible for overhauling the space program.

**Wernher Von Braun:** German (ahem, former Nazi) scientist responsible for designing the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo spacecrafts. At the end of World War II, he was given the option to join either the United States or the Soviets. He chose the U.S. because he believed they had the resources necessary to accomplish his goals.

**Yuri Gagarin:** Russian cosmonaut and first man in space.

**Neil Armstrong:** American astronaut and Commander of *Apollo 11*. First man on the moon.

**Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin:** American astronaut and Lunar Module Pilot for *Apollo 11*. Second man on the moon.

#### **Vietnam:**

**John F. Kennedy:** American President responsible for sending military advisors to Vietnam in the early 1960s, after the battle of Dien Bien Phu.

**Lyndon B. Johnson:** American President after Kennedy. Responsible for enforcing the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution which activated the Selective Services Act and started sending draftees to Vietnam.

**Robert McNamara:** Secretary of Defense for Kennedy and Johnson. He is responsible for managing the search and destroy missions and postulating the Domino Theory.

**Richard M. Nixon:** President of the United States after Johnson. Responsible for negotiating the Vietnamization of the war and an exit strategy.

**Dr. Henry Kissinger:** Harvard intellectual and Nixon's Secretary of State. He is known for using realpolitik (isolating one's enemies) to bring North Vietnam to peace talks by firebombing the neighboring countries of Laos and Cambodia.

**Ho Chi Minh:** North Vietnamese communist intellectual.

**Le Duc Tho:** North Vietnamese ambassador and opposite number to Dr. Kissinger. He is responsible for negotiating the peace talks. He is also known for receiving the Nobel Peace Prize along with Dr. Kissinger.

**Lesson 8.4-C (Pageant Ch 36-40, Brinkley Ch 27-31, Henretta Ch. 25-30, AMSCO Ch 26-30, Fraser Ch. 24-28, Berkin Ch. 24-28):**

Using your textbook **OR** britannica.com, determine the meaning of the following key events, people, and terms.

**Lesson Topic:** Cold War Commander Part III

**Key Events:**

**1972: Nixon Visits China:** Nixon visiting the People's Republic of China is a major event in modern world history because it demonstrates the U.S. attempting to make peace with a communist country. Since Nixon was a notorious anti-communist, the U.S. was able to maintain strength against communists by pitting China against the Soviets.

**1972: SALT I Treaty Signed:** This treaty was responsible for limiting the nuclear arsenals for both the United States and the Soviet Union. It is a representation of detente because it shows the U.S. and USSR attempting to make peace by slowly relaxing tensions.

**1979: SALT II Treaty Signed:** Another arms treaty in which promoted nuclear nonproliferation. Signed by President Carter, it is the last attempt to maintain detente before President Reagan's hardline policies triggered an arms race.

**1979: Sandinista Revolution in Nicaragua:** The Sandinistas are a left wing organization responsible for promoting a communist agenda. This concept proved a threat to Reagan's hardline anti-communist policies because it could prove to be another Cuba. Reagan countered this revolution by supporting the *contras* (Spanish for "against"), a guerilla army responsible for combating the Sandinistas.

**1979: Soviets invade Afghanistan:** The Soviets expanded their reach into Afghanistan to support a socialist puppet government it had installed in the country. Since the Soviets are atheistic due to their hardline communist ideology, the encroachment started a jihad (Holy War) in the Muslim community. A group of Islamic fundamentalists known as the Mujahideen (Arabic for "holy warriors") fought back against the Soviets from 1979 to 1989.

**1985-1987: Iran Contra Affair:** A presidential scandal in which the Reagan administration was caught illegally using money from a deal made with Iran to fund the Contras. The scandal could have ended up as Reagan's Watergate because the actions done by the administrations could qualify for impeachment, specifically obstruction of justice and treason. Fortunately for Reagan, he was not implicated in the actions.

**Key Terms**

## **Detente:**

**Detente:** A French term for relaxing of tensions. Detente was the term used to best describe 1970s Cold War relations because both the United States led “Free World” and the Soviet led “Communist World” made efforts to relax tensions and work together. Examples include the *Apollo-Soyuz* docking mentioned in the previous lesson, the SALT Treaties and Nixon recognizing China.

**Sino-Soviet Split:** The term used to describe the ideological split between the Soviets and the communist Chinese. This ideological split allowed the United States to realize they could gain an advantage over the Soviets by making peace with the Chinese.

**Realpolitik** A diplomatic philosophy originally framed by Otto Von Bismarck and adopted by Dr. Henry Kissinger in which one isolates his enemy in order to gain every possible advantage over them.

**Ping Pong Diplomacy:** An attempt to make peace between China and the U.S. through the friendly competition of ping pong. The best Chinese players faced off against the best U.S. players, regrettably not Forrest Gump.

**U.S. recognizes People’s Republic of China:** With the U.S. recognizing the People’s Republic of China resulted in relationships subtly changing with “Free China” otherwise known as Taiwan. Business deals and diplomatic efforts were slowly transitioned from Taiwan to the People’s Republic of China.

## **SALT Treaties**

**Disarmament:** A decision made by two or more countries to reduce their military arsenal. In the case of 1970s Cold War, the nuclear arsenal was the specific target.

**Nuclear Nonproliferation:** A form of disarmament in which two or more countries agree not to build any more nuclear weapons, conduct nuclear experiments, and even dismantle the nuclear weapons they have.

**Arms Race:** The opposite of disarmament. This phenomenon involves two or more countries engaged in a contest which determines who can design the deadliest weapons. Each side tries to outdo the other (hence the race part). In these scenarios, the “losing country” may attempt a preemptive strike in order to sabotage the winning side.

**Biological Warfare:** A deadly style of weaponry which relies on organisms (either natural or synthetically created). The intention is to inflict as much damage possible to living creatures without necessarily harming the surrounding infrastructure.

**Iran-Contra Affair:**

**Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSNL):** Official name for the Sandinistas. Their goal is to establish a communist state similar to that of Cuba.

**Radar equipment for hostages:** The U.S. sold military equipment to Iran (who was our enemy during that time) in exchange for hostages in Lebanon. The Reagan administration attempted to use this money to fund the contras. However, this technically qualified as treason, because the U.S. Congress declared that the money could not be used.

**Boland Amendment:** The specific law responsible for blocking the Reagan administration from using the money from Iran to fund the contras.

**Drug Cartels:** The solution made by the CIA to fund the Contras (after the U.S. was caught attempting to use the money for the Contras) by looking the other way while drug cartels made their way to the United States. The money sold by extra drugs would then be funneled back to the Contras. The blowback to this plan was that the Contras were poorly organized and could not defeat the Sandinistas. Instead, the Sandinistas lost in an election in the early 1990s. The proliferation of drugs and crime however remained on the rise.

**Afghanistan:**

**Mujahadeen:** Known as “holy warriors” in Arabic, this group of Islamic fundamentalists was in charge of fighting the Soviet invaders in Afghanistan. Since the Soviets were atheists, the mujahadeen viewed their actions as defending their faith.

**Stinger Missiles:** A new type of untraceable weapon which gave the Mujahadeen an advantage over the Soviets. The stinger missile was good at shooting down helicopters and crippling tanks. Because of the simplistic design, the U.S. (who supplied the Mujahadeen with such weapons) could maintain plausible deniability.

**Nation Building:** Specific efforts made by a country to modernize itself. One of the biggest criticisms for the U.S. policy in Afghanistan is that they did not devote any significant resources in rebuilding Afghanistan after the conflict. Part of this was to maintain plausible deniability, part of this was the fact that the U.S. did not view the area of significant strategic interest. Critics of this U.S. policy have purported that if the U.S. conducted earnest nation building in Afghanistan, it would not become a hot-bed of radical Islamic fundamentalism.

**Islamic Fundamentals:** A sect of the Islamic faith which has a conservative and uncompromising interpretation to the readings of the Quran.

**Al-Qaeda:** A group of Islamic fundamentalists who used Afghanistan as a staging ground for carrying out their problematic interpretation of a Jihad against the U.S.

**Key People:**

**Detente:**

**Richard M. Nixon:** President of the United States who used his reputation as a staunch anticommunist to make peace with the People's Republic of China and form an alliance with a communist country without the U.S. losing credibility.

**Dr. Henry Kissinger:** Nixon's Secretary of State who advised him to make peace with the Chinese to isolate the Soviets via realpolitik.

**Mao Zedong:** Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party who received Nixon during his visit.

**SALT Treaty:**

**Richard M. Nixon:** U.S. President who signed SALT I.

**Jimmy Carter:** U.S. President who signed SALT II.

**Leonid Brezhnev:** Soviet Premier who signed SALT I and SALT II.

**Iran Contra Affair:**

**Ronald Reagan:** U.S. President during the Iran-Contra Affair.

**Oliver North:** Marine Corps Lieutenant Colonel responsible for facilitating the funding of money for the Contras and got caught.

**Daniel Ortega:** President of Nicaragua and leader of the Sandinistas.

**Afghanistan:**

**Charles Wilson:** Junior Texas Congressman responsible for arranging the funding of the Mujahadeen.