

## Khrushchev – De-Stalinization

- Stalin dead March 6, 1953
- Nikita head of Communist Party, Georgi Malenkov Soviet PM
- Friendly?, Austrian Peace Treaty 1955 ending coalition occupation
- Geneva Conference 1955, Eden, Eisenhower, Mendes, Bulganin (Soviet defence minister) = more union in Europe
- Get rid of horrors of Stalin
- Speech Feb. 1956, 1500 delegates 20<sup>th</sup> Party Congress
  - o Criticized (terror, disasters of WWII)/commended Stalin's policies (collectivist policies 1929-33 as foundation of communism)
  - o Appease members of the Politburo (new direction), not alienate Stalin supporters (conservative)
  - o Many roads to socialism (bring Tito into the fold) – gave satellite states freedom to choose some of their own policies
  - o Importance of Third World – decolonization, increase world influence – large steel mill in India, free from capitalist imperialism, India did not join SEATO
  - o Non-violent methods to win Cold War
  - o Poland and Hungary elected communist anti-Soviet governments, new freedoms led to uprisings in Eastern Bloc
- Top priority = Agricultural Reforms
  - o USSR could not feed pop. since 1928
  - o Beat US milk, meat, butter production by 1962
  - o Virgin Lands Program – cut down grass in Central Asia to grow wheat, failed due to lack of fertilizer, grain silos, transportation
  - o Maize primary crop – failed, food shortages in 1963
  - o Too much bureaucracy for programs to succeed
    - Cows cut in half
    - No grain reserves
  - o Bought 12 million tons of grain so pop. wouldn't starve (unlike Stalin)

- Push into Third World annoyed China because it took their assistance to China becoming internationally recognized away and would not be able to support them with bringing Taiwan under Chinese control.

### **Warsaw Pact**

- 1955 Albania, Bulgaria, Czech, GDR, Hungary, Poland, Romania, USSR
- Military alliance, direct response to NATO
- Europe now completely divided (Politically, Economically, Ideologically, Militarily)
- Control of satellites now “partner” style relationships, not from Moscow
- Red Army could be based in member states
- Mutual military assistance
- Allowed Soviets to intervene in internal affairs of member nations

### **Cuba**

- US support Fulgencio Batista – dictator, came to power illegally in 1933, was capitalist
- Cuba was America's playground – huge mob influence – casinos (Godfather Part II)
- US major interests in every industry, especially sugar
- Castro, lawyer, organized guerilla warfare from mountains, overthrew Batista on Jan. 1, 1959 = left-wing government, not communist to start, therefore was not a communist revolution
- US got mad when Castro nationalized all American owned factories/plantations
- Feb. 1960, Castro signed trade agreement with USSR, buy all sugar for \$100 million in aid – Soviet arms sent to Cuba to defend it – US forced this due to not buying goods
- CIA funded Cuban exiles to raid and overthrow Castro, completely failed at the Bay of Pigs on April 17, 1961 – no US troops or air support (which was promised to the exiles)
- Immediately after Castro declared that they were a communist state = US severed all ties

## **CMC Consequences**

- Importance of diplomacy = saving face (hush-hush pulling missiles out of Turkey)
- Direct engagement = no proxy
- Brinkmanship = nuclear chicken?, Kennedy stared down Khrushchev, but took the world to the brink of nuclear war – enhanced his rep.
- Red phone created (actually black) as a direct link between the White House and Moscow
- 9 months later atmospheric Test Ban Treaty signed, Aug. 5, 1963 US, USSR and the UK signed the Partial Test Ban Treaty, banned under-water Nuclear tests as well as in air and space.
- Cuba was now a Soviet satellite state
- 1964 Khrushchev was dismissed as leader
- 13 months after the CMC Kennedy was assassinated.