

Gorbachev UN speech - December 1988.

- Visit to Washington produced INF treaty (intermediate range nuclear forces) December 1987.
- Soviet troops withdrawn from Afghanistan.
- 7 Dec 1988 - Landmark speech at the UN - heralded the end of the Cold War before Reagan left office.
- Announced the birth of a 'new world order through a universal human consensus'
- He promised to cut troops in eastern Europe and end of the threat of invasion from the east (end of Brezhnev doctrine).
- Said he would reduce significantly troops in Asia and threat to China.
- Met Reagan and VP George H Bush to ensure continuity.

Reagan's farewell address:

- My view is that President Gorbachev is different from previous Soviet Leaders.
- I want this new closeness to continue, the US will continue to act in a certain way so long as they continue to act in a helpful manner.
- Gorbachev knows some of the things wrong with his society and is trying to fix them.

Bush 41 and Gorbachev:

- vice president for 8 years.
- Good foreign policy background - had been Reagan's main rival in 1980.
- Cabinet - Dick Cheney (defence), Donald Rumsfeld.
- New breeze is blowing, and a world refreshed by freedom seems reborn.
- Great nations of the world are moving towards democracy through the door to freedom.
- We will continue our new closeness with the Soviet union, consistent with our own security and progress.
- Said that Containment worked, and a new aim was the welcome the USSR back into the world order.
- Gorbachev - end of the Brezhnev doctrine in July 1989.
- Gorbachev renounced intervention in Poland.
- 9 Nov 1989 - fall of the Berlin wall.
- Momentum.
- December 1989 - formal meeting announcing the end of the CW.
- Increasing possibility - communist east Germany would end up being taken over by W Germany - merger - worrying at the time - to European leaders like Thatcher and Mitterrand - pace of German unification, and of Nazism, a new Germany would end up being like the old Germany - feared that the new Germany would undermine Gorbachev's position.
- "New world order 1990"
- Aug 1990 - Iraqi invasion of Kuwait ordered by Saddam Hussein - UN condemned action.
- Coalition against Hussein - US launched operation Desert Shield.
- New world order - through closeness and cooperation - to emerge from the Persian Gulf crisis.
- Madrid conference on the Middle East - Oslo accords (Aug 1993)
- Bush-Gorbachev - 1 August 1991 - START 1.
- August Coup - 1991 - importance - Old Guard - attempt to overthrow Gorbachev- reforms and concessions - hard liners and those seeking more radical reform - attempt in Moscow to undermine Gorbachev's position.
- Becoming more and more unpopular, being criticised by more radical reformers for not going far enough - attacked from both sides within the USSR.
- 25 December 1991 - Gorbachev resigned as the Soviet President,
- 26 December 1991 - Formal dissolution of the Soviet Union.
- Boris Yeltsin - Russian president and critic of Gorbachev - led resistant to coup and became iconic figure.
- Yeltsin was unpredictable figure - became replacement.

- Washington Charter - 1992 (June) - high point of US and Russian relations.
- Yeltsin became President of Russia - empaled from rapid transition from Socialism to capitalism in Russia, Russian GDP declined by 50% from 1989 to 1993.
- Summit in Washington DC (June 1992) signed Washington charter on new military and economic relationship between the US and Russia - Bush referred to search for a permanent democratic peace.
- Yeltsin years - led to economic and social turmoil in Russia, and reaction against the US in 1990s - led in turn to the rise of Vladimir Putin.