

Both sides wanted D�tente because:	The USA wanted D�tente because:	The USSR want D�tente because:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They were shocked by how close the Cold War had come to nuclear war during the Cuban Missile Crisis.</li> <li>• Building and maintaining nuclear weapons was very expensive.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The financial and human costs of the Vietnam War were very high, with both money and American lives.</li> <li>• The war was increasingly unpopular with the American public.</li> <li>• Nixon wanted to improve relations with China.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting communist regimes across the globe was very expensive and the Soviet economy was overstretched</li> <li>• Nixon's advances to China worried Brezhnev.</li> </ul>

After the Cuban Missile Crisis, both sides realised the need for D tente. In 1963 the Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty was signed and the 'hotline' between Moscow and Washington was set up. In 1969 both East and West Germany agreed not to develop nuclear weapons.

## SALT 1

Strategic Arms Limitations Talks (SALT) were formal meetings between the superpowers, which began in November 1969. Three treaties were signed:

- The Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty limited anti-ballistic nuclear weapons to 200 each.
- The Interim Treaty limited numbers of ICBMs. The Soviets had more, but the USA had more strategic bombers.
- In the Basic Principles Treaty, the USA and the USSR pledged 'to do their utmost to avoid military confrontation' and 'to exercise restraint' in international relations.

These treaties were signed by Brezhnev and Nixon in Moscow, in May 1972, after Nixon had visited China. Nixon's visit to China had worried the Soviets into action. When Nixon was re-elected US President in 1972, plans began for SALT 2. Brezhnev had consolidated his position. The role of the two leaders was front page news, and allowed the world to believe a nuclear war could be avoided.



## STRETCHIT!

The agreement between East and West Germany not to develop nuclear weapons was part of Ostpolitik, the brainchild of Willy Brandt. He was the Chancellor of West Germany, and pushed the thawing of economic relations between East and West in Europe. Research Ostpolitik and Brandt. Consider the significance of these actions.

# CHECKIT!



1. Give two reasons why people in Eastern Europe wanted to move to the West through West Berlin.
2. Give two reasons why the Berlin Wall was constructed.
3. Explain why building the wall increased tension between the two superpowers.
4. Give a long-, medium-, and short-term cause of the Cuban Missile Crisis.
5. List the rights some Czechs wanted that led to the Prague Spring.
6. What did the Brezhnev Doctrine state?
7. What was the biggest source of tension between the superpowers in the late 1960s? Why?
8. Explain the main reasons for D tente.