6th Grade Social Studies

A Changing Wor	d
1 \	Vinston Churchill – "iron curtain" separated Eastern
Europe fro	m Western Europe
2. Cold War	ensions
a	U.S. & Soviet Union
i.	U.S. feared that communism would spread to other
	nations (even by force)
ii.	Soviet Union feared that U.S. would spread its culture
	& ideas about democracy to countries that they
	controlled
b	policy to keep the Soviet Union and China
from	spreading communism
i.	Focused on nonmilitary actions
	1. Both countries prepared for war
	2. Arms race began
	3 U.S. joined European nations (Britain,
	Italy, France) in the (North Atlantic Treaty
	Organization
	4Soviet Union allied with Hungary, Poland.

What fueled tensions between the U.S. and the Soviet Union?

and Romania in the _____ Pact

1. Korea and Cuba

a. After WWII, Korea was divided into 2 parts

I	. = communist with the help of Soviet Union
ii	North Korea invaded South Korea to unite all
	of Korea under communist government
	1. U.S. and United Nations sent troops to protect
	South Korea
	2. Soviet Union and China sent troops to protect
	North Korea
iii	Korean War ended (no victories)
	1. Border at the 38 th parallel or 98 degrees north
	latitude
b	U.S. & Soviet Union tensions have increased
C	U.S. discovered Soviet missiles in Cuba
i	. President JFK demanded that Khrushchev
	have them removed
ii	. JFK ordered blockades to stop Soviet shipments of
	supplies to Cuba
	1. Soviet Union ships continued to sail towards the
	blockade but turned at the last minute
	2. Cuban Missile Crisis
	a. Almost caused a war
d	U.S and Soviet Union signed a treaty to limit
nuc	lear weapon testing
Why did Presid	ent Kennedy order a blockade against Cuba?
1. Vietnam	
a	Vietnam had won its independence from France
i	. Still divided into northern and southern regions

	ii.	North Vietnam-communist government supported by	
		China and Soviet Union	
	iii.	South Vietnam was supported by U.S.	
b.		North Vietnam and South Vietnam went to war	
	beca	use they failed to reunite through elections	
	i.	U.S. sent military advisers to help the South Vietnam	
		army win the war	
	ii.	Victory seemed to no happen	
		1. President Lindon Johnson ordered U.S. soldiers to	
		Vietnam	
c.		180,000 U.S. soldiers fought in Vietnam	
d.		390,000 U.S. soldiers fought in Vietnam	
e.		550,000 U.S. soldiers fought in Vietnam	
f.	Americans hated this		
g.	. President Nixon increased bombing in Vietnam		
h.		U.S., North & South Vietnam agreed to stop fighting	
i.	58,00	00 Americans had died in the war	
j.	360,0	000 Americans had been	
k.	April	1975-North Vietnam captured (South	
	Vietr	nam capital)	
l.	Nort	h Vietnam had won	
	i.	Communism spread throughout all of Vietnam	
	ii.	U.S. stopped all trade with Vietnam until	

What inferences can you make about the increase in the number of soldiers sent to Vietnam?

The End of the Cold War
 adetente (policy to relax the tensions between
communist nations and democratic nations)
bPresident Nixon met with Mao Zedong in China
 i. Agreed to allow trade and some travel between two
nations even though China is a communist country
cSoviet Union was weak due to Cold War
 U.S. gained economic strength
ii. President Reagan believed "peace through strength"
 Increased defense spending
dGorbachev became Soviet Union leader
 Introduced new policies to help the weak economy
and people
1. Perestroika ()
2. Glasnost () gave new freedom to
speak without fear of being punished
ii. Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia-called for total independence
e. 1989 1sr European country to gain
independence from Soviet Union
fEast and West Germany reunited
gSoviet Union divided into 15 independent
republics
i. Gorbachev stepped down
ii. Cold War ended
What policies helped lead to the collapse of the Soviet Union?
Vocabulary
Superpower
Containment
Detente