13th January

Why did the Cold War end?
Lesson 4 - The US response to the invasion of Afghanistan

Learning Gain - by the end of this lesson I will be able to analyse the US reaction to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and how this contributed to the end of detente

Learning Steps:

• Identify the US reactions to the Soviet invasion
• Interrogate and explain the main features of the end of detente
What would you do?

You are an advisor to US president Jimmy Carter. The Soviet Union has just invaded Afghanistan. What should Carter do?

Come up with the pros and cons of the different options the US could take.
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<th>Option</th>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
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<td>Launch a military invasion of Afghanistan to aid the mujahideen</td>
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<td>Have the CIA provide weapons, funds and training to the mujahideen</td>
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<td>Block trade to the Soviet Union</td>
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<td>End diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union</td>
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<td>Do nothing and maintain detente</td>
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Decision time...

Which option do you think Carter should take?

Write a short paragraph in your book, selecting your chosen option and JUSTIFY your decision.
The Carter Doctrine

President Carter was under pressure in November 1979 following the Iran hostage crisis. He was accused of being a weak leader. He took a firm and decisive approach to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. This became known as the Carter Doctrine.

The Carter Doctrine: a policy that stated that the USA would use military force if necessary to defend its national interests in the Persian Gulf region.
The Carter Doctrine

"Let our position be absolutely clear: an attempt by any outside force to gain control of the Persian Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States of America, and such an assault will be repelled by any means necessary, including military force".

From President Carter's State of the Union speech on 23 January 1980
Delayed the passing of the SALT II treaty

Economic sanctions imposed on the Soviet Union

What other actions did President Carter take?

Formed an alliance with China and Israel to support the mujahideen. The CIA provided rebels with weapons, funds and training

The USA boycotted the 1980 Olympics in Moscow

Diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union ended - Detente was dead
1980 Moscow Olympics

In protest at the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, US president Carter boycotted the 1980 Olympics. 59 other countries also joined the boycott.

In retaliation, the USSR organised a communist-bloc boycott of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

Is it wrong to use sport as an extension of Cold War tactics?
Can you think of any long term consequences of the 1979-1989 war in Afghanistan?