

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.



| Option | Pros | Cons |
|--|------|------|
| Launch a military invasion of Afghanistan to aid the mujahideen | | |
| Have the CIA provide weapons, funds and training to the mujahideen | | |
| Block trade to the Soviet Union | | |
| End diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union | | |
| Do nothing and maintain detente | | |

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

Main



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

Main

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?

