

Mao 2

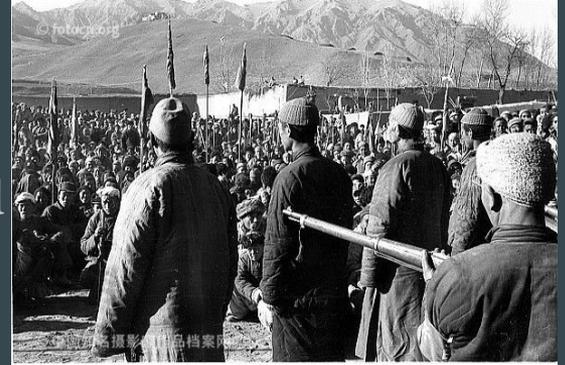
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Period 3

Aims and Impact of domestic economic, political, cultural and social policies

Land Reforms; 土地改革

- In June 1950, a “campaign” of land reform was launched
 - Popular slogan was: “dig the bitter roots, vomit the bitter water”.
 - Although Mao claimed 800,000 deaths, up to 2 million people were killed
- Afterwards, the campaign shifted towards cooperatively farming
 - Peasants often joined with others to increase efficiency as profits were based on how much each peasant produced
 - By 1952, grain production increased by 10% in 1936 and in 1953, 40% of peasants households were a part of some type of collective farming group



More Collective Land Reforms

- Starting in 1954, party cadres encouraged peasants to create APCs in which lands was pooled and collectively owned
- Very limited opposition because of propaganda and the real benefits of APCs
 - APCs were the only way to get bank loans
 - Most reliable way to purchase seeds on farming tools
 - Unlocked more labor for harvesting time

Year	Mutual aid (5–10 households): equipment and animals pooled but private ownership retained	Lower level co-operatives (30–50 households): pooling of land but share of profits partly based on how much land/equipment contributed	Higher level co-operatives (collectives/APCs) (200–300 households): land collectively owned/small allotments permitted
1953	39.3	0.2	–
1954	58.3	1.9	–
1955	32.7	63.3	4.0
1956	3.7	8.5	87.8
1957	–	–	93.5

The first Five-Year Plan (1953-57)

- This plan had a heavy focus on industrial growth in which all private industries and businesses were nationalized
- Industrial sectors like iron, steel, energy, transportation, communications and machinery were set up with high goals in mind
 - Capital was raised by paying low prices to peasants for grain
- Immense industrial plans were set to be built all over China
- According to official statistics, heavy industrial output nearly trebled and light industry rose 70% during this period. Overall targets were exceeded by 20%
 - The urban population grew from 57 million (1949) to 100 million (1957)

Reasons for the Great Leap Forward

- To reassert China's independence from the Soviet Union
- The pace of change had been too slow and Mao wanted to prove himself after the failure of the 100 flowers campaign
- The want to develop both industry and agriculture
- The slow rise in agricultural productivity had meant a shortage of capital
- Pay differentials between skilled and unskilled workers had appeared in 1956 to provide incentivisation
- The CCP was becoming bureaucratic and Mao wanted to reduce the influence of central planning ministries



During the Great Leap Forward

- The 'leap' involved improvements to infrastructure and further industrial growth to increase output beyond the levels previously considered feasible
 - Even children were set to make bricks from earth and water or smash earth and stones to make concrete
- Many industrials had state subsidies, fixed rates of pay, conditions and output targets
- There was a particular emphasis on the production of steel, with a target of 10.7 million tonnes a year by 1959 and 60 million tonnes by 1960.
 - Small-scale, 'backyard' industrial projects began on farm units
 - Around 600,000 furnaces were made

Aftermath of Great Leap Forward

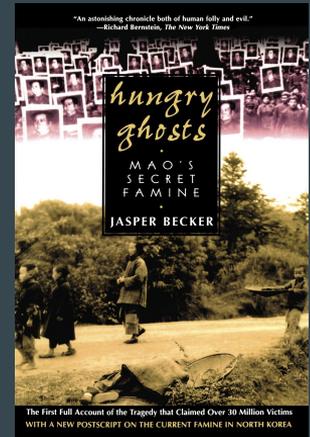
- There was undoubtedly an unprecedented period of economic growth and rural industrialisation spread and China's infrastructure was developed.
- Steel production increased, but barely 1% of what was produced was usable.

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Grain	195.1	200.0	170.0	143.5	147.5	160.0
Steel	5.4	8.0	10.0	13.0	8.0	8.0
Oil (millions of barrels)	1.5	2.3	3.7	4.5	4.5	5.3
Chemical fertilisers	0.8	1.4	2.0	2.5	1.4	2.1
Cotton (billions of metres)	5.0	5.7	7.5	6.0	3.0	3.0
Coal	131.0	230.0	290.0	270.0	180.0	180.0



Aftermath of Great Leap Forward

- In the countryside, the results were even worse. In 1959, the government took 28% of peasants' grain, as opposed to 17% in 1957
- Government policies and the worst drought for a century in northern and central China in 1960, plus flooding in the south, produced a catastrophic famine
 - During 1959 and 1961, between 20 and 50 million died.
 - “While I was writing Wild Swans I thought the famine was the result of economic mismanagement but during the research I realised that it was something more sinister.”-Chang
 - Grain was imported from Australia and Canada to feed the starving



Recovery from the Great Misstep Backwards

- In 1961, the communes were reorganised, reduced in size and made less regimented
- Pay rates were changed to take work and output into account and backyard steel furnaces were quietly abandoned
- Peasants' time was no longer wasted on unnecessary industrial work or military marches around the fields
 - By January 1962, 20% of arable land was being farmed individually.
- It took at least five years just to recover from the damage to agriculture although the revival of industry was faster

Mass Mobilisation Campaigns (Political/ Social)

- The resist America and aid Korea campaign, 1950
 - Rallies were held to increase Chinese suspicion of foreigners, particularly those from the West and by the end of 1950, the country was closed to all foreigners, except Russians
- The suppression of counter-revolutionaries campaign, 1950–51
 - This focused on those with links to the GMD, criminal gangs and religion.
- The three antis campaign, 1951
 - This was a campaign against corruption, waste and obstruction
- The five antis campaign, 1952
 - This was a campaign against bribery, tax-evasion, theft of state property, cheating in government contracts and economic espionage
 - Employers had to provide self-criticisms and undergo ‘thought reform’

The 100 flowers campaign, 1956–57

- In 1956, Mao lifted censorship restrictions and encouraged open criticism of the the way the party had been working
 - “Letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend is the policy for promoting progress in the arts and the sciences and a flourishing socialist culture”
- In May and June 1957, the central government received a deluge of letters criticizing the government and rallies began on the streets
- In early July 1957, Mao called the campaign off and reimposed censorship
- He had either achieved his aim of entrapment (Jung Chang) or severely misjudged the scale of criticism that the campaign would unleash (Philip Short)



Cultural Revolution 1966-76

- Students would serve as the vanguard of the revolution and were later called the Red Guard
 - Attack the four olds “old ideas, culture, customs, and habits”
- They caused a tremendous amount of damage to churches, libraries, museums and temples, and effectively closed down schools and universities for months
- Government leaders such as Zhu De and Deng Xiaoping were denounced as reactionaries and sent to work camps
- By the end of 1966, Mao had begun to lose control of the situation as the Red Guards themselves split into factions and began to fight each other



Impact of Cultural Revolution

- Millions of people (as high as 12 million) were sent into the countryside to learn from the peasants how to be “revolutionary”
- The cost to China of the Cultural Revolution economically and socially was incalculable and up to 100 million people suffered as a result of it
- Education was disrupted and many intellectuals, teachers and scientists were sent into the countryside
 - Hsu calls it “anticultural, anti-intellectual and anti-scientific”
- ‘The Great Cultural Revolution from May 1966 to October 1976 caused the most devastating setback and heavy losses to the party, the state, and the people in the history of the People’s Republic, and this Great Cultural Revolution was initiated and led by Comrade Mao Zedong’ (CPC)

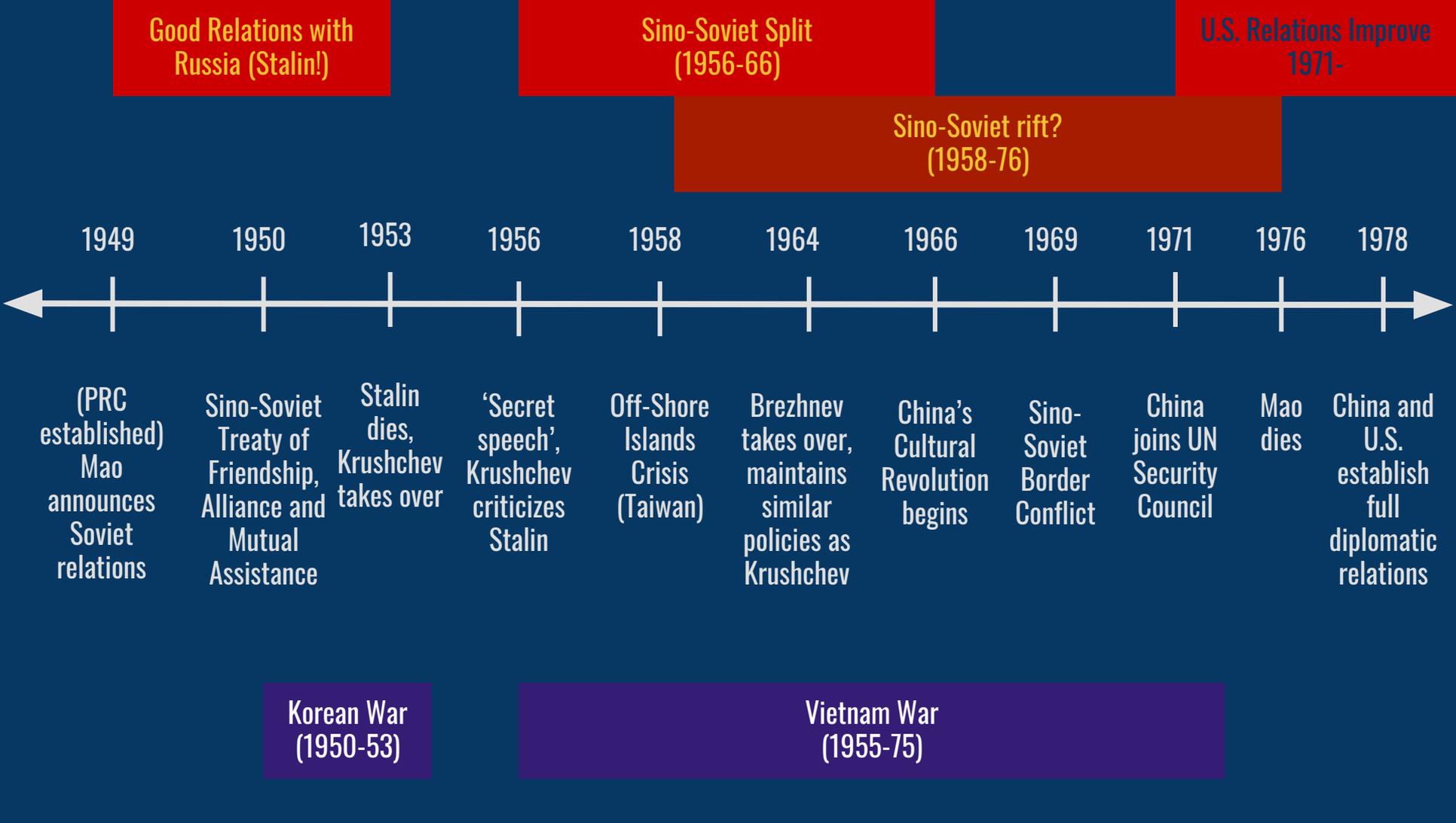
Education

- In 1949, only about 1 in 10 Chinese could read and many could not write and only 20% of children went to primary school and around 1% to secondary
- Chinese characters were simplified for quick learning with Pinyin being approved by the National People's Congress in 1964
- Literacy rates increased, reaching 50% of the population in 1960, 66% in 1964 and 70% by 1976 and By 1976, 96% of children aged 7–16 were in schools.
- The focus on political education, the anti-intellectualism of the regime, and the politically oriented criteria for admission
 - Schools became centres for indoctrination, encouraging the cult of the leader.

Discussion Questions

- How did the economic goals of Mao shift and as such how did his economic policies change?
- To what extent was Mao efficient in improving the country and the lives of Chinese people?
- Which quote do you think best reflects Mao “visionary, statesman, political and military strategist of genius who combined a subtle, dogged mind, awe-inspiring charisma and fiendish cleverness to produce remarkable achievements for China” (Short) or “Chang has called him the greatest mass murderer in human history, responsible for the deaths of over 70 million people.. Mao persecuted individuals simply because of their thoughts, thus making him more tyrannical” (Chang) ?

Foreign(-ish) Policy



USSR - Stalin!

- 1949, PRC established, Mao announces that China Will lean towards the USSR and away from the U.S.
 - Why? The whole communism thing
 - Despite the USSR's lack of support during the civil war
 - USSR was the most likely source of funds and technology
 - Getting financial aid from Stalin was like “getting meat from the mouth of a tiger”
- *Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance, and Mutual Assistance, 1950*
 - Soviets would aid China if it went to war
 - 50 industrial projects set up with Soviet assistance
 - China would receive a loan of \$300 million over 5 years
 - “The Soviet Union’s Today is our Tomorrow”



The Korean War

- 1950, war in Korea breaks out, Mao focused on Taiwan
- Stalin urged China to intervene, as UN forces advanced towards the Chinese border
 - Assurances of Soviet air support were enough for Mao to send 300,000 ‘volunteer’ soldiers (eventually 3 million)
 - Armistice signed 1953
- Outcomes
 - Estimated 400,000 Chinese soldiers killed, poor leadership
 - 1951, military expenses were 55% of government spending
 - Government was taking grain from peasants
 - Would take a decade to make up for losses in industrial production
 - Pressure to repay Stalin for Soviet supplies worsened pressure on the budget
 - Showed China could stand up to the US and not be defeated
 - Raised China’s status as a revolutionary and anti-imperialist power



USSR - Stalling Relations (sorry)

- 1953, Stalin dies, Khrushchev takes over
- *Khrushchev denounced Stalin's purges and began a process of de-Stalinization ('Secret Speech', 1956)*
 - Mao infuriated because Khrushchev criticize Stalin's cult of personality, Mao had developed his own
 - Mao also disagreed with Khrushchev's 'peaceful coexistence' with the West
 - Khrushchev also criticized Mao's behavior during the Off-Shore Islands Crisis in 1958
- *Khrushchev's criticism weakened Mao's position*





“What are the requirements for worthy successors to the revolutionary cause of the proletariat?”

...

“They must be genuine Marxist-Leninists and **not revisionists like Khrushchev wearing the cloak of Marxism-Leninism.**”

...

“Khrushchev who serves both the interests of the handful of members of the **privileged bourgeois stratum** in his own country and those of **foreign imperialism** and reaction”

They must especially watch out for careerists and conspirators like Khrushchev and prevent such bad elements from usurping the leadership of the party and the state at any level.

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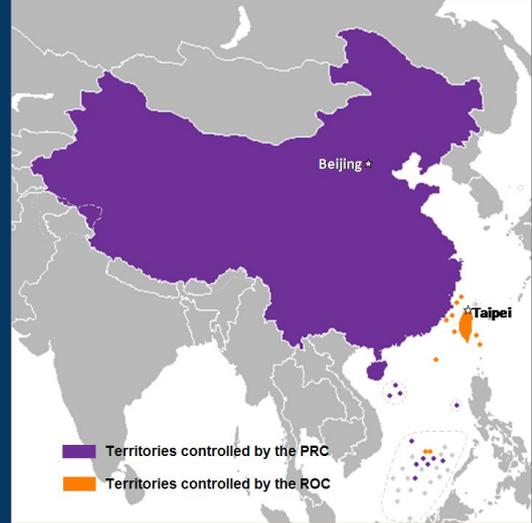
They must not be despotic like Khrushchev and violate the Party's democratic centralism, make surprise attacks on comrades or act arbitrarily and dictatorially

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They must never cover up all their errors like Khrushchev, and claim all the credit for themselves and shift all the blame on others

Taiwan, “The Republic of China”, 台灣

- Nationalist (GMD) stronghold
- Obsession of the PRC, which yearns to reunite all of China
 - Taiwan was also very wealthy, had a GNP growth rate and per capita income twice that of the PRC
- The Chinese Off-Shore Islands Crisis, 1958
 - Conflict over Quemoy and Matsu
 - Prepared to invade Taiwan, but the US was protecting it (after the start of the Korean War)
 - Could have escalated to nuclear war...
 - Mao blamed the Soviets for not offering support
 - Khrushchev denounced the CCP as reckless



Sino-Soviet Rift 1958-76

- *Who would lead the revolution?*
- China produced their first hydrogen bomb in 1964, Mao announced he was willing to use it, alarming the Soviets
- Relations continued to deteriorate under Brezhnev (1964)
- Vietnam War (1955-75)
 - Both countries contributing to the communist forces, but were not on speaking terms
 - 1968, USSR invaded Czechoslovakia, China demanded Hanoi cut ties, refused, China began withdrawing in preparation for a clash with the Soviet Union...



Sino-Soviet Relations Continued ~~Stalin~~ Deteriorating

- 1969, Sino-Russian border conflict
 - 1968, USSR stationed 375,000 men, 1,200 aeroplanes, 120 medium range missiles at the border, China had 1.5 million men
 - “The Chinese gave their soldiers the credit for their victories over the better equipped Soviets citing superior intellect and spirit of the Chinese soldier. Chinese propaganda described the Soviet troops as being politically degenerated and morally decadent”
 - Helped to convince China to move towards the US
- Mao died in 1976, his successor, Deng Xiaoping, adopted a more tolerant approach.

Trying to Overtake the USSR

- *Bandung Conference in Indonesia 1955*
 - Reaction to the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO), which was put together by the US after the Korean War
 - Representatives of 29 countries, such as India, Sri Lanka, Burma, Yugoslavia, Egypt
 - To discuss Asian-African affairs and to stress the need for post-colonial states to assist each other in economic progress and to adopt a neutral stance in the Cold War
 - The US wouldn't really give the former colonies much support because it could alienate some of their allies (like the UK and France)
- *Belgrade Conference of 1961*
 - Formal name; "Non-Aligned Movement" adopted
 - China's aim was to become the beacon for the development among developing countries, but this didn't happen under Mao, they were overshadowed by the Soviet Union

Still trying...

- By the 1970's, Mao was less concerned with matters in the developing world because China's status on the world stage had dramatically improved
- *PRC was never able to replace the USSR as the leader of the 'world revolution'*
 - Only succeeded in Albania...
 - Albanian socialist leader Enver Hoxha was also offended by the secret speech, USSR cut aid to Albania, China stepped in with 'money and technical assistance', mostly to annoy Khrushchev...







Shift in the 1970s

HISTORICAL CONCEPT

- PRC replaced Taiwan on the UN Security Council in 1971
- 1972, Cultural Revolution coming to an end, China's foreign policy shifted
 - Nixon visited Beijing, met with Mao
 - China was still a second-tier power compared to the Soviet Union
 - As the Sino-Soviet Split deepened, there was an opportunity to improve relations with the US
- Decade of *détente*, US/USSR relationships improve
 - US wanted to end the war in Vietnam, had to talk to both the USSR and China, who weren't on good terms

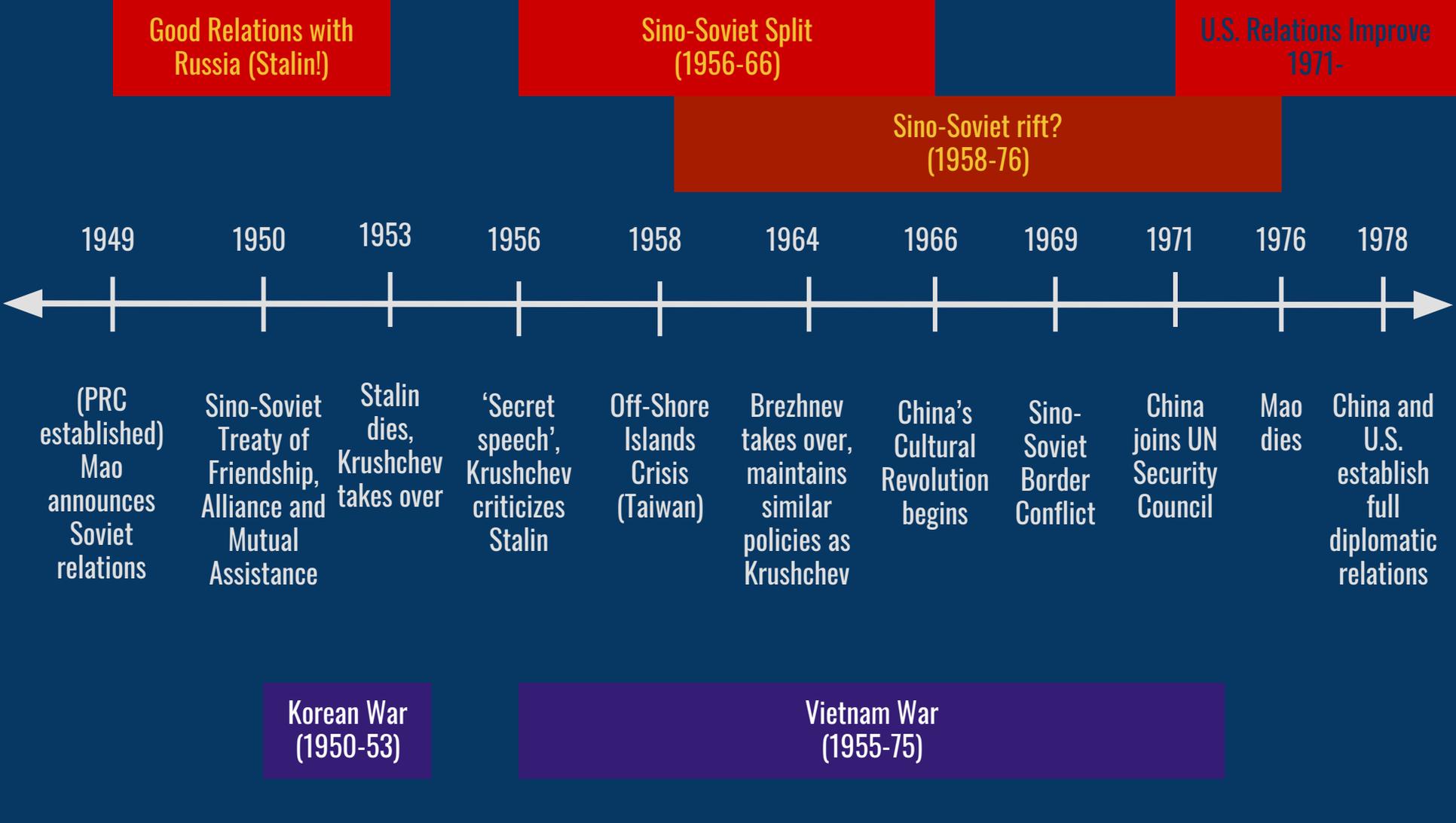
Improving U.S. Relations



- Oct. 1971, UN General Assembly voted in favour of the PRC taking over the ROC's seat on the Security Council
 - China now had right of veto, bolstered growing status as a world power, could properly annoy the USSR
- 'Ping-pong diplomacy' and Nixon's visit to China in Feb. 1972
 - Began normalizing relations
 - Shanghai Communiqué
 - US acknowledge the One China Policy (mostly), and cut back military installations in Taiwan
- Shift in relations surprised the Chinese people, who, for decades, considered the US to be an arch-enemy

Discussion Questions

- Discuss the shifts in Mao's foreign policy, as well as the causes for these shifts.
- Evaluate the impact of Mao's foreign policy on his consolidation of power. (and how these policies contributed to the establishment of China as a greater world power, maybe)



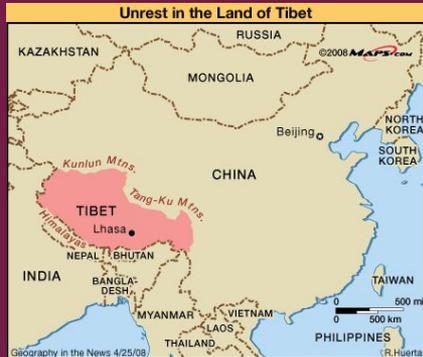
The impact of policies on women and minorities

Ethnic Minorities - Context & Main Ideas

- Most of the Chinese population were descendants of the Han Chinese, so there weren't many minorities
 - In 1949: Minorities accounted for less than 6% of the total population
- Despite the minority population being so low, the government has spent a lot of resources on minorities and the areas they live in since 1949 for some of the following reasons
 - Internal and external tensions based on geographic location
 - Propaganda- Mao wanted to showcase minorities as prosperous as living proof of his communist ideals to be beneficial to all

Tibet and Xinjiang

- Tibet
 - Invaded in 1950-51, lead to Agreement of Peaceful Liberation of Tibet (renamed to Xizang)
 - Agreed to preserve culture and religion, yet a military committee was put into place to run Tibet
 - Infrastructure projects were completed however they didn't respect Tibetan society
 - 1959 Tibetan unrest became more serious, worsened relationship with India (Sino- Indian War 1962)
- Xinjiang
 - Majority population Muslim Uyghur
 - Given representation in People's Council, real control with army



Women - Context & Main Ideas

- Condoned historical injustices such as: arranged marriages, footbinding, concubines
- Mao attempted to create the appearance that he was a supporter of women's rights however, there was a stark difference between the ideology and the reality of the PRC (think appearance vs. reality 😊)
 - “Women hold up half the sky”
 - PRC is a very male dominated system



- Changes in legislation for women's rights were not sustainable due to prioritizing the state over families

Political and Economic Sphere

- Women only made up 13% of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)
- National People's Congress rose from 14-23% of women
 - Little to no evidence with CCP making efforts to help women
- Women working quadrupled from 8 to 32 percent (1949-1976) (composition of workforce)
 - Only successful when the job fit
- Helen Gao (social policy analyst) : “While the Communist revolution brought women more job opportunities, it also made their interests subordinate to collective goals.”
 - Anecdote: Her grandmother was a journalist in the early years of the PRC, and she wrote down Chairman Mao's latest pronouncements as they came through loudspeakers and talking with joyous peasants from the newly collectivized countryside.

Marriage Reform

- 1950s PRC introduced the Marriage Reform Act
 1. Concubinage was abolished
 2. Arranged marriages forbidden
 3. Dowries forbidden
 4. Women (and men) who had been previously forced to marry were permitted to divorce
 5. All marriages had to be registered with the state
- Many women saw the Marriage Reform Act as a positive
 - Divorced and remarried several times (sometimes up to 4 husbands within a few years)
 - As a reaction the government added a special clause to People's Liberation Army (PLA)
 - Soldier's could override their wives requests to divorce

Familial Structure and how collectivization destroyed it

- Land reform legislation granted women land in their own name
 - Gains short lived because collectivization of agriculture took away the rights of both men and women to own land
- Collectivization = attack on family
 - Mao said destroying the family was necessary for the state
 - Personal love < loyalty to the Party
 - Chairman Mao = father
 - Married couples: men and women were separated and could only see each other to procreate



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Familial Structure and how collectivization destroyed it

- Women suffered to provide for their children during the famine years
 - Many decided that one child would starve so that the rest could survive (girls suffered first and as famine worsened boys did too)
 - Children abandoned and motherless
 - Vulnerable to exploitation by CCP officials
 - Prostitution thrived - women exchanged themselves for food, brothels set up for Party members
- Cultural Revolution
 - Nuclear family attacked as part of one of the four olds

Discussion Questions

- To what extent did the lives of women in Communist China improve? (both legislation and what actually happened)
- Compare and contrast the effects of collectivization on men and women (children as well).

**Authoritarian control and the extent to which
it was achieved**

The Purges of Mao

- In early 1954, Mao began his first major purge of leading members of the CCP, following debate around the launch of his five-year plan for industry
 - Gao Gang and Rao Shushi
- In August, 1959, Defense Minister Peng Dehuai is ousted after he criticizes Mao's sponsorship of the Great Leap Forward; Peng replaced by Lin Biao.
- In 1966, (cultural revolution) a host of Party veterans — most notably Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping — are purged
- In 1972, Death of Lin Biao after alleged coup attempt (died in a plane crash to USSR)

Totalitarian Government and how it affected the people

- Sought to gain respect and trust from the people, and then prioritize the states needs over their own
 - Peasants-as many communist revolutions focus on industrial workers, Mao believed that in China the revolution must start on the agricultural side of society
 - Created many peasant unions, the Long March served was symbolic to many, despite the high casualty rate
 - However, many were hurt by the Great Leap Forward
 - Transition from family farms to large farms called “People’s Communes” with unattainable production quotas
 - Sold some of the food to USSR for heavy machinery
 - 30 million died as a direct or indirect cause of the Great Leap Forward

Totalitarian Government and how it affected the people

- *The Cultural Revolution*
 - Younger people saw this as a chance to revolt against their elders
- *The Red Guards*
 - *Teenagers who set out to destroy “the real enemies of Mao Zedong”*
 - Went out in rival mobs - tried to outdo each other
 - *Violence was used against anyone who “wasn’t revolutionary enough”*, savage beatings were frequent
- *Losses* due to Mao’s Policies
 - Education system broken
 - Economic losses
 - Historical artistic legacy destroyed
 - *Society fractured*

Compare and Contrast Activity

Document with comparisons is here:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YThCY9i3_Rxlum-PnujJ4nEg7yEl12fqpPDjkTrJ5jl/edit

Mao

Mao and Stalin

Mao and Hitler

Mao and Castro

All leaders

Mao
(1,4, 9,10)

Mao and Stalin
(3, 9ish,13, 15,17,18)

Mao and Hitler
(3ish, 22)

Mao and Castro
(5, 6, 7, 13, 14, 19, 21)

All leaders
(2,8,11,12,16, 20)

Works Cited (In the link below)

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zmVRUH2os0S8q9Os8CEpG-s8Tui7KfuOUqHdADdWH9U/edit?usp=sharing>