Peaceful Coexistence and Détente

1. Peaceful Coexistence: 1953-1962
   Periodization of the Cold War:
   a. High Cold War, 1945-1953 (Stalin period)
   b. Peaceful Coexistence, 1953-1962
   Conflict and cooperation (oscillating antagonism?)
   A. Soviet side:
      Khrushchev’s adventures (risk-taking)
      (1) ideological romanticism/China factor
      (2) Driven by strategic inferiority
      (3) Domestic opposition (1957 anti-Party group—Malenkov/Molotov)/Zhukov
      (4) Third World competition.
   B. American side
   C. Consequences of the Cuban Missile crisis—

2. Khrushchev and Soviet military Doctrine
   Soviet rejection of MAD: why?
   Khrushchev’s nuclear revolution/sputnik/ Strategic Rocket Force/Supreme Soviet speech (1960)
   Peculiarity of Soviet military doctrine (political/military-technical)/Bonapartism
      Military science and military art
      Sokolovsky—1962, Strategy—enunciated Soviet nuclear doctrine
      —first strike strategy, and counterforce strategy, emphasis on civil defense.

3. Transition from Peaceful Coexistence to Détente: 1962-1968
   64. Khrushchev ousted/64 LBJ’s Americanization of the Vietnam War/65 PRC atomic bomb, 67, H-bomb/66 France withdrew from NATO/68, Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia

   What changed? Strategic parity /Change in international system/China/Third World competition
   A. American perspectives: Nixon/Kissinger
      Détente—one way of containment.
      (1) arms control
      (2) linkage
      (3) China card
      (4) Brzezinski-Carter’s approach
   B. Soviet perspectives:
      correlative of forces/arms control/third world competition moving in favor of the USSR.
      Irreconcilable differences