Reagan, the New Cold War, and Gorbachev’s New Political Thinking

1. Reagan and the New Cold War
Reagan’s 1980 election victory
Military Buildup (MX, B1 Bomber, Trident II, Euromissiles, Weinberger Doctrine)
INF:
   - Extended deterrence
   - Soviet conventional superiority/countered by NATO INFs
   - US INFs smaller than Soviet theater nuclear force (SS-4s, SS-5s)
   - Strategic arms control
   - Soviet modernization (SS-20s)
   - Helmut Schmidt’s concern
1979 NATO dual decision (deployment of Euromissiles
   108 Pershing IIs, and 464 GLCMs in Britain, Germany, Italy)
   - Soviet reaction: US attempt to adopt counterforce strategy
SDI (March 1983)
   - Reagan’s speech on “Evil Empire” “Crusade against Communism”
   - Rejection of business as usual
Reagan’s arms control policy
   - Against arms control itself, but forced to observe SALT II guidelines
   - Provoked anti-nuclear movement
   - Forced to present arms control policy
   - START position (deep cut)
   - INF negotiations, zero-zero option

2. Soviet reaction
   - at first welcomed Reagan’s election
   - KAL incident
   - Soviets heightened military alert. Able Archer Military Exercise
Reagan’s arms control policy
   - Reaction to SDI

3. Reagan’s Second Term
   - establishing a dialogue with the Soviet Union (George Schulz’s role)
   - 1985 Gorbachev’s coming to power, Geneva summit, Reykjavik summit

4. Gorbachev and the New Political Thinking
   - Interdependence and mutual security
   - Abandonment of class struggle—common human values
   - Reducing the military factor (third world conflict—withdrawal from Afghanistan)
   - Mutual security—reasonable sufficiency, defensive defense, rejection of deterrence
   - Abandonment of Clausevitz’s theory:
     "We will deprive you an enemy."
   - INF negotiations: acceptance of zero-zero option, inspection
   - START Treaty (deep cuts)
   - 1988 UN speech: unilateral disarmament (500,000 troop cut)
   - Rejection of the Brezhnev doctrine
   - Danger of de-ideologization