

## Practice: What caused the Cold War?

### SOURCE A

We (Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin) argued freely and frankly across the table. But at the end on every point unanimous agreement was reached ... We know, of course, that it was Hitler's hope and the German war lords' hope that we would not agree – that some slight crack might appear in the solid wall of allied unity ... But Hitler has failed. Never before have the major allies been more closely united – not only in their war aims but also in their peace aims.

Extract from President Roosevelt's report to the US Congress on the Yalta Conference, April 1945.

### SOURCE B

I have always worked for friendship with Russia but, like you, I feel deep anxiety because of their misinterpretation of the Yalta decisions, their attitude towards Poland, their overwhelming influence in the Balkans excepting Greece, the difficulties they make about Vienna, the combination of Russian power and the territories under their control or occupied, coupled with the Communist technique in so many other countries, and above all their power to maintain very large Armies in the field for a long time. What will be the position in a year or two?

Extract from a telegram sent by Prime Minister Churchill to President Roosevelt in May 1945.

### SOURCE D



A Soviet cartoon published in 1946.

### SOURCE C

#### OPERATION UNTHINKABLE REPORT BY THE JOINT PLANNING STAFF

We have examined Operation Unthinkable. As instructed, we have taken the following assumptions on which to base our examination:

Great Britain and the United States have full assistance from the Polish armed forces and can count upon the use of German manpower and what remains of German industrial capacity ...

Owing to the special need for secrecy, the normal staffs in Service Ministries have not been consulted.

#### OBJECT

The overall or political object is to impose upon Russia the will of the United States and British Empire. The only way we can achieve our object with certainty and lasting results is by victory in a total war.

Extract from a top secret document called Operation Unthinkable. It was presented by the Army Chiefs to Churchill in May 1945 but the research and planning had begun in February 1945.

### SOURCE E

A shadow has fallen upon the scenes so lately lighted by the Allied victory. From Stettin on the Baltic to Trieste on the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended. Behind that line lie all the states of central and eastern Europe. The Communist parties have been raised to power far beyond their numbers and are seeking everywhere to obtain totalitarian control. This is certainly not the liberated Europe we fought to build. Nor is it one which allows permanent peace.

A speech by Winston Churchill on 5 March, 1946. It was given in the USA and was broadcast widely. At the time Churchill was no longer British prime minister.

### SOURCE F

The following circumstances should not be forgotten. The Germans made their invasion of the USSR through Finland, Poland and Romania. The Germans were able to make their invasion through these countries because, at the time, governments hostile to the Soviet Union existed in these countries. What can there be surprising about the fact that the Soviet Union, anxious for its future safety, is trying to see to it that governments loyal in their attitude to the Soviet Union should exist in these countries?

A speech by Soviet leader Stalin given on 15 March, 1946. It was broadcast in the USSR and reported in Britain and the USA.

### SOURCE G



A publicity photograph of the Big Three taken at the Yalta Conference in 1945.

- 1 Study Sources A and B.  
How far do Sources A and B agree? Explain your answer using details from the sources. [8]
- 2 Study Source C.  
Are you surprised by Source C? Explain your answer using details from the source and your own knowledge. [7]
- 3 Study Source D.  
What is the cartoonist's message? Explain your answer using details from the sources and your own knowledge. [8]
- 4 Study Sources E and F.  
How far do you think Source E influenced Source F? Explain your answer using details from the sources and your own knowledge. [8]
- 5 Study Sources A–G.  
'The Cold War began because Churchill had such a poor relationship with Stalin.' How far do these sources support this statement? Use the sources to explain your answer. [9]