**US**
- Economy was booming
- 3 times manufacturing capacity of the USSR
- Dollar = world’s trading currency (Bretton Wood’s conference)
- Scarred by memories of Great Depression - poverty could attract communism
- Truman encouraged tension to justify arms spending, which in turn stimulated economy

**USSR**
- War was a tragedy - 27 million died / 1700 towns destroyed / lost most
- Biggest role in defeating Hitler
- Largest army - 11 million men
- World’s fastest growing economy

**Kennan’s Long Telegram**
- FEBRUARY 1946
  - Stalin wanted a neutral Germany to keep them weak
  - Truman wanted to avoid a repeat of post WW1
  - West unified (Bizonia/Trizonia) + currency change
  - Stalin blockaded West Berlin
  - Berlin Airlift ‘Operation Vittles’ / 2.3 million tons of supplies + B29 bombers in Britain
  - West were peaceful - Propaganda disaster for USSR
  - Failed to prevent FRG (Soviet response was ‘Comecon’ - two key economic areas

**Novikov’s Telegram**
- SEPTEMBER 1946
  - US were acting like ‘Imperialists’
  - Planning World Domination
  - Mutual Misconceptions

**Truman Doctrine**
- Policy of ‘containing’ communism
- Soviet response was ‘Cominform’ to ensure control of satellite states

**Marshall Plan**
- Promote economic recovery in Europe
- Led to increased trade/relationship with US
- 13.7 billion dollars (1948 - 1952)
- Soviet response was ‘Comecon’ - two key economic areas

**Dollar Diplomacy**
- US desire to have dominant economic position - avoid Great Depression

**Berlin Crisis 1948-9**
- Korea had been divided at 38th parallel at Potsdam
- Kim il Sung wanted to reunite Korea as communist
- Stalin agreed (1949 atom bomb, Communist China)
- NSC-68 - Implemented with UN involvement (USSR boycotting over China)
- MacArthur - drove communists out of South Korea
- ‘Roll-back’ towards China
- Showed military determination / willingness to engage in proxy wars
- Significance of US political pressure on policy making

**NSC-68**
- Saw world in ‘bipolar terms’
- Advocated ‘Roll-Back’ rather than ‘Containment’
- Justified excessive American defence spending

**McMahon:** ‘The Truman Doctrine thus amounted to a declaration of ideological cold war along with a declaration of geo-political cold war.’

**Roberts:** ‘The key event in precipitating this change in policy was the Marshall Plan.’

**Phillips:** US foreign policy seemed to confirm the West’s determination to undermine communism.’

**Mason:** ‘A fundamental clash of ideologies and interests.’