Defensive (GADDIS): The Stalinisation of Eastern Europe was a buffer zone that was required for security.

Role of Personalities (G. Roberts): If it hadn’t been Stalin the Stalinisation of Europe would have been very different.

The War of Words: George Kennan’s Long Telegram, February 1946. The USA needed to get the public on side to be able to get the money for Marshall Aid. They did this through creating fear through words and speeches. Not only did they need money for Marshall Aid, but also for espionage, building up arms, supporting other countries (e.g. Chiang Kai-Shek) and lastly and most importantly by building up arms to create fear. This caused the military and industrial complex to grow with billions of dollars. Churchill’s ‘Iron Curtain’ speech was said in America by a fallen politician but with Truman’s tacit agreement.

“World communism is like a malignant parasite that feeds only on diseased tissue” Kennan.

In response to Kennan’s Long Telegram was the Novikov Telegram this accused the USA of trying to start a war. It was a very aggressive response from Moscow. The USSR’s main priority was to break East Germany, they destroyed it economically and took their scientists, and they got the atomic bomb in 1949 by taking the scientists and threatening their families.

The Stuttgart Speech was given by US Secretary of State, James Byrnes in September 1947. “The German people should now be given responsibility for running their own ‘Führer’. NEED MORE INFORMATION.

SUMMARY of events leading to the breakdown of USA and USSR relations:

- Stalin’s actions in Poland and Eastern Europe
- Changing attitudes in the USSR to the West
  - Kennan’s telegram
  - Truman’s foreign policy clearer (unlike FDRs)
  - Churchill’s Iron Curtain Speech
- Dollar diplomacy
  - USA putting too many conditions on the reconstruction loan
- American suspicions of SU actions in Asia and the Middle East
  - Manchuria – some Soviets help Chinese communists
  - Korea – Soviet troops enter North Korea
  - Iran – Soviet troops remain after the March 1946 deadline
  - Turkey – attempts to gain military bases there
- Tensions over Germany
  - US seeks to rehabilitate Germany
  - USSR seeks to punish her and extract reparations
  - Zones run differently
- Atomic weapons