Can Kissinger be Unbiased?
Nixon’s Foreign Policy

• Return to T. Roosevelt (BoP), not Wilson (CS)

• *Realpolitik* – What would the US gain?

• **Nixon Doctrine** (1969)
  – Keep treaty commitments
  – Provide a shield if threatened by nuclear power
  – In non-nuclear situations, primary defensive responsibility to threatened nation

I’M PARTYING LIKE IT’S 1899!
  – RMN
Ambiguities (708-09)

- What happened if vital country menaced by non-nuclear power?
- If support automatic for nuclear threat, why have alliances?
- ND relevant to crisis on periphery threatened by USSR surrogates \(\rightarrow\) avoid another Vietnam.
Bye-Bye, Containment… (709-11)

- Theology vs. Psychiatric School
  - New Radicalism (Mailer) & Convergence Theory (Galbraith)

- Nixon rejected all three: National Interest
  - Negotiation & peaceful competition → relaxation of tensions
  - Similar on his desire to stop the spread of communism, different because he didn’t require the transformation of Soviet society.

But…but… where will I go?
- GK
Hello, Détente! (713-715)

- Nixon – “Era of negotiations”
- CHN & USSR division → 2-front tension
- Détente – Emphasize areas where cooperation was possible, then, leverage that cooperation to modify Soviet behavior in areas where two countries were at loggerheads
- 1959 – Albert Wohlstetter – theorized about the importance of arms control → Long Telegram-esque
Pros & Cons

• Pro: Eased tensions
• Con: Can’t trust Soviet leaders
• **KISS**: Political doctrine (C) had no answer to arms race & arms control had no answer to politics (716)
• **Linkage** – Use arms control to elicit USSR cooperation on Berlin, ME & Vietnam (717)
  – Media scrutiny followed; sabotage?
China?

- Even Adenauer & de Gaulle saw a problem for USSR here (720)
- General Western view on communist CHN was bad; they need to change before any negotiations
- Nixon said in ’68 campaign he would negotiate
The Human Eyebrow

• Khrushchev ousted in ’64→
• Leonid Brezhnev takes over in ’66
• Brezhnev Doctrine (1968) – Communist nations had the right to intervene in one another’s affairs if Warsaw Pact partner was pursuing policies detrimental to common interests of others
  – Used in Prague in ’68 & Afghanistan in ’79
  – US fear that he’d use it to subdue CHN

You wish you could pull this off – LB
Lover’s Quarrel? (721-726)

- 1969 – Escalating situation along Sino-Soviet border
- Nixon wants to bring CHN closer & shows interest in dialogue.
  - Lots of inviting overtures
  - Nixon warns USSR that US would defend CHN if attacked
  - “Deep concern” → **KISS**: Return of US Realpolitik
    - Brings both a desire to repair relations w/ USA
Winds of Change?

- Lin Piao – Mao’s heir, states that US/USSR equal threats → 1st step to Triangular Diplomacy
- 1971 – Kissinger makes secret trip to Beijing
- 1972 – Shanghai Communiqué – Kissinger & Zhou Enlai (728)
  - State differences
  - Normalize relations
  - Reduce danger
  - No Asian hegemony
  - No cooperation w/ USSR
Triangular Diplomacy (729)

- US bargaining position would be strongest when closer to both “communist giants”
  - Once CHN opens to US $\rightarrow$ USSR forced to relax tensions
  - **KISS**: Done because of unprecedented emphasis on analysis of national interest.
Reactions & Results

• After Kissinger’s “secret trip”, Kremlin invited Nixon to Moscow after stalling for a year

• KISS: Nixon wasn’t ultimately successful b/c he didn’t win hearts & minds rooted in exceptionalism, b/c of Vietnam, then b/c of Watergate (731)