

THE EDWARDIAN

Journal of the King Edward's Witley History Department

Editor: Oliver (Upper 6th)

Issue 2: December 2024

What was the main impact of the Watergate Scandal?

Who is responsible for the Cold War?

How much change was there in the British Empire?

Why did William win the Battle of Hastings?



From The Teachers

Mrs Francis

Welcome to this term's edition of the Edwardian. It has been great to pause and reflect on some of the excellent work our pupils have been producing in History.

This term our students have experienced new voices, new stories and new places which we hope served to bring the periods of history they have studied to life. The 1st Form have been exploring the Norman Conquest and honing their essay writing skills as shown in Harry Amos' piece on William's victory at the Battle of Hastings.

The 2nd Form have been studying a familiar topic, the Reformation, through an unfamiliar lens by examining the experiences of one village, Morebath in Devon. They have encountered the work of historian Eamon Duffy and have considered complex aspects of the past, reaching judgments on the type of change that was unfolding in Tudor England.

The 3rd Form have completed a brand-new enquiry created by Mr Haywood on the British Empire. This topic has provided opportunities for pupils to explore the different cultures and characteristics of the largest and most populated empire in history. Isabelle Radcliffe's piece on the British Empire draws these themes together effectively.

Another highlight this term has been encouraging a culture of reading and research by rolling out the successful Literacy Project, shaped by Mr Haywood, across classes in the Lower and Middle School. This project culminates with a pupil presentation on the book they have individually read. Hugo Collinson's work on the book *A short history of the United States* by James West Davidson is an excellent reflection of the depth of research he carried out in his project.

This edition provides a spotlight on some of the pupil work that we are most proud of within the History department.



1st Form learning about the Battle of Hastings

Something I love From History: The Evolution Of China

Ben (3rd Form)



Qing dynasty

The Qing dynasty ruled Chinese lands for 268 years. From 1644 to 1912 they ruled. Following the capture of Beijing and re-enthronement as Emperor of China in 1644, the Shunzhi Emperor became the first of the ten Qing sovereigns to rule over China. At 61 years, the reign of the Kangxi Emperor was the longest, though his grandson, the Qianlong Emperor. The Qing dynasty fell in 1911 after a group of revolutionaries led a successful revolt establishing the republic of China.



Republic of China

The republic of China followed the collapse of the Qing dynasty in 1912. This new government was weaker than the Qing government, leading them to be an easier target for invasion and rebellions. They had been fighting an internal rebellion from 1927 against the CCP (Chinese Communist Party). After the Japanese invasion of the ROC (Republic of China) in WWII, it left them weaker than they already were allowing the CCP to take all of mainland China, pushing the ROC to the island of Taiwan where they reside today.



People's republic of China

The people's republic of China was founded in 1949 after they overthrew the ROC. They were led by the dictator Mao Zedong who ruled until his death in 1976. He was a ruthless dictator who killed anywhere from 40-80 million people under his regime. They died from a multitude of things such as famine, starvation and a bad quality of life. This government also introduced the one child policy to curb there overpopulation problem. This had led to parents wanting a son to take care of them when they were older resulting in there being a higher male sex ratio to women.

Interview with the History Scholar

Oliver (Upper 6th) interviews Paige (Lower 6th)

What made you originally want to become a history scholar?

I originally wanted to become a history scholar when I had found out about the Bridewell scholarship programme, as I saw the perfect opportunity to develop my knowledge through the extracurricular work and the leadership/management experience. Taking the role mainly stemmed from my passion with history, and so I had much less doubt on taking a scholarship position, as I knew that it would help me in pushing myself beyond curriculums as well as bringing in people with potential interest in history.



What period of History Have You Enjoyed Learning About The Most?

There have been multiple history periods that I have enjoyed the most from time-to-time, ranging from Victorians, Stuarts, the Modern warfare, etc. Though currently, I am finding that the Tudors (specifically around the royalty as well as civilian life) and Georgians in England (17th Century) have been the most interesting periods for me. My focus in history has often been around British history, although there are the inclusions of some international history too.

What Makes History So Enthusing And Enjoyable To Learn?

History fascinates me as you learn about people who have walked in places before you, have fought in places before you; there are multiple parts of history both unpleasant and pleasant, and history is constantly being written – there are thousands of years of history to look at which all interlink in many parts. I believe that because there is so much to learn

from, as well as the fact that you can look at society before your time, history is very much an amazing subject to learn. It can also teach you how fields of discovery and morals have evolved – to have history to document it, you are able to learn from the mistakes and create more success.

Where Will History Take You In The Future?

I believe that history will be very useful for me with the skillset and knowledge it provides. The analytical/debating skills can be needed in many fields of work, alongside problem solving which is a quality that history can readily provide for the future. For me, I'd like to pursue academia in history, or otherwise involve myself in jobs that can provide solutions to current problems as it is key to learn from the mistakes in history to move forward towards a better future – or otherwise be able to help make something better. What I want to do with history is primarily passion-driven, but with that it can provide valuable qualities.

What Advice Would You Give To Young, Budding Historians?

The advice I'd give is to certainly pursue your passion; if you enjoy history and have an ambition to help in discovering the past and helping for the future, then the subject can be useful. If there is a topic that sparks your interest, go ahead, and read/see more about it – develop your knowledge in those interests and it can take you far. By having the information, you'll find out a lot more on how the world is working how it is today – it can educate you on the present as much as it can the past.



History film review: Till

Jude (5th Form)

One of the films we watched in History Film Club this term was Till. The film recounts the true story of Mamie Till's attempt to secure justice after the racially motivated murder of her 14 year old son, Emmett Till, in Mississippi in 1955. The content of this powerful film connects with one of our topics of study at GCSE, US Civil Rights.



Till was a very profound film, I believe it has an extremely important message even for us today. The thought of a young boy being cut down in cold blood over simply his race shook me to core. I feel ashamed in my humanity to see what some evil people

can do to not just one another but to a child. Despite this it shows how far we've come as a society to further improve the lives of many black people but it also shows how far we still have to come. I believe it is a must watch for anyone, not just those interested in history. I thoroughly enjoyed the story telling in the film and despite the difficulty of the watch I would definitely recommend it.



History book review: Agincourt: Battle Of The Scarred King

Sandy (5th Form)

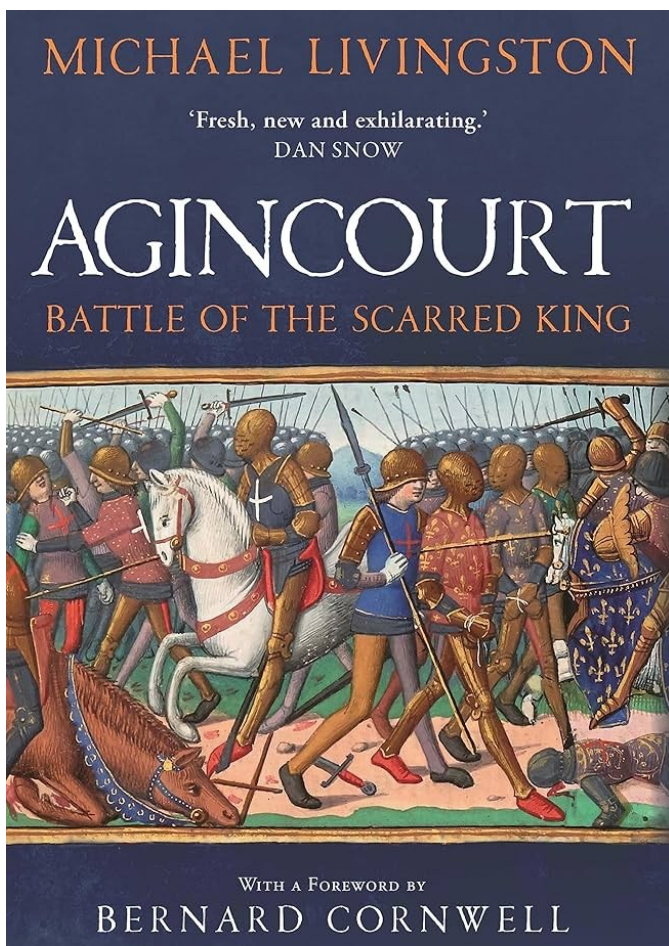
One book that I have recently read and spent time on is based upon the timeline of events before, leading during and after the famous battle of Agincourt in 1415. This book is called *Agincourt: Battle of the scarred King*. The Author is Michael Livingston.

The book is brilliantly narrated, depicting events with Edward III and his son the Black Prince, showing their military dominance in battles like Crecy in France which clearly sets out the lead up to what motivated Henry V on to invade France like his forefathers.



The book takes an objective view (despite the fact that during the Battle of Agincourt one side was very clearly obliterated) and gives accurate numbers and locations. The author also includes maps and displays to present how the two opposing armies would have traversed through France, and to explain the battle itself.

It is a brilliant historical book which does not just display a battle but the history around it and why it is such a legendary English feat to this day, if I would rate the book out of 10 I would give it 9.8.



Lower School Scholarship

Why Did William Win The Battle Of Hastings?

Harry (1st Form)

After Edward the Confessor, the king of England, died without leaving an heir to the throne, there was a huge battle called the Battle of Hastings. Not too long before the battle, Harold Godwinson won the Battle of Stamford Bridge to secure his position as king of England. Once William, the Duke of Normandy, found out about this, he was not happy. So William immediately made his way from Normandy to Hastings. Godwinson soon met William for the Battle of Hastings on Senlac Hill. William went on to win the battle, but there were four reasons why William won. He had better tactics, he was better prepared, he had some luck, and he had a better army. But the most important reason was his tactics.

certainly better than any of Harold's tactics. Some of the tactics that were used by William almost certainly won them the battle. The battle took place on a hill called



Senlac Hill. Harold had the higher ground and William had the lower. Harold's army had formed a shield wall and William had sent troops up to try and break the shield wall, but he had no success. During the battle, there was a rumour going around that William had been killed. To psych his troops up, William rode on his horse and shouted at the top of his voice that he was alive. This motivated his troops to fight even harder, but still with no luck in breaking the shield wall. So, William cooked up a cunning idea called the feigned retreat. He sent up another group of his cavalry but told them to do a fake retreat. This lured some of the English soldiers down the hill. This helped William win because it meant that William and his army were able to break the shield wall, and it became a much more even battle.



The main reason why William won was because he had very smart tactics and

Once the shield wall had been broken, thanks to William's tactics, William's army were able to fight themselves to victory by killing Harold. This evidence shows that William's tactics were clearly the main reason why he won.



The second biggest reason was William's army. I think his army was a crucial reason, but not as crucial as his tactics. Harold's army had just fought in the Battle of Stamford Bridge and marched all the way down to Hastings. On the other hand, William had a full army with fresh, well-trained troops. This helped William win because it meant that Harold's troops were more prone to making reckless decisions and not being able to fight well. During the battle, some of Harold's troops made the reckless decision of following the cavalry down the hill, with the false retreat. So, clearly William's army performed far better than Harold's, which combined with his tactics to help him win.

Almost as significant as army, the third biggest reason was William's preparation. William had thought his plan through and sent the appropriate army to fight. But Harold was too ambitious and aggressive that he marched two hundred miles straight after a battle just to fight another one. William had a prepared army and a thought-through plan. This helped William win because his stronger army could defeat

Harold's troops once his tactics had succeeded. Harold, however, had no preparation whatsoever. This meant that William had a massive advantage over Harold, which proved to be fatal for Harold and a significant reason why he won the Battle of Hastings.

Finally, William just had a tiny bit of luck which might have helped push him and his army over the line. Harold had just fought a big battle (the Battle of Stamford Bridge) and the battle just happened to be in the north of England. The Battle of Hastings happened to be in the south where William was already waiting. This helped William win because it tired Harold's army, leading to their reckless decisions. This is proof that there was a bit of luck involved when William won the Battle of Hastings, but



clearly not as important as some of the other reasons.

So, overall, there were four main reasons why William won the Battle of Hastings: tactics, army, preparation, and luck. Tactics was the main reason why he won because some of the decisions that William made proved to be why William the Conqueror won the Battle of Hastings against Harold Godwinson.

Lower School Scholarship

What Is The History Of The United States?

Hugo (2nd Form)

This year, everyone in 1st to 3rd Form is reading a History book and teaching their class what they have learned. Hugo Collinson has read 'A Short History of the United States' by James West Davidson this term and has learned all about the History of one of the world's most interesting and powerful countries.

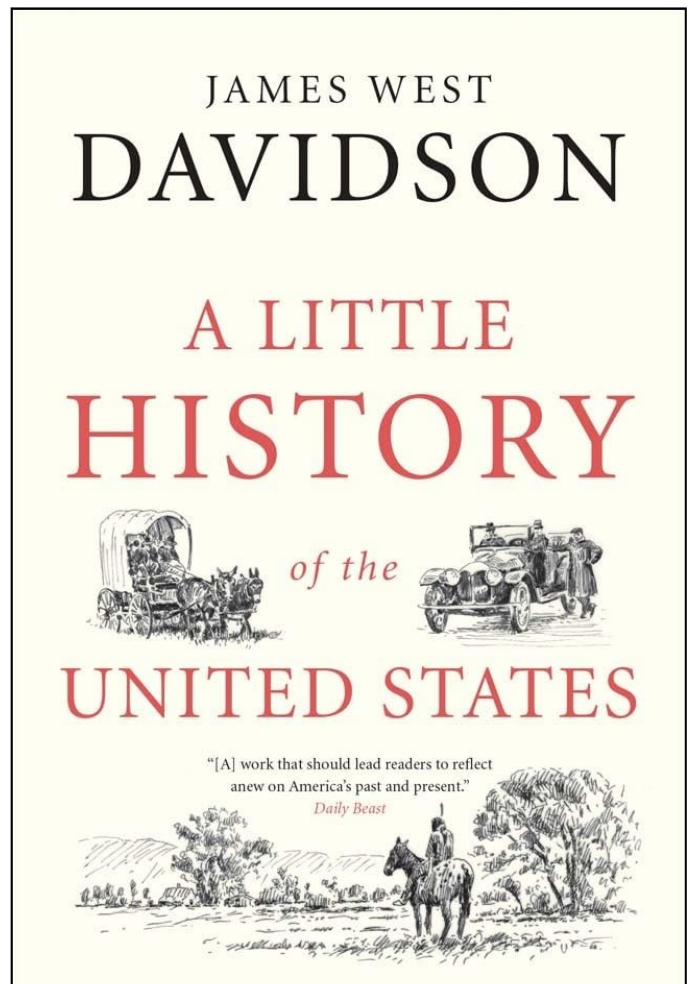


Christopher Columbus

Columbus was just an ordinary Italian man with an idea that would change the way we think of things today. Columbus' idea was that the world wasn't as big as everyone thought it was. Columbus decided to ask for an exhibition that was approved by King Ferdinand, and he sailed off in search of India. He set off on August the 3rd 1492 and arrived on land three months on the 12th October that same year. However, he did not arrive in Asia as planned but instead arrived on the shores of America in the Bahamas! Now this doesn't sound that groundbreaking, but at the time scientists had only just got their heads around the fact that the earth was round. From then on Columbus was known as one of the greatest explorers.

The Mayflower settlement

The Mayflower settlement was created by 4 people called Jack, Tom, Will, and Dick. They were Pilgrims that were getting tired of where they were. They decided to leave on a ship called the Mayflower but as they were sailing, their ship got set off course. As they were sailing, they had an idea. They decided to make their own government. King James then got angry and, fearing for their lives, Tom, Will, Dick, and Jack made an agreement with the king saying the king still had power over them. This new government was called the Mayflower settlement after their ship. This inspired the constitution of the United States.



Benjamin Franklin

As people began to pour into American colonies, one thing started to happen to American people. They started to ask questions. One of these people was Benjamin Franklin. Franklin was not an ordinary man - he was curious and asked a lot of questions. He asked questions about everything like how strong the wind was and other things. One day, he and his friends were in the park flying kites. He put all his clothes on one and he stood on the other side of the pond. The wind blew his clothes to him, and he put them back on. He also used a metal rod to prove that lightning is just electricity.



Slavery

James
Maddison
(one of
the
founding

fathers) brought it to the attention of people that the main areas of conflict were between the north and south states. The north and south states disagreed on the slaves regarding to what they should do with them in relation to the population. Eventually the states agreed on the 3/5 compromise which meant that 3 out of 5 slaves were counted for the population which ended up heavily impacting elections. Because of the cruelty of their owners, the slaves felt that they had no choice except to flee their states and escape to the free states in the north. There was a lot of controversy around the bordering states that separated the north and south and eventually most of them chose to be free states. After this the ratio of free states to slave states changed to 17:15 in 1859. A year later in 1860 Abraham Lincoln was elected president which was the first time anyone had been elected by the free states alone.

The Civil War

The Civil War started on the 12th April 1861. It was a battle between the Union (the northern states) and the Confederacy (the southern states). The Union wanted to abolish slavery as a whole whereas the southern states wanted the territories - places that

were not states yet - to come in as slave states so they could have a much bigger impact in the election because the 3/5 compromise which would give them the momentum they would require to elect a new president. In charge of the northern states was Abraham Lincoln and opposing him was Jefferson Davis. 18,000 slaves fled from the southern states to fight for the northern states. The northern states eventually won and granted the slaves their freedom. The war ended on May 26th 1865. Abraham Lincoln was shot only 19 days later by John Wilkes Booth who was chased and eventually killed by an oncoming police officer.

Teddy Roosevelt

Teddy Roosevelt became president in 1901 after William McKinley was shot. Roosevelt was known for two main things. He was known for land preservation. Teddy Roosevelt said that the Federal Government should preserve land for the future generations. He added 200 million acres of land to the forest reserves and protected national parks. Teddy was also a 'trust-buster' because he was aware that some big companies like the railway for instance were gaining too much power. One company was the Northern Security Trust where several big companies were working together to become one and inherit all the power. This trust oversaw the northern pacific railway, the great northern railway, and just about every single major shipping line in the west. Teddy recognised this and broke it down therefore being remembered as a trust-buster

By invitation: To what extent were American presidents responsible for the Cold War in Europe?

Elena (Upper 6th)

There has been considerable debate as to who was responsible, or who was to blame, for the origins of the Cold War, 1941-45. It would be an oversimplification to suggest that a single issue or person was responsible for creating the conditions in which such a conflict could occur, however there are a range of factors with varying significance that can be assessed. Firstly, American presidents have to be considered of some significance though it was only with the Truman administration that any tangible animosity towards the USSR was expressed.



Of significantly greater importance was the role and actions of Stalin which both notably increased tensions and made a continuing alliance impossible. A less convincing possibility, although one that does deserve considering, is the possibility that the origin of the cold war was found purely in the ideological divide between east and west, communism and capitalism.

American presidents undoubtedly had considerable influence over east west relations in the period 1941-45. However, for much of this time there was little indication of any hostility. In December 1941, following the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbour, America declared war on Germany and President Roosevelt entered into the Grand Alliance with Prime Minister Churchill and Soviet Premier Stalin. It is difficult to suggest that the actions of Roosevelt contributed to tensions that formed within the Grand Alliance, particularly when one considers the concessions made during the early wartime conferences. Despite being sick, Roosevelt travelled to the Yalta

Conference in February 1945. At this conference it was agreed that Russia would be allowed to extract reparations from the eastern zone of conquered Germany. The fact that Roosevelt travelled the distance to Yalta, a city in the USSR, whilst unwell displays the lengths he went to in an attempt to maintain good relations with the USSR. It could be argued that Roosevelt's perceived reluctance to open a second front in Europe antagonised Stalin and led to mistrust. However, the catastrophe of the Dieppe raid, which saw 2,000 Canadian troops captured and 1,000 killed out of a force of 5,000, showed the strength of force needed to invade France. Furthermore, the USA and UK had committed to a 1944 invasion of France in the 1943 Tehran Conference, something that suggests that Roosevelt's reluctance, as it was perceived by Stalin, to open a second front was simply non-existent. However, it is worth noting the shift in attitude seen under the Truman Administration. Truman ended the Lend-Lease agreement on the 11th of May 1945, almost immediately after being inaugurated, despite the Soviets still being at war with Germany at the time. This cutting off of US aid was a clear suggestion that Truman did not wish to continue friendly relations with the USSR. This was compounded by the use of the Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a use which many felt was designed to intimidate the USSR and make the USA's nuclear monopoly apparent. Such acts of aggression will have contributed to the origins of the Cold War however were responses to earlier Soviet aggression which suggested an intention to spark conflict anyway.

Undoubtedly the biggest factor contributing to the origin of the Cold War were the actions and attitudes of Stalin. Throughout the wartime alliance, there had been several instances in which Stalin appeared to go back on his word and sowed the seeds for the mistrust that would eventually give way to open conflict. The clearest example of Stalin's untrustworthiness was the response of the Red Army to the 1944 Warsaw Uprising. With the Red Army nearing Warsaw, 300,000 members of the Polish Home Guard rose up against the Nazis and took

hold of the city, believing that the Red Army would shortly arrive and help them hold it. When news of the uprising reached Stalin, he ordered the Red Army's advance to stop and allowed the Nazis to retake Warsaw, decimating the Home Guard and weakening Poland's future ability to resist future Soviet rule. The Katyn massacre also served to show both how Stalin viewed the territories he captures and how far US presidents were willing to go to ignore Stalin's actions and maintain good relations. The Katyn Massacre was the murder of 20,000



Polish officers by the NKVD in the Katyn Forest when the USSR held Poland from 1939-41. When the news of the massacre was released by the Nazis in 1943 in an attempt to sow discord amongst the allies, they were willing to accept, at least temporarily, that the massacre was conducted by the Germans instead. When this was combined with the Warsaw Uprising, it was clear that Stalin has no intention of honouring the pledge to hold free and fair elections in Poland that he had made in the 1943 Tehran Conference. Preceding this, Stalin had signed the Nazi-Soviet Pact in 1939, a treaty that formalised an alliance between the USSR and Germany and led to the initial invasion of Poland. Stalin's actions in Eastern Europe made it clear that he was seeking control over the region and was looking to expand the Soviet Union and that his ongoing motivations were purely territorial. In this sense, Stalin's actions made conflict with the west inevitable as the repression of Poland went against Britain's commitment to Polish independence, an issue that was the reason for their joining the Second World War in the first place. However, this does not fully explain the form of conflict that took place, and the Cold War in Europe became a war of ideology between the capitalist and democratic west, and the communist and dictatorial east. As such, though Stalin's actions contributed the most to the origins of the cold war, they cannot be said to have done so single handedly.

A final factor worth considering is whether the ideological divide between the USSR and the west made the Cold War inevitable. Following the 1917 Bolshevik revolution, the former Russian Empire became the worlds first

Communist state. Initially stated by Lenin and continued by Stalin, the USSR had the goal of supporting the global communist movement. With capitalism the sworn enemy of communism, it was inevitable that tensions would occur within the wartime alliance over this issue. These tensions were seen throughout the wartime alliance over issues such as the second front, with Stalin suggesting that the USA and UKs reluctance to open a second front was born out of a desire to see fascism and communism destroy each other. However, it is worth noting that it was Stalin who declared conflict and war between capitalism and communism, and therefore the west and the USSR, inevitable. Though grounded in ideology, it was Stalin who openly suggested that the USSR would go to war with capitalism. This adds to the suggestion that it was Stalin who contributed most greatly to the origins of the Cold War. It is worth noting that the ideological divide was felt by both sides and that Truman, a known anti-communist, had taken a considerably more aggressive stance towards the USSR than his predecessor, FDR, had done. This suggests that the ideological divide was a far more pervasive issue within the Grand Alliance than the actions of any single leader and was likely the more long-term cause for such tensions. However, without the actions in individual leaders, particularly Stalin, it is unlikely that tensions would have appeared so rapidly, and the Cold War begun so aggressively.

In conclusion, the actions of US presidents played little role in creating tensions that led to the cold war from most of the 1941-45 period. In contrast, Stalin consistently displayed actions that suggested a desire to begin such conflict or an inherent lack of trustworthiness which fed into Trumans scepticism of the Soviet leader. That being said, it is undeniable that the actions of Truman did play some role in the origins of the Cold War with the ending of the Lend-Lease agreement signalling an end to more friendly relations. However, much of the origins to the Cold War revolved around the ideological divide personified by Stalin and the presidents of the USA. Whilst not the most prominent issue, the role of ideology should not entirely be neglected when assessing the origins of the Cold War.



Middle School Scholarship

How much change was there in the British Empire ?

Isabelle (3rd Form)

I'm Mary Cathridge, traveller and journalist. In my many numerous years, I have thoroughly travelled the globe to write an account of the British Empire. My journey started in the 1630s to the small city of Bridgetown situated on the island of Barbados, then to the 1700s in newly founded Boston, America, and finally to Cape Town during the 1800s. I entertained myself to discover the motivations and characteristics of life in the empire on which the 'sun never sets'.



As I set about to these three cities, I perceived a notable change in motivation. In Bridgetown, I discovered that the unwise decision for the placement of the city on the south-west side of the island was due to trade. The port consisted of the exchange of sugar

products like rum and molasses. The export of these goods transformed the island to wealth with a motivation of money. Boston, however, had a completely different motivation: religion. After numerous conversations, I learnt that since England was becoming increasingly Catholic, John Winthrop – a capable puritan leader – and his fellow, like-minded puritans sailed to Boston shortly after the Mayflower. The city was hence built on a religious identity. Finally, in Cape Town which overlooks the choppy waters near the Cape of Good Hope, the British decided to capture the city from the Dutch. The desire was strategy for trade as a power-hungry empire where the wealth of Asia relied on Cape Town. While I observed a notable change between the cities, many shared a similar motivation of money.



In the three cities, I observed a significant change in characteristics. In Bridgetown, trans-Atlantic slave ships would arrive on the island and the slaves' roles would be to work on the plantations. Slaves faced inhumane

like Dutch, Germans, Afrikaans, Asians, and religious groups like Muslims, Catholics and pagans. This was because Cape Town was a stopping point for trade. There was a significant change between cities.

My exploration has undeniably surprised me due to the varying significant changes in characteristics from slavery and import of unpaid human labourers in Bridgetown to the cosmopolitan diversity in Cape Town. However, there is slightly less significance in the notable change of motivation in these three cities like the difference in the motivation in religion, money, and strategy. History changes and so questions bring me to think: what may we see in the future?

conditions of torture, starvation, disease, isolation, labour and more. As a consequence of the horrible conditions, the death rate was considerably higher than the birth rate, so more slaves were imported to compensate for the losses. Boston dramatically changed after the first generation of settlers died. Boston turned to trade meaning the city was built on the local economy, wealth grew and Boston became more British. The city was characterised by wealth. In Cape Town, there was a significant change where there became a cosmopolitan character. The city was diverse in culture, religion, and ethnicity. There were many nationalities



Middle School Scholarship

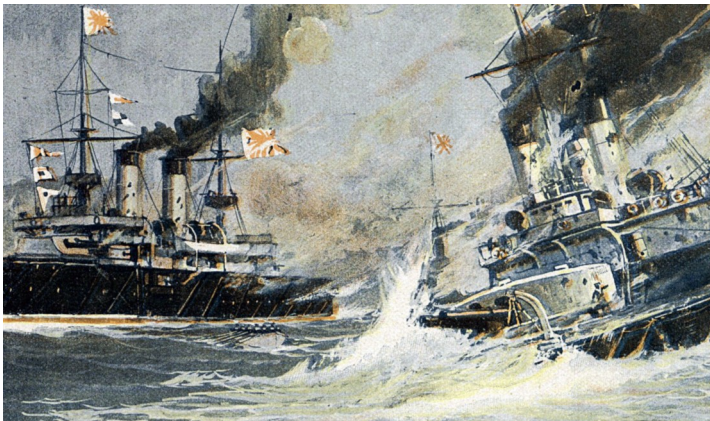
What happened in February 1917?

Adam Jones (4th Form, Edward)

February Revolution Leads To Abdication

Introduction

In 1917, anger among the peasants continued to grow with shortages of fuel and food. Opposition to the Tsar severely increased. With the Tsar away in Petrograd as he was leading the army, there was no control in the capital, and this sparked a series of revolts known as the February revolution. This revolution would force Tsar Nicholas II to abdicate for his safety and ended autocracy in Russia. The party that would take over were a far-left party called the Bolsheviks.



Immediate Causes of the February Revolution

Anger with the Tsar grew in the winter of 1916-1917. Russia had now lost many battles under the Tsar's command as he had taken over the army due to the fundamental laws made by Tsar Nicholas II in April 1906. This meant that all the blame was directed at the Tsar. Food shortage hit Russia as railway transport was directly focused on getting supplies out to the front lines rather than to the Russian people. Bread rationing was introduced which caused unrest among the peasants. Peasants would sell less grain as there was little to buy with the food, they made causing less food exports and less food for the Russian population. Factories had turned over solely to war production, or they were forced to shut as during World War One, Germany had blocked most of Russia's ports making foreign trade extremely hard. Industrial unrest continued as many workers would strike causing businesses many problems. The army also disliked the Tsar. This can be shown from the Potemkin Mutiny where they shot and the officials overboard. This only sparked more hatred against the Tsar.

However, the man trigger for the event would be from the International Women's Day March. On the 23rd of February 1917, thousands of women marched in protest. They joined in with the protest from the striking workers. They would protest the bread shortages. This was because the Russian Government that bread would be rationed starting at the beginning of March. This was announced with poor timing as

Russia had recently been hit with food shortages. Between the 23rd and 25th of February, 250,000 people marched through the city of Petrograd in protest. The police could not control the protest due to the large numbers. The clashes between the protestors and the police and army that caused the February Revolution.

The Tsar had left Petrograd on the 22nd of February to return to Mogliev. This meant he was not in Petrograd to control the protests. On the 25th of February, he ordered the police to take fire and end the protests. They killed upwards of 50 people. However, this fueled more protests the Tsar with many calling this a second bloody Sunday. From this, many police officers joined the protesters against the Tsar.

The Army Mutiny

On the 26th of February the Pavlovsky Regiment found out about the shooting and were shocked. They refused the orders from the Tsar. This is known as a mutiny – a rebellion in the army against the orders of their commanders and officers. Between the 27th and 28th of February, soldiers captured Petrograd's weapon stores and would steal a total of 40,000 rifles and 30,000 revolvers. They also released prisoners that were arrested for their protesting from the prisons. The soldiers that mutinied came from different regiments. With the new soldiers, the revolution would begin. The number of soldiers that protested reached 150,000. This mutiny certified the downfall of the Tsar as without soldier support, there was no way to control rebellions and strikes. The police force could not fight the large number of mutineers and protesters.

The Abdication of Tsar Nicholas II

When Tsar Nicholas II heard of the reports of the mutiny, he ordered General Nikolay Iudovich Ivanov to bring troops the Petrograd and put out the revolt. The Tsar also decided to travel alone to Petrograd. The plan to stop the mutiny did not work as some of the troops that he brought wanted to join the mutiny and fear of creating a larger problem halted their plan. On the 2nd of March, senior officers and the Duma told Nicholas II to abdicate to prevent major destruction from revolts. He agreed to do so and gave the throne to his brother Grand Duke Michael. However, the idea of a new Tsar was not received well by the protesters as they wanted to completely end autocracy. The leaders of the government warned the Michael that if he became the new Tsar, it would cause civil war. Michael was not keen to be Tsar in the first place anyway and therefore rejected the offer. The 300 year rule of autocracy had ended and would become a republic in the Spring of 1917.

William (4th Form)

Отречение царя

THE ABDICATION OF THE TSAR

РУССКАЯ ГАЗЕТА

The Russian Gazette

ПЯТНИЦА, 2 МАРТА 1917 ГОДА | FRIDAY, 2ND MARCH 1917



WHAT CAUSED THIS?

ЧТО СТАЛО ПРИЧИНОЙ ЭТОГО?

The abdication of the Tsar on this day, we believe is a consequence of the severe economic hardship we've faced, including the food shortages, inflation and the Great War. The Protests and strikes in Petrograd have escalated and our workers have rightly been demanding better conditions.

Last month on International Women's Day the protests intensified, with demonstrators calling for "bread" and an end to the autocracy and the tsar. Three days later, on February 26th the Troops opened fire, with fifty deaths and hundreds more wounded. And our soldiers mutinied, destabilizing our government.

The Duma formed a committee and the Petrograd Soviet instructed soldiers to follow orders. As the tsar tried to return to Petrograd, he couldn't due to the chaos.

And on this day the tsar, has abdicated. We believe this is a result of the pressure from the military leaders and our nobility. This marks the end of the Romanov dynasty after 304 years of rule.

WHAT'S NEXT?

ЧТО ДАЛЬШЕ?

With the abdication of the Tsar, we are enter an uncertain future, will the Duma successfully establish a Provisional Government that meets our needs? Many of us are hopeful for change to address the economic hardships and social unrest we've faced, but there are lingering concerns about stability with the war going on and the rise of revolutionary groups. As we await news about our new leadership, there is a mix of hope and anxiety. Our voice is louder than ever, and our demands for a better future must not be overlooked as we move forward.



Middle School Scholarship

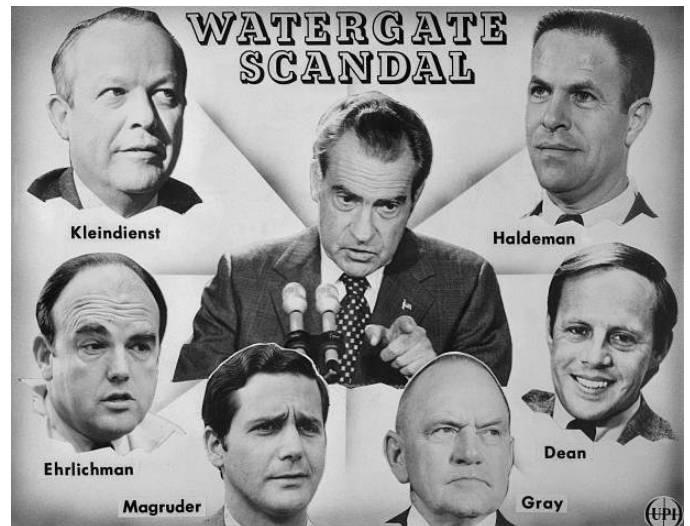
What was the main impact of the Watergate scandal?

Bobby (5th Form)

The Watergate scandal had a huge impact on multiple different things in US history. It began when burglars broke into Watergate complex to bug the Democratic party headquarters to give Nixon and bigger chance of getting elected, but it ended up with Nixon resigning. The main impact of the Watergate scandal was not Nixon's personal reputation, but it was the new laws that were introduced in USA. To reach this conclusion I will examine three different impacts. Firstly, the impact on Nixon, then the impact on public trust in politics and finally the new laws that were introduced.



One effect on the Watergate scandal was Nixon's personal reputation, but it was not the main effect. Nixon's reputation deteriorated quickly. He was previously highly regarded for his



involvement in the Hiss case and the Red Scare, and how he was a Second World War veteran. These factors led to him winning the elections in 1968 and 1972, and spending two terms in the White House as president. A reason for the rapid deterioration in his reputation was that he refused to hand over recoded tapes in the White House. This affected Nixon's reputation because it made it seem like he was trying to hide evidence of the Watergate scandal, and it also seemed like he was involved. A second factor was the transcripts of the tapes showed "expletive deleted" and also shows Nixon being racist towards Jews and Italians, this brought down his reputation as people thought he was a respectable man until they knew what was going on behind the scenes. The

Watergate scandal had a huge effect on Nixon's reputation but this was not the biggest impact.

A second effect of the Watergate scandal was on the public trust in politics. People have trusted in politics a lot during the History of USA but when people had recordings of what happened in the White House and the discussions Nixon had, people started to believe that political leaders did not have their best interests at heart. Another factor in this was that Gerald Ford pardoned Nixon. This was a serious impact of Watergate because it looked like Ford might have been involved with Watergate and the cover-up, or at the least it meant that Nixon avoided getting justice for what he did. This made the office of the president look above the law. Secondly, the self-interest of Nixon, and his abuse of power to cover up Watergate. This was a serious impact of Watergate because it made people believe that the government couldn't be trusted

Finally, the main impact of the Watergate scandal was the new laws that were brought in. These laws helped prevent another case like Watergate from happening again, also the laws prevented future presidents acting without approval of congress. Firstly, was the House and Senate Open Meeting Rules, this meant that the



public needed to know what is happening in the meeting and are not kept in the dark about what the president is doing. Secondly, the War powers act. This meant that the president could not go to war without approval for congress, this gave people hope as their country is less likely to start war. Therefore, these new laws were the main impact of Watergate.

In conclusion, after all this evidence I think that the main impact was the new laws put in place as it gave people more hope in their government and enabled them to know more about what is happening in the White House. But the other factors are important as Nixon's reputation deteriorated, so therefore the trust in politics would have decreased as well as people felt like they did not know what happens in the White House.



because all they cared about was themselves. However, this was not the main impact of the Watergate scandal.

6th Form Scholarship

How far was Stalin responsible for the breakdown of the Great Alliance?

Paige Reid (Lower 6th, Elizabeth)

Stalin had been seen as a major catalyst towards what was seen either way as an inevitable breakdown of friendship between the capitalist Western allies and the communist East – though multiple choices of his own and others had sped up this process more than what was expected. There were other influential figures as well, such as Churchill/Attlee of Great Britain and Roosevelt/Truman of the USA; although they found mutual links through the desperation of eliminating a fascist force, they still struggled to find



other key ties among them both and the mistrust and actions of all would eventually lead to this collapse.

Stalin could be seen as responsible of this breakdown in relations as his known personality of paranoia and lying could have set this impression on all other allies that he was not a man to be working with. Such as the pressure on the Eastern front after the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact was broken in June 1941 for Operation Barbarossa, Stalin pleaded for a second front to be opened – although the chances of this happening quickly would seem unlikely. There was eventually an attempt on securing the Dieppe port town in France, sending off 5,000 soldiers of the Second Canadian Regiment to test the waters in seeing if securing an area in mainland Western Europe was possible, though it had ended up failing drastically; 1,000 of the men had been killed after landing and fighting for the town, and up to 2,000-3,000 ended up missing. Even with this evidence and attempt at hand, Stalin failed to believe the efforts of the Western allies and perceived it as a selfish move to retreat and delay the Western front while leaving all the pressure to the Soviets. To prove this as Stalin's actions, Britain had kept the ties to send 3 million army boots to Soviet soldiers

as well as artillery, showing how this Western country was not truly giving up on the USSR as Stalin had surmised. Alongside this, Stalin's behaviours in the conferences had also applied tension onto the relations of the allies even in such dire moments; in the Tehran conference in November 1943 (held in Iran), Churchill and Roosevelt had to try and nudge the tense nature off Stalin, calling him 'Uncle Joe' fondly and attempting to make fair deals with him to not lose him as an ally. Despite this, Stalin was still reluctant to fully change his mannerisms, and deals were mainly made on finding openings for fronts and how Europe would be dealt with during the war. As for the Yalta conference in February 1945, it was seen as a strange move by Stalin to want the conference within the Soviet Union despite Roosevelt's grave illness with Polio disease. There was trust placed in him that he would deal with Eastern Europe accordingly, such as not breaking promises regarding some of Poland's autonomy and the percentage of control he would have on his lands as well as the connections to the Western allies. There had also been the plans for how Germany would be divided in this conference, with agreements stating that Germany would be split into 4 zones and that Soviet's would allow Western control of West Berlin, and that no hostility would be present around this area. Finally, the Potsdam conference in May-July 1945 oversaw an almost complete change in leadership, with Roosevelt passing away and changing to Truman, and Churchill losing an election to Labour leader Attlee. Stalin's reaction could be seen as a point that exacerbated this tension, as he saw these changes in leaderships in democracy as 'weaknesses', and his paranoia would rise again at the presence of unfamiliar leaders – eliciting a perhaps more sceptical reaction from others. Around this time, it saw Stalin breaking more of his promises in previous conferences, and he'd begin what is known as 'Salami tactics' to build his own block of defence. Overall, Stalin had presented himself as an unpredictable and dangerous leader to deal with – and so his sudden or lying responses will have certainly led to a breakdown fuelled by mistrust.

As for Churchill/Attlee, some of their actions could have contributed towards the breakdown of relations between the USSR and the Western Allies. Churchill had been known to dislike the Soviets, though he had to put his distaste aside from his appointment as Prime Minister in the war from



1940 to tackle the rest of the years of WW2 with Soviet help. His suspicions with Joseph Stalin could have brought an indirect source for tension with this knowledge about him, and his choices within the war such as delaying a second front could have been seen as a threatening response for the USSR in dealing with high pressures of conflict – with some of the deadliest fights having took place as far as Stalingrad (Volgograd) at the time. Despite this, Churchill had emphasised his focus in regathering his forces after the Battle of Britain and sent support to the USSR, though this plan had easily been labelled with wrong intention by the Russians. As well as this, Churchill's responses within the conferences (until Truman) had been the wariest of Stalin, as he would have been seen as a figure who often stood by his own morals as well as Roosevelt's, but rarely Stalin. In the Tehran conference and the Yalta conference, he had been seen as the one on the other side to Stalin – trying to negotiate more realistic deals while making it convince enough to keep Stalin until he wasn't needed anymore. This position in decision-making will have made it a significant indirect cause of the breakdown of relations, as it would now only take USA's change in positions to completely sever the trust. An additional but very prominent act from Churchill post-war had also been a trigger point towards Stalin's break-off of trust towards Britain – a plan made by Churchill in May 1945 known as Operation Unthinkable. He had plans to fully turn against the Soviets and fight them instead, with the main goal being to have control of Germany, and most of all, make Poland an autonomous country again and re-implement the London Poles' government. This plan had been intercepted by a British-Soviet spy known as Guy Burgess, and once this was reported to Stalin, the crucial advantage of surprise was no longer there, and the countries were in no form to fight. This plan ended up drafted once Churchill lost power on 26th June 1945, handing the power to Attlee of the Labour party. As for Attlee, he sided with Truman in the tension towards Stalin post-war – although he had been slightly more of a bystander figure than Churchill had been. Overall, it can be seen that Churchill had treaded carefully until the end, and that even through change of power no sympathy was given for the Soviets at the end due to their nature – which easily could be seen as a reason that Britain started tensions.

Lastly, with Roosevelt/Truman, multiple actions could be determined as one with indirect/direct bad intention by the USSR. Roosevelt had been seen more as an appeaser towards Stalin, and so their relations could be perceived as

more stable as a whole – though, there had been occasional disagreements in terms within conferences which suggestively could have agitated Stalin and his power within Europe. Roosevelt at the time was a president of one of the hearts of capitalism, and so naturally Stalin would tread carefully with a large opponent that they'd have an unexpected alliance with. As for the time with Harry Truman in power just at the close of the war, many decisions made by him were clear as a sense of open distaste towards the Soviets. Most of these tensions had begun in the Potsdam Conference (May-July 1945), as Truman confronted Molotov much more than Roosevelt did regarding foreign matters; Molotov had been taken back by the way he was spoken to by him, and confronted him stating how he wouldn't be addressed in such a way – though Truman shrugged it off and replied that Molotov would have to act in a way in which he wouldn't have to address him like such. Alongside this tense conversation, Truman had agitated Stalin almost just as much, as the US president begun talks about a new powerful weapon, though not much was disclosed about this and once this new weapon (the atomic bomb) was dropped twice in August 1945 in Japan (affecting Hiroshima and Nagasaki), Stalin reacted with outrage in the fact that he was not informed enough about such a dangerous weapon – and this tension like would have been rooted in the fact that Truman now had a strong monopoly as a dangerous world superpower, and the capitalist ideas now could not be well fought off by communist regions. It was foundations that Truman set here in the conference that had twisted the story massively for the two superpowers as allies, switching it from an act of appeasement amid war towards facing each other as threatening enemies to their influence. With all the other Western allies on Truman's side throughout the war and after, Stalin gradually withdrew from this alliance through the tensions produced creating a sense of wariness for the USSR. Overall, Truman had been a lot more direct and unashamed of expressing his hatred towards the



communist country as the threat of war had now subsided and there was nothing left to fight for except for the domination of ideologies; communism was the largest threat to USA's influence of democracy out of any other country in the world, and so this opinion of his had made a breakdown of relations almost instantaneous.

In conclusion, multiple actions by all these figures combined had greatly led to the short demise of what could have been a longer relationship – although it was never

News from History

Houses of parliament trip

Kyle (Lower 6th)

On Wednesday, 9th of October, the 6th Form Politics, History, and Economics students travelled into the heart of British politics: The Houses of Parliament. The trip was fascinating and an experience that is still with me to this day.

We started off by getting a train into Waterloo and after a short walk, we were surrounded by Parliament and Big Ben. We headed into Westminster Hall where we were greeted by a tour guide and started to make our way through parliament.



After a brief history of the building and some truly fascinating knowledge about how politics work in the UK, we headed into the House of Lords. The velvet and gold hall lined with rows of seats where our laws are debated and passed created a breathtaking atmosphere. Unfortunately, due to us being late and a poorly timed PMQ session we were not able to see the House of Commons, however, we were able to see the speaker of the commons process into the Commons which was a very interesting experience.

We were finally able to head to meet and talk to Jeramy Hunt himself. He is the MP of



Godalming and Ash and was (at the time) shadow chancellor of the exchequer. We questioned him about economics, some of his political views, and the current state of the world. He was very well-spoken and considerate, talking with real empathy and humility, offering invaluable insight into these topics with clarity and good reasoning.

Finally, we headed off and had some well-deserved lunch in London, where the teachers gave us freedom to explore and go where we liked. Overall, the day was not only fascinating but an increasable way to experience our UK politics, economics and history.

