West European Reforms and East European Revolutions

I. West Europe Reforms

A. Situation at the End of World War II
   1. Rebuilding shattered economies
   2. Germany: Coming to grips with the Nazi past
   3. Problem of a divided Germany
   4. Denying the area to Communism

B. Marshall Plan (1947–1952)

C. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) (1949– )
   1. Response to fear of Soviet invasion (NSC-68)
   2. Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) joined in 1955

D. Economic Reform and Integration
   1. European Coal and Steel Authority established April 1951
   2. Benelux Economic Union, created 1958
   3. European Economic Community (Common Market)
      a. Treaty of Rome, March 25, 1957
      b. renamed European Union, 1993

II. East European Revolutions

A. Situation at the End of World War II
   1. Presence of the Red Army
   2. Soviet appropriations from shattered economies (est. $20 billion)
   3. Coalition governments
   4. Deny the area to Germany, capitalism, and anti-Soviet elements
   5. Soviet fear of encirclement

B. Communist Coups of 1948: Creation of “People’s Democracies”

C. Council of Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA or COMECON) (1949–1991)

E. Relations of the Soviet Union with Eastern Europe through 1968

1. Yugoslavia
   b. expelled from Cominform (June 1948)
2. East German demonstrations, 1953
3. Hungarian Revolution, 1956 (October 23–November 4)
4. Polish demonstrations, 1956
   a. Poznań, June 18–19
   b. “The Polish October”
5. Czechoslovakia, 1968
   a. Antonín Novotný (1904–1975), First Secretary of CCP and President
      – resigned as First Secretary January 1968
      – resigned as President March 22, 1968
   b. Alexander Dubček (1921–1992), First Secretary of CCP (January 1968 to April 1969)
      – April and May: SU sent military delegations
      – June: Warsaw Pact military exercises on border
      – August 21: Soviet, East German, Polish, Hungarian, and Bulgarian military units invade

F. Relations of the Soviet Union with Eastern Europe 1969–1991

   b. Lech Wałęsa (1943–), Electrician in Gdańsk shipyards
      (1) Nobel Peace Prize, 1983
      (2) President 1990–1995
      (1) declared martial law December 13, 1981 (lifted July 1983)
      (2) President, 1989–1990
   d. The Triumph of Solidarity, 1988–1990
2. East Germany and the fall of the Berlin Wall
3. The Velvet Revolution in Czechoslovakia
4. Romania: The last of the Stalinist regimes

G. Coming to Grips with the Communist Past