

RUSSIA IMPERIALISM AND COMMUNISM

Vocab

▣ **Absolute monarch (review): kings or queens who held all of the power within their states' boundaries.**

▣ **Westernization: using western Europe as a model for change**

▣ **Boyar: landowning nobles in Russia**

- ▣ **Proletariat:** in Marxist theory, the group of workers who would overthrow the czar and come to rule Russia
- ▣ **Provisional Government:** temporary government
- ▣ **Bolsheviks:** a group of revolutionary Russian Marxists who took control of Russia's government in November 1917
- ▣ **Soviets:** one of the local representative councils formed in Russia after the downfall of Czar Nicholas II

▣ **Communist Party: a political party practicing the ideas of Karl Marx and V.I. Lenin; originally the Russian Bolshevik Party**

▣ **Totalitarianism: government control over every aspect of public and private life**

▣ **Great Purge: a campaign of terror in the Soviet Union during the 1930s, in which Stalin sought to eliminate all Communist Party members and other citizens who threatened his power.**

▣ **Command economy: an economic system in which the government makes all economic decisions**

▣ **Cold War: Ideological conflict between the United States and Soviet Union between 1945-1991**

▣ **Eastern Bloc: Eastern European countries taken over by Stalin and the Soviet Union where he imposed Communism**

▣ **NATO: a defensive military alliance formed in 1949 by ten Western European countries, the United States, and Canada**

▣ **Warsaw Pact: a military alliance formed in 1955 by the Soviet Union and its Eastern European satellites**

▣ **Iron Curtain: Imaginary dividing line that divided Western Europe (Free) from Soviet controlled Eastern Europe (Communist)**

▣ **Glasnost: the open discussion of social problems that was permitted in the Soviet Union in the 1980s.**

▣ **Perestroika: the restructuring of the economy and the government instituted in the Soviet Union in the 1980s.**