1985-91 Notes

**Iran-Contra Affair**

* November 1986
* US selling weapons to Iran (even though we had an arms embargo)
* Sold in order to release hostages
* Also wanted to fund Contras (anti-communists) in Nicaragua
* Reagan publicly apologizes

**Fall of the Berlin Wall**

* November 9, 1989
* Separated East and West Berlin
* In November an order was issued saying there would free access through the wall
* People swarmed

**Challenger Explosion**

* January 28, 1986
* Broke apart 73 seconds into flight
* Caused by an O-ring failure
* Seven people killed, including a teacher

**Disintegration of Soviet Union**

* December 26, 1991
* Gorbachev resigns
* Boris Yeltsin becomes president
* U.S.S.R. dissolved, but many parts of it have strong ties to Russia (ex. Belarus)