**Study Guide: Slide Set 24 and 25**

**Slide Set 24: Nixon and Ford**

**Richard Nixon:**

* Narrowly defeated VP Hubert Humphrey for the presidency in 1968. Despite improving relations with the USSR and China and finally getting the US out of the Vietnam war, resigned uder the threat of impeachment bc of the water gate cover up and related crimes.

**Détente:**

* A French work given to this period of improved ralations between the US and the soviet union

**Watergate:**

* An enormous political scandal that occurred following the break in at the democratic national committee headquarters at the watergate office in 1972. The Nixon administration attempted cover up of its involvement.
* It became a term to mean a whole series of interlocking scandals and illegal activities involving members of Nixon’s administration which including bugging of political offices of opponents and those who Nixon deemed to have “dirty tricks”.

**General Ford:**

* Only American to serve as both vice president and president without being elected to either office, succeeded Nixon, appointed VP under provisions of the 25th amendment. His issuance of a full pardon to the disgraced Nixon was widely condemned at the time but it was later seen as a wise and even necessary move.

**Slide Set 25: Carter and Reagan**

**Jimmy Carter:**

* Elected president in 1976, defeating Ford. Threw the Shah of Iran under the bus yet wound up having to confront the Iran Hostage crisis anyway. He was also remembered for his disastrous “malaise speech” even though he never used the word “malaise” in that speech. In that speech, he seemed to be blaming the American people for their problems.

**Iran Hostage Crisis:**

* Carter admitted the Shah of Iran into the US for cancer trater and the Iranians reacted by seizing the US embassy in Tehran. 52 diplomats and citizens were held hostage for 444 days from 1979 to 1981.

**“Malaise Speech”:**

* Speech given by carter which blames americans for their problems that sounded like an angry preacher. That americans could continue on the path they were on and continue with self indulgence and political stalemate or they could revive traditional values such as thrift, mutual aid, simple living and spirituality.

**Ronald Reagan:**

* Elected president in 1980 defeating Jimmy Carter; known for his hardline stance against the Soviet Union and supply side economics policy. His firing all of the striking air traffic controllers convinced Soviets of his toughness.