Czechoslovakia in 1990 by Adam Enkin

Communism has been part of government for a long time and in Czechoslovakia the first communist party of Czechoslovakia was formed in 1921. This Communist ideology dominated people’s lives and Czechoslovakian society. In 1948 it was led by Klement Gottwald and communism became a way of life. Then there was a dispute between Gottwald and his right hand man General Secreatry Rudolph Slansky. This led to conspiracy theories and trials as well as many people getting in a myriad of trouble. During World War Two many important people in the Communist Party

In the early 1960’s a reformer took power named Alexander Dubcek who wanted to reform the country and get rid of communism while introducing “socialism with a human face”. Dubcek wanted to add democracy to the country and more political freedom. This included the loosening of restrictions on media, travel and speech. He also oversaw the decision to separate Czech Republic and Slovakia. This was only relatively successful and this did not bode well for the Dubcek when the Soviets intervened. This became known as the Prague Spring.

The Soviets invaded Czechoslovakia in what became known as the Brezhnev Doctrine and Dubcek was expelled. This was led by Soviet leader Brezhnev.

Those who had supported the reform movement would lose their jobs. The Communist continued to churn out propaganda to make the public think that the country was thriving. There was no freedom of speech, or freedom to demonstrate. Those who had already left the country could now write about their experiences to let the truth be known to the rest of the world.

In 1977, Vaclav Havel led the “Charter 77” movement to improve both human rights and the quality of living for the citizens of Czech Republic. Havel received his first life sentence.

In November of 1989, a swarm of students protested against the government. On the 25th of November 750,000 protesters voice their opinion. Then 75% of the population protested and the Communists got rid of their monopoly a couple of days later. Havel was elected in the first free elections of the Czech Republic. These protests were all non-violent protests.

To conclude, the current country of Czechoslovakia has overcome a lot and while democracy is thriving today in Czech Republic there is still a lot of work to be done. As long as Daesh/ ISIL is alive the government of Czech Republic must work hard to avoid any threats