

Operation Bloom Inquiry: Technology and Tactics 1948

Level 1: Remembering

1. Which tank served as the backbone of the Soviet Union's armored forces in 1948, and what were its key features?
2. What was the United States' first operational jet fighter introduced after WWII?

Level 2: Understanding

3. How did the United States' logistical strengths give it a global advantage over the Soviet Union in 1948?
4. Why did the Soviet Union prioritize mass production and standardization of military equipment like the T-34 and PPSh-41?

Level 3: Applying

5. If tasked with designing a NATO strategy in *OpenRA*, how would you leverage the U.S. strengths in airpower and logistics to counter Soviet numerical superiority?
6. How could the United Kingdom's emphasis on naval power and jet fighters influence a conflict in Europe compared to the Soviet doctrine of massed armored assaults?

Level 4: Analyzing

7. Compare and contrast the industrial capabilities of the U.S. and Soviet Union in 1948. Which approach—technological innovation or mass production—was more sustainable in the long term, and why?
8. How did the differing priorities of NATO and Warsaw Pact nations reflect their experiences in WWII? Consider examples such as the U.S. reliance on airpower versus the Soviet focus on ground forces.

Level 5: Evaluating

9. Was the Soviet doctrine of "quantity over quality" an effective strategy in the context of post-WWII geopolitics, or would a greater emphasis on technological innovation have been more advantageous?

10. Evaluate the Centurion Mk 3 tank's introduction in 1948:
Was it ahead of its time compared to Soviet and American armor,
and how might it have changed early Cold War engagements?