



## Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country

Often times art imitates history – artists find their inspiration in events going on in the world around them. When in 1991 Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country was produced, a time of great change was occurring. The Cold War was in its final stages as the once-great Soviet Union collapsed.

- ★ By 1990 it was clear that the Soviet Union was falling apart – on the verge of collapse.
- ★ In 1991, after a series of political events in Moscow, the Soviet Union disintegrated. The country shattered into 15 separate nations – Russia emerged as the largest of the 15.
- ★ The USSR collapsed largely because the country was bankrupt – they could not maintain their massive military as well as support the rest of the country.
- ★ Basically, the United States successfully “out spent” the USSR.
- ★ All of a sudden, instead of fighting the mighty Communist Empire, the Americans now found themselves as the only country financially powerful enough to help the new, bankrupt nations that emerged out of the Soviet Union.
- ★ Now, there were no clear “bad guys” in the world. With the Soviet Union gone, the United States remained the world’s sole superpower.

A world without the Soviet Union scared a lot of people.

Why? . . .

*Watching the movie “Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country” (a movie based on the collapse of the Soviet Union), write a paragraph detailing what you think people were afraid of – what is the great fear surrounding events going on in 1991.*

