**RRQ Ansary, *Games Without Rules* and CNN, *The Cold War,* “Good Guys, Bad Guys”**

1. Why did so many different resistance groups emerge in the aftermath of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan? Why were they unwilling to work together?
2. In what ways did the Soviet invasion disrupt the social fabric of old Afghanistan, and why was the resulting reconfiguration of power so radically Islamist in orientation?
3. What were the immediate and long-term effects of the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan?
4. What allowed for the rapid rise of the Taliban and their initial popularity among rural Afghans? In what ways did the Taliban clash with the capital of Kabul?
5. What were the connections between the rise of the Taliban and access to oil?
6. What are the consequences of superpower manipulation in the Middle East and Africa?