

15.3

The Cold War Intensifies



As a Young Historian, I will be able to...

- Describe how Cold War tensions were intensified by the arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union.
- Explain how Eisenhower's response to communism differed from that of Truman.
- Analyze the impact on the United States of significant international Cold War conflicts.
- Describe how Cold War tensions were intensified by the space race.

Arms Race Intensifies

September 2, 1949, American B-29 detects a radiation cloud drifting from Siberia

The Soviet Union had developed their own atomic bombs

Truman responds with the demand the Atomic Energy Commission produces a hydrogen bomb

Oppenheimer & Einstein argue that developing more advanced weapons would continue a never-ending arms race

Soviet Aggression

Both the US & USSR begin hydrogen bomb tests in the atmosphere, leading to health issues for some citizens

Mutually Assured Destruction- Program that would prevent either country from using a nuclear device

General Dwight Eisenhower is elected president in 1953, keeping much of Truman's policy

John Foster Dulles- Secretary of State who helped develop the UN, agreed with Eisenhower that the U.S. should lead in containment

Eisenhower Policies

U.S. worried about a **Domino Effect**, where countries would fall to communism if a neighbor did

Eisenhower believed it was important to stockpile weapons believing another war would be nuclear

Massive Retaliation- U.S. would respond to communist threats with crushing, over whelming force.

Brinkmanship- Belief that the U.S. going to “the brink of war” would prevent war

Cold War Conflicts

Nikita Khrushchev takes command of the Soviet Union after the death of Stalin

Khrushchev & Eisenhower meet in Geneva Switzerland to move towards “peaceful coexistence”

1956- Poland workers riot against Soviet Control, gaining more control over their own government

Hungarian students rebel, but the Soviet Union creates a brutal takedown restoring hardline communism

Suez Crisis

President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt tries to finance a dam on the Nile, U.S. & Britain support it

Nassar begins support of Communist China & Soviet Union so U.S. rescinds offer

Nassar **nationalized the Suez Canal, placing a private company under the government control**

France & Britain join forces with Israel in the **Suez Crisis, but Eisenhower is outraged & refuses oil to nations causing troops to withdraw**

Eisenhower Doctrine

U.S. would use force to help any Middle Eastern nation threatened by communism

Eisenhower wanted to use this to justify sending troops to Lebanon to stop a revolt

Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)- lead secret operations to protect American interests

Focused on setting anticommunist leaders in power, but created long resentment towards the U.S.

Space Race Begins

October 4, 1957- The Soviet Union launches satellite **Sputnik I** into space

Second satellite launches in space with dog **Laika to see if living things could respond to space travel**

**Congress approves the National Defense Education Act o
produce more scientists & educators in science**

**National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA)
created to coordinate space-related efforts**