

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 storing 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