

Two Nations Live at War

Brinkmanship Rules U.S. Society

- The USSR made their first atomic bomb in 1949.
- In response the US developed a **Hydrogen Bomb** in 1952 – 67 times the power of an atomic bomb and 1 million times the power of TNT.
- The USSR builds their own hydrogen bomb in 1953.
- The United States adopted the policy of **brinkmanship** which was the willingness to go to the brink (edge) of an all-out war with the USSR.
- The US limited its army and navy and increased the power of the air force and make more nuclear bombs.
- Schoolchildren practiced air-raid procedures, and some families built underground fallout shelters in their back yards.
- Fear of nuclear war became a constant in American life for the next 30 years.

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place

date

time

The Cold War Spreads Around the World

- The **Central Intelligence Agency** was created in 1947 – it used spies to gather information and carried secret operations or covert operations to overthrow governments unfriendly to the US.
- One such operation occurred in **Iran** in 1951 when **Prime Minister Mossadegh** nationalized the oil industry (took away from foreign companies.) This made the US unhappy.
- The CIA gave money to anti-Mossadegh supporters and installed a new leader – the **Mohammad Reza Shah** (the last monarch of Iran) who was friendlier to the West.
- In 1954, the CIA also took covert (secret) actions in Guatemala.
- Eisenhower believed that Guatemala's government had Communist sympathies because it had given more than 200,000 acres of American-owned land to peasants – about 1/6 of the population.
- In response, the CIA trained an army, which invaded Guatemala. The Guatemalan army refused to defend the president (**Jacobo Arbenz**), and he resigned. The army's leader (**Carlos Castillo Armas**) then became dictator of the country

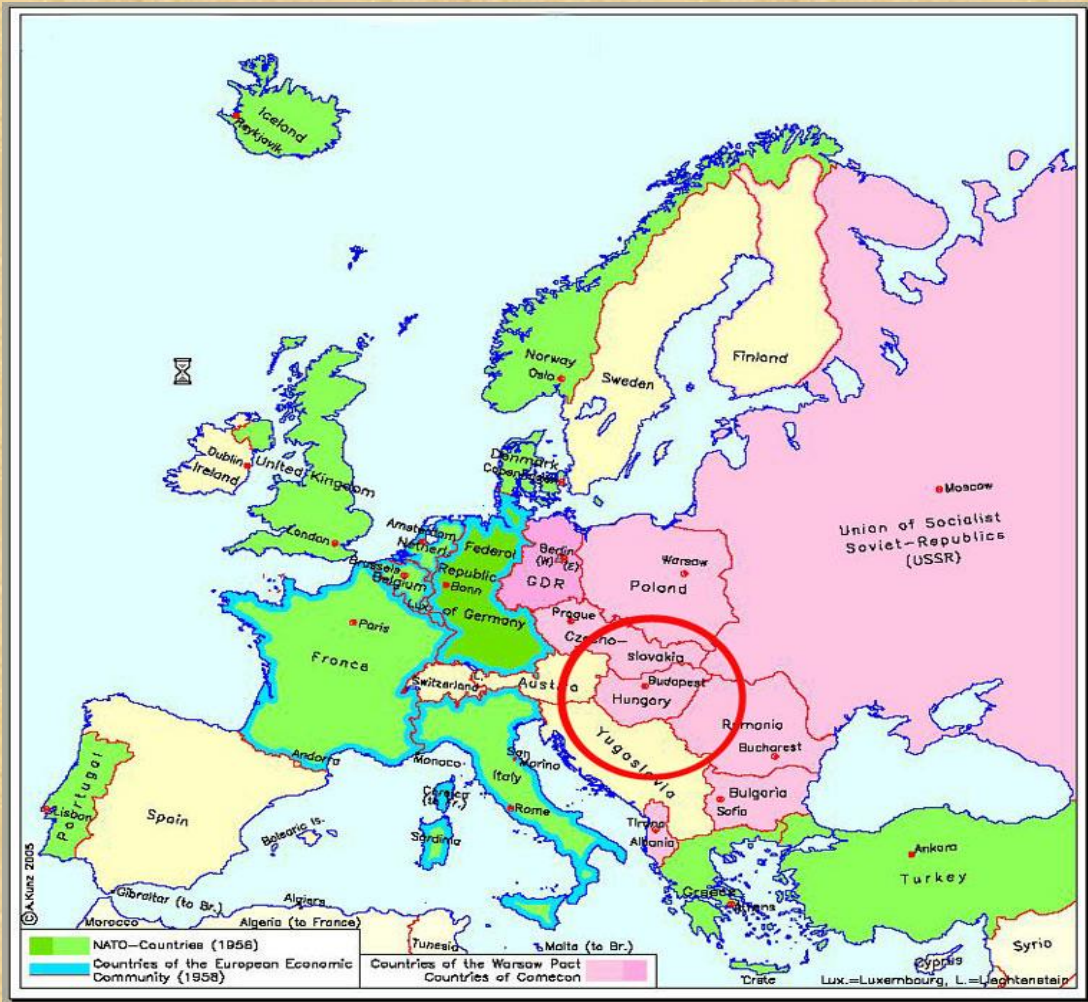




- The **Warsaw Pact** was created in 1955 – it was a military alliance between the Soviet Union and seven Eastern European countries. It's a response to NATO.
- In July 1955, Eisenhower traveled to **Geneva, Switzerland**, to meet with Soviet leaders.
- There Eisenhower put forth an “open skies” proposal. The United States and the Soviet Union would allow flights over each other's territory to guard against surprise nuclear attacks. The USSR rejects this proposal.
- In 1955, the **Suez Crisis** erupts when Egyptian president **Gamal Abdel-Nasser** asked the US for money to build a dam but at the same time was talking to the USSR.
- The US refused to loan Egypt the money and Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal (took away from France and Great Britain)
- Effects – fighting begins between Egypt vs. France, GB, and Israel (b/c ships were not allowed to go through the canal)
- UN intervenes to stop the war and Egypt keeps the canal.



- The Soviet Union's prestige in the Middle East rose because of its support for Egypt. To counterbalance this development Eisenhower pledged to financially help any Middle Eastern country fight off communism – this becomes the **Eisenhower Doctrine**.
- In 1956, led by **Imre Nagy** Hungarians demanded free elections, denounced the Warsaw Pact, and demanded that Soviet soldiers leave Hungary.
- The Soviet Union sent troops to stop the uprising – 30,000 killed and 200,000 people left Hungary.
- Although the Truman Doctrine had promised to support free peoples who resisted communism, the United States did nothing to help Hungary break free of Soviet control.
- Many **Hungarians** were bitterly disappointed. The American policy of containment did not extend to driving the Soviet Union out of its satellites.



The Cold War Takes to the Sky

- In 1953 after Stalin's death **Nikita Khrushchev** became the leader of the USSR
- He believed that communism would take over the world, but Khrushchev thought it could triumph peacefully. He favored a policy of peaceful coexistence in which two powers would compete economically and scientifically.
- In 1957, the USSR launched **Sputnik** (satellite) - circled the globe at the speed of 18,000 miles per hour. It could circle the globe in 96 minutes.
- The satellite was the size of a beach ball and weighed 184 pounds.
- In 1958, the US launched its own satellite.

- The CIA began making secret high-altitude flights over Soviet territory.
- The plane used for these missions was the U-2, which could fly at high altitudes without detection – at 70,000 feet.
- As a U-2 passed over the Soviet Union, its infrared cameras took detailed photographs of troop movement and missile sites.
- By 1960, however, many U.S. officials were nervous about the U-2 program because the existence and purpose of the U-2 was an open secret among some members of the American press and the Soviets had been aware of the flights since 1958.
- On May 1, 1960 a U-2 plane flew over the USSR piloted by **Francis Gary Powers**

- Four hours after Powers entered Soviet airspace, a Soviet pilot shot down his plane, and Powers was forced to parachute into Soviet-controlled territory. The Soviets sentenced Powers to ten years in prison but was released in 1962 in return for a Soviet spy
- At first, Eisenhower denied that the U-2 had been spying. The Soviets had evidence, however, and Eisenhower finally had to admit it.
- Khrushchev demanded an apology for the flights and a promise to halt them. Eisenhower agreed to stop the U-2 flights, but he would not apologize.
- Because of the **U-2 incident**, the 1960s opened with tension between the two superpowers as great as ever.



