EISENHOWER’S COLD WAR POLICIES

• MASSIVE RETALIATION

• MAIN IDEA
  – Eisenhower fought the Cold War by increasing the US nuclear arsenal and using the threat of nuclear war to end conflicts in Korea, Taiwan, and the Suez.
MASSIVE RETALIATION

• 1952 American’s ready for leadership change.
  – Cold War was cause...didn’t think Truman’s policies were working
  – Proof was China, Korea etc..
• Truman decided not to run for reelection
  – Democrats nominated Adlai Stevenson
  – Republicans nominated Dwight D. Eisenhower
    • Eisenhower national hero for organizing D-Day invasion... Stevenson had no chance
    • Eisenhower won in a landslide
MASSIVE RETALIATION

• “More Bang for the Buck”
  – Cold War shaped Eisenhower’s thinking
    • Convinced key to winning Cold War was not just military strength but also a strong economy
    • Prove free enterprise was better than communism
  – From war experience, knew the costs of preparing for large-scale conventional war
    • Believed too expensive
  – Instead of maintaining large and expensive army, nation “must be prepared to use atomic weapons in all forms”
    • Nuclear Weapons gave “more bang of the buck”
MASSIVE RETALIATION

– Korean War convinced Eisenhower that Communism couldn’t be contained in small wars
  • Wars were unpopular and too expensive
– Wars should be prevented in the first place
  • Best way was to threaten to use nuclear weapons....policy became known as “massive retaliation”
– New policy enabled Eisenhower to cut military spending from 50 billion to 34 billion
  • Reduced size of army at same time increased US nuclear arsenal
    – Went from 1,000 bombs in 1953 to 18,000 bombs in 1961
MASSIVE RETALIATION

• Brinkmanship
  – Eisenhower’s willingness to threaten nuclear war worried some people
  – But Secretary of State John Foster Dulles defended approach
    • Said “Had to take chances for peace just as you must take chances in war”
  – Critics called this “brinkmanship”
    • The willingness to go to the brink of war to force the other side to back down
  – Felt it was too dangerous but Eisenhower felt compelled to threaten nuclear war in several crises
President Says A-Bomb to Be Used if Needed

Truman Denounces Chinese Action in Northern Korea

Red Cross Sets Up Relief Program For Flood Victims; Flood Protection Program Still Before Engineer Board

8,000 Reds Attacking in Northeast Korea

6,000 Power and Light Restored Councilman's Car Recaptured

The ability to get to the verge without getting into the war is the necessary art...if you are scared to go to the brink, you are lost.”

–John Foster Dulles, 1955
MASSIVE RETALIATION

• The Korean War Ends
  – During campaign for president, Eisenhower promised to end the Korean war
    • It was expensive and unpopular
    • Eisenhower promised to go to Korea himself to end war
  – December 4\textsuperscript{th} 1952 Eisenhower met with frontline commander and troops in Korea
  – Eisenhower convinced ongoing war cost too many lives and not enough victories
    • To help end the war, told Chinese that US might continue the Korean War but with the option and threat of nuclear weapons.
  – Threat seemed to work and July 1953 signed armistice
    • New boarder of North and South Korea very near 38\textsuperscript{th} parallel
    • A demilitarized zone (DMZ) separated two countries
    • US troops still in Korea helping to defend South Korea’s border
    • NEVER been a peace treaty to end war
KOREA ARMISTICE SIGNED: HOSTILITIES CEASE TODAY

10 MINUTE CEREMONY ENDS 3 YEARS OF WAR. PRISONERS DUE SOON

HEAT FELLS LEGION TROOP ON PARADE

NORTH KOREA

Sea of Japan/East Sea

Pyongyang

Panmunjom

SOUTH KOREA

Seoul
MASSIVE RETALIATION

• The Taiwan Crisis
  – After Korean War ended, New crisis in Asia between Communist China, nationalist controlled Taiwan and some small islands on coast
  – Fall of 1954 China threatened to seize two of the islands
    • Eisenhower saw Taiwan as part of “anti-Communist barrier” in Asia and needed to be protected
  – China started to shell islands and declare Taiwan would be liberated
    • Eisenhower went to congress to authorize use of force to defend Taiwan
    • Also threatened China saying any attack would be met by US naval forces and hinted would use atomic bomb
    • China backed down
MASSIVE RETALIATION

• The Suez Crisis
  – Following year, serious crisis in Middle East
  – Eisenhower’s goal there was prevent Arab countries aligning with Soviets
    • To build support, Secretary of State Dulles offered to help Egypt dam the Nile River
  – Deal had trouble in Congress due to Egypt buying weapons from Communist Czechoslovakia
    • Dulles had to withdraw offer and a week later Egypt seized Suez canal from Anglo-French company
    • Going to use profits to pay for dam
MASSIVE RETALIATION

– British and French responded quickly by invading Egypt in October 1956
  • Eisenhower did not approve and was furious at Britain and France
– Situation more dangerous when Soviets threatened rocket attacks on Britain and France
  • Also offered to send troops to help Egypt
  • Eisenhower put US nuclear forces on alert just in case
– Under strong pressure from the US, British and French called off invasion
  • Soviet Union won diplomatic victory by supporting Egypt and soon other Arab nations began accepting Soviet aid
EISENHOWER’S COLD WAR POLICIES

• COVERT OPERATIONS

• MAIN IDEA
  – Eisenhower directed the Central Intelligence Agency to use covert operations to limit the spread of communism and Soviet influences
COVERT OPERATIONS

- Eisenhower relied on brinkmanship but knew it could not work in all situations
  - Could prevent war, could not prevent communists from staging revolutions in other countries
  - Eisenhower decided to use “covert” or hidden operations
    - Operations conducted by the “Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)”
COVERT OPERATIONS

• Many of the CIA’s operations took place in “developing nations”
  – Nations with primarily agricultural economies
  – Many of these blamed European imperialism for their problems
  – Leaders looked to Soviet Union as model of how to industrialize
  – Often threatened to nationalize
    • Put under gov’t control foreign businesses operating in their countries
COVERT OPERATIONS

• One way to stop developing nations turning communist was to provide with financial aid
  – Eisenhower tried not to do that in Egypt
• But if threat of communism was strong, CIA ran covert operations to overthrow anti-American leaders
  – Would then replace with pro-American leaders
COVERT OPERATIONS

• Iran
  – 1953, Iranian prime Minister (Mohammed Mossadegh) had nationalized Anglo-Iranian Oil Company
    • Seemed ready to make oil deal with Soviets
  – Pro-American Shah of Iran tried to force him out of office but failed and was exiled
    • CIA sent agents to organize street riots and arrange a coup to overthrow Mossadegh and return Shah to power

• Guatemala
  – 1951 Jacobo Arbenz Guzman elected president with Communist support
    • Land reform took over large estates and plantations including American owned companies
  – May 1954 Czechoslovakia delivered arms (guns)
    • CIA responding by arming Guatemalan opposition
    • Also trained them in secret camps in Nicaragua and Honduras
  – CIA trained forces then invaded Guatemala and Guzman left office
COVERT OPERATIONS

• Trouble in Eastern Europe
  – Covert operations did always work the way Eisenhower wanted
  – Stalin died 1953 and power struggle began in Soviet Union
    • 1956 Nikita Khrushchev emerged as new leader
  – Khrushchev attacked Stalin’s policies in a speech saying more than one way to build communist countries
    • CIA got copies of secret speech and with Eisenhower’s permission broadcast it to Eastern Europe
COVERT OPERATIONS

– Lots of Eastern Europe was frustrated with Communist rule
  • Speech further discredited Communism
– June 1956 riots erupted in Eastern Europe
  • By late October, full-scale uprising began in Hungary
– Khrushchev was willing to tolerate greater freedom but not tolerate end to communism in Eastern Europe
  • Soviet tanks soon went to Budapest (capital) and crushed rebellion
COVERT OPERATIONS

- The Eisenhower Doctrine
  - US wasn’t only country using covert operations
    - Egypt Pres. Gamal Abdel Nasser worked with Jordan and Syria to spread pan-Arabism
      - Idea that all Arab countries should be united into one nation
    - Eisenhower worried about Egypt and their links to Soviets
      - Asked Congress to authorize use of military force whenever the president thought necessary to assist Middle East nations resisting communism.
      - Extension of the Truman Doctrine of containment to the Middle East
      - Called the Eisenhower Doctrine.
  - February 1958, Eisenhower's concerns valid when rebels, allegedly backed by Egypt took power in Iraq
    - President of Lebanon feared would be next so asked the US for help
    - US sent 50,000 marines to protect its capital
    - British forces went to Jordan to protect its gov’t
  - When stabilized US forces left
COVERT OPERATIONS

• A Spy Plane is Shot Down
  – After Hungary rebellion stopped, Khrushchev reasserted Soviet power
    • Had supported “peaceful coexistence” with capitalism but began accusing ‘capitalist countries’ of starting arms race
  – 1958 Launched “Sputnik” (a Soviet satellite) and claimed grandchildren of capitalist countries would be communists
  – 1959 Khrushchev ordered Allies out of West Berlin
    • Secretary Dulles rejected this and said if Soviets threatened Berlin, NATO would respond with military force
    • Khrushchev backed down
COVERT OPERATIONS

– Eisenhower invited Khrushchev to the US in 1959
  • It was successful and agreed to hold a summit in Paris
    – Summit is a formal face-to-face meeting of leaders from different countries to discuss important issues
– Before Summit began in 1960, Soviet union shot down an American U-2 spy plane
  • Eisenhower first denied saying it was a weather plane off course
  • Khrushchev produced the pilot as proof but Eisenhower refused to apologize
    – Said flights protected American Security
  • Khrushchev broke up summit
COVERT OPERATIONS

• With new heightened tensions, Eisenhower prepared to leave office
  – Delivered farewell address that talked of new relationship between military establishment and defense industry
  – Warned Americans to be on guard against influence of “military-industrial complex”
  – Though he prevented war and kept communism contained, Eisenhower was not happy at the end of his term
    • Did not see any lasting peace in sight
REVIEW QUESTIONS

• What was brinkmanship?
• In what nations did the United States intervene with covert operations?
• Why did Eisenhower want to depend on nuclear weapons instead of traditional military approaches to war?
• What was the goal of the Eisenhower Doctrine?
• What was Sputnik? Who launched it?