

# Dwight D. Eisenhower

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## Overview

- Fought in WWII
- Five star general
- First supreme commander of the NATO forces in Europe.
- Attended West Point and later became one of America's greatest commanders.
- Ran for President in the 1952 and 1956 election as a republican and was elected both times.
- Was was familiar with military tactics which comforted the American people in having him as president.
- "... made vigorous efforts to wage the Cold War."



## Presidential election of 1952

- Tuesday, November 4, 1952
- Landslide victory over Democrat Adlai Stevenson
- I like Ike
- Won based on military involvement





## Atoms of Peace

- Educated the American people on nuclear warfare
- Propaganda of the Cold War regarding containment
- Assured Americans that atomic energy wasn't dangerous
- Assured the US wouldn't use nuclear warfare on Europe
- Impacted the world greatly
- Created regulations on nuclear power







## End of the Korean War

- Eisenhower went to Korea to find solutions to end the war
  - Found no solutions
- Thought to expand the war into China or even use nuclear weapons
  - This made the Chinese reach a settlement
- Armistice went into effect on July 1953
- War ended and Korea got divided south and north along the 38th parallel



## **US-** Chinese Relations

- Tensions between the two remained high after the Korean War
- Eisenhower supported the Nationalist Chinese Government in Taiwan
- The People's Republic of China started bombing the Nationalist's islands
  - Eisenhower said if a war started in Asia, the US would use nuclear weapons "exactly as you would use a bullet"
- The bombing stopped on April of 1954

## US- Soviet Relations

- Stalin died on March 5, 1953
  - $\circ$   $\hfill His successors wanted negotiations between the two countries$
- Nikita Khrushchev became the new leader of the Soviet Union
  - Wanted "peaceful coexistence"
- The Soviet and the western leaders met in the Geneva Summit of 1955
  - Eased tensions between the two
- The Soviets took control of Hungary in November of 1956
  - Eisenhower stayed neutral
- Eisenhower and Khrushchev met in Camp David at Maryland on September of 1959
- Tensions rose again between the two countries after the Soviets shot down an US spy plane
  - The Soviets shot down an U-2 Reconnaissance plane May 1, 1960
  - When Eisenhower and Khrushchev met in Paris, it intensified the Cold War and Eisenhower thought about resigning



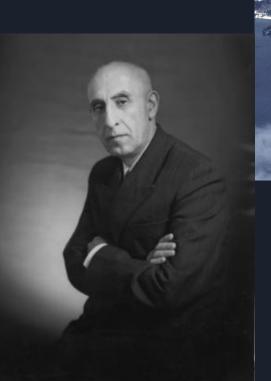
### President Eisenhower and Nikita Khrushchev at Camp David



## Covert Ops

- Relied mostly on the CIA
  - Believed they were effective against Communist expansion
- The CIA overthrew the Iranian Prime Minister Mohammed Mossadegh on August of 1953
  - Appointed Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi as the new Prime Minister
- The CIA helped counter revolutionaries overthrow the Guatemalan President Jacobo Arbenz Guzmán in 1954
- Eisenhower authorized the CIA to fly U-2 Reconnaissance planes over the USSR







### U-2 Reconnaissance planes



Mohammed Mossadegh

Jacobo Arbenz Guzmán



## Presidential election of 1956

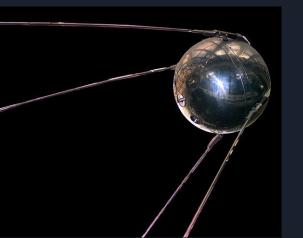
- Tuesday, November 6, 1956
- Rematch of 1952 against Democrat Adlai Stevenson
- Won Kentucky, Louisiana, and West Virginia, lost Missouri

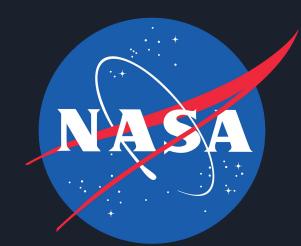




## Sputnik 1

- The Soviet Union launched it into space on October 4, 1957
- Caused fear and was perceived as a threat towards national security
- Eisenhower signed the National Aeronautics and Space Act
  - Established NASA
- Thus beginning The Space Race







## Middle Eastern Conflict



- Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal
  - The British, French, and the Israelis attacked the Sinai Peninsula on October 29, 1956
- Eisenhower was outraged and took action against the allies
- The Eisenhower Doctrine was announced
  - To provide economic and military support to Middle Eastern nations facing Communist aggression
  - It said "to secure and protect the territorial integrity and political independence of such nations, requesting such aid against overt armed aggression from any nation controlled by international communism"
- Eisenhower sent marines to protect Lebanon when pro-Nasser forces took over Iraq
  - Solved political factions in Lebanon



## Indochina

- Eisenhower sent weapons and money to Southeast Asia
- Provided military support to the French
  - Who were fighting the Communist leader Ho Chi Minh, in Vietnam, to reclaim their colony
- From 1954- 1955, the US provided support to Ngo Dinh Diem to establish a non-Communist government
  - Became South Vietnam





## Farewell Address

- America's leadership relies on our interests with world peace and human betterment; rather than our military strengths, riches and material progress
- If America is not being a powerhouse for the world they are moving backwards.
- "Good judgment seeks balance and progress; lack of it eventually finds imbalance and frustration."
- Key to keeping peace is US military establishment.
- Military Industrial Complex





## Bibliography

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