

# 1952-1959

## The "Nuclearization" of U.S. National Security Policy

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## Terms

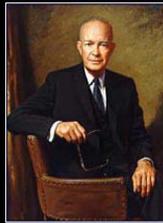
Bomber Gap	Missile Gap	U2
ICBM	Sputnik	DIA
BMEWS	CENTO	Disarmament
Arms control	Open Skies	Gaither Report
"hardening" sites	SLBM	First strike attack
Wars of national liberation	(Strategic) "sufficiency"	Fallout shelters/civil defense
Intelligence failure	survivability	SEATO
TNW	Delicate balance of terror	Military industrial complex

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## The Setting -- 1952

- Eisenhower elected President
- Korean War stalemate
- New Nuclear Technologies
  - H-Bomb
  - Tactical Nuclear Weapons
  - Missiles



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## Administration Outlook

- US Interests
  - to trade freely
  - Access to markets, goods, & raw materials
- East-West Cold War is Ideological and immutable
  - Focus on intentions of U.S.S.R.
  - Belief that a coherent external threat helps solidify the nation & allies
- Revulsion to Korean War experience

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## Eisenhower State of the Union Address

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- Deny the opponent the choice of time, place, and means of conflict
  - deterrence via uncertainty
  - asymmetrical responses
  - NSC-68 called for symmetrical responses
- balance military needs against economic needs
  - Stable economy and military strength are inseparable
  - cannot sacrifice former for the latter
- mobilization is no longer sound basis for defense
  - we must have capacity to strike back massively
  - maximum deterrent at acceptable cost
    - city targeting

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## Massive Retaliation (1952-1953)

- Four Point Strategy
  - Nuclear weapons
    - Strategic weapons
    - Substitute for manpower
  - Alliances
    - Provide manpower for land combat (no U.S. troops)
  - Covert operations
  - Negotiations

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# New Look

- NSC 162
  - Threat = wars of national liberation (nibbled to death)
  - local wars like Korea to be fought by local forces
  - shift military emphasis to *deterrence*
    - strategic nuclear power & air defense
  - development of tactical nuclear weapons to offset manpower
    - prevent Army from generating large numbers of troops
    - Reduce the Navy
    - U.S. to take the initiative – not react
- Impact
  - US forces drop from 3.5 mill to 2.5 mill by 1960
  - Military Budget Fixed; Service Budgets Fixed
    - MILEXP (1955) ~ 13% GNP
    - MILEXP (1960) ~ 9% GNP
  - Army CoS Maxwell Taylor resigns in protest

# New Look

## What Happened?

# Events

- McCarthy & Communist Scare
- H-Bomb (1952)
- US TNW (1952)
- DEW Line authorized (1952)
- Korean Armistice & U.S.-Korea Security Treaty (1953)
- Soviet H-Bomb (1953)
- Iran Crisis (1953)
- Guatemala Coup (1954)
- Indo China & SEATO (1954)
- Taiwan Straits Crisis (1954-1955)
- Bomber Gap (1955)
- Open Skies (1955)
- Austrian Peace Treaty (1955)
- Warsaw Pact (1955)
- US TNW to Europe (1955)
- Suez Crisis (1956)
- Soviet Intervention in Hungary & Poland (1956)
- U2 Flights Over USSR (1956)
- U.S. Air Defense & DEW Line (1956)
- Sputnik, Gaither Report, & the Missile Gap (1957-1960)
- Taiwan Crises (1957-1958)
- Jordan Crisis (1957)
- Lebanon Crisis (1958)
- Second Berlin Crisis (1958-1961)
- Nike Zeus ABM Program (1958-1963)
- CENTO (1959)
- Cuba (1959)
- BMEWS Construction (1959)
- Eisenhower MIC Speech (1960)

# End

# Guatemala (1954)



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# Taiwan Crisis (1954)



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## Southeast Asian Insurgencies (1954)



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## SEATO (1954)



- U.S.
- U.K.
- France
- Australia
- Pakistan
- Philippines
- Thailand
- Cambodia
- Laos
- Vietnam

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## Tactical Nuclear Weapons



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Atomic Cannon

## Tactical Nuclear Weapons



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## Testing Nuclear Effects



Yucca Flat, Nevada 1951

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## Bomber Gap (1955)



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## The DEW Line (1956)



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## Distant Early Warning System (1956)



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## NATO and the Warsaw Pact (1955)



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## Suez Crisis (1956)



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## Poland & Hungary (1956)



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## Middle East (1957-1958)



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## Eisenhower Doctrine

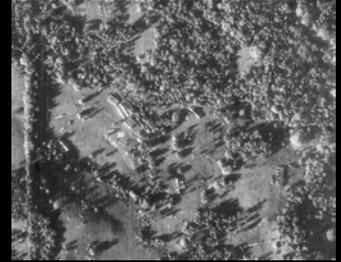
- Military and economic cooperation with Middle East regimes to ensure regional stability
- Use U.S. military forces if requested to help resist communist-inspired aggression

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## U2 Reconnaissance Aircraft



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## The Missile Gap

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## Sputnik, the Gaither Report, and the Missile Gap

- Delicate Balance of Terror
  - First strike threat → bomber dispersal & alert status
- U.S. MRBMs/IRBMs go to Europe

Jupiter (Army)



Thor (AF)



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## CENTO (1959)

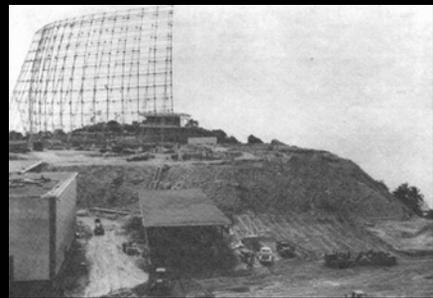


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## BMEWS



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## BMEWS (1959)



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## Cuba



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## Nike Zeus ABM (1960)



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