Gouzenko Affair



NATO



The Soviet Union opened up an embassy in Ottawa and started spying on Canada. Igor Gouzenko worked at the agency and coded and decoded secret messages for the USSR. Gouzenko defected and exposed Soviet spying in Canada.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was formed by several North American and European countries to protect each other in the event of an attack.

Korean War



DEW Line



After the Second World War, the Korean peninsula was split into two: North and South Korean. North Korea, supported by Communist China and the Soviet Union, invaded South Korea and the United Nations called on its member states to help the south. Over 26,000 Canadians fought in the Korean War and 500 died in the Korean War. Fear of a WWIII was palpable.

In anticipation of a Soviet attack, the U.S. Military built 63 radar stations across the Far North because the Artic was the shortest route for the Soviet Union to attack the U.S. The Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line spread across the northern coast of North America, Greenland, and Iceland.

Inuit Displacements



NORAD



Canada feared its claim to the Artic might be disputed so the government moved Inuit to be "human flagpoles". The RCMP took 92 people from Nunavik, Quebec to live 2000 kilometers away in the furthest northern communities in Canada: Qausuittuq (Resolute Bay) and Grise Fjord. Families were separated and hunting and fishing was much more difficult. Inuit were not allowed to return to Nunavik. The consequences were catastrophic.

The U.S. and Canada are partners in the North American Aerospace Defense Command that keeps an eye on North American skies and defending against enemy attacks.





NATO

1949: North Atlantic Treaty Organization was created to ensure mutual protection in the event of an attack. 1949 member countries: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States. Countries allied with the Soviet Union formed their own organization in 1955- the Warsaw Pact. Today, Canadians continue to be stationed in NATO allied countries.

Gouzenko Affair

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1942: The Soviet Union opened up an embassy in Ottawa and started spying on Canada. Igor Gouzenko worked at the agency and coded and decoded secret messages for the USSR.

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1945: Gouzenko defected and chose to remain in Canada with his wife who preferred the Canadian lifestyle. He then gave all the spy papers he had gathered to Canadian government officials and newspapers. He exposed the extent to which the Soviet Union was spying on Canada and Canadians. He hid his appearance in public for decades. Gouzenko, his wife and eight children eventually became Canadian citizens.

DEW Line

In anticipation of a Soviet attack, the U.S. Military built 63 radar stations across the Far North because the Arctic was the shortest route for the Soviet Union to attack the U.S. The Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line spread across the northern coast of North America, Greenland and Iceland. Completed and operational in 1957, the stations became obsolete ten years later as both sides had new missiles the DEW Line could not detect. Today, the Government of Canada operates the much smaller North Warning System.

Korean War

After the Second World War, the Korean peninsula was split into two: North and South Korea. Communist China and the Soviet Union supported North Korea while the west supported South Korea. In 1950 North Korea invaded South Korea and the United Nations called on its member states to help the south. Over 26,000 Canadians fought in the Korean War and 500 died. The Korean War ended in 1953.

NORAD

Since 1958, the U.S. and Canada are partners in the North American Aerospace Defense Command that keeps an eye on North American skies and defending against enemy attacks.

B Inuit Displacements

1953 & 1956 Relocations: To prove that Canada controlled the Artic islands, the government forcefully moved Inuit to be "human flagpoles" by moving Inuit further north and preventing other countries from claiming the Artic. The RCMP took 92 people from Nunavik, Quebec to live 2000 kilometers away to the furthest northern communities in Canada: Qausuittuq (Resolute Bay) and Grise Fjord. Inuit were told more people would be joining them and that they would receive housing, however few arrived, and they only received tents. Families were separated and hunting and fishing was much more difficult as were the darker days. Inuit were not allowed to return to Nunavik. In 1998 the Canadian government offered to pay for those who wanted to return and officially apologized in 2010 for the 1956 & 1958 displacements.





Voice of Women



Cuban Missile Crisis



The threat of a nuclear war caused many Canadians to put aside their political differences and focus on peace. The Voice of Women was created with the goal of promoting peace and encouraging countries to get rid of their nuclear weapons.

The Soviet Union put missiles in Cuba (an island close to Florida). That could have destroyed cities in the eastern United States and even Canada. The U.S. military sent ships to Cuba and demanded the Soviet Union remove the missiles and that Canadian Prime Minister Diefenbaker support the U.S. action. The crisis lasted 13 days until the Soviets backed down.

Bomarc Missile Crisis



Cruise Missile Tests



Canadian Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced that Canada would buy 56

Bomarc missiles. However, some Canadians were angered that the missiles would have nuclear war heads. NATO criticized Canada for not arming the missiles. This became an election issue. The Liberals won and the missiles were armed in Ontario and Quebec.

The U.S. wanted to test out nuclear missiles over areas similar to the Northern Soviet Union. Canada agreed to allow tests over Northern Alberta although the missiles were unarmed.

Canadian Constitution Protest



Fall of the Berlin Wall



A Toronto art student poured red paint on one of the original copies of the Canadian Constitution. He was protesting the plan to test Cruise missiles in Canada.

The Berlin Wall was erected and heavily guarded to separate people from travelling to East Berlin (communist) from the German Democratic Republic. The fall of the Berlin Wall ended decades of separation and signaled the end of communism in central and eastern Europe.





Cuban Missile Crisis



Voice of Women



1962: The Soviet Union put missiles in Cuba (an island close to Florida). The missiles could have reached and destroyed cities in the eastern United States and even Canada. The U.S. military sent ships to block Cuba and demanded Canadian Prime Minister Diefenbaker support the U.S. action. Diefenbaker was angry Canada was not consulted before the U.S. military action that could have angered the Soviets. Diefenbaker put Canadian troops on alert. The crisis lasted 13 days and nuclear war seemed possible until the Soviets eventually backed down.

The threat of a nuclear war caused many Canadians to put aside their political differences and focus on peace. Scientists held a conference in Pugwash, Nova Scotia, in 1957 to discuss the threat of nuclear weapons. The Voice of Women was created in 1960 with the goal of promoting peace and encouraging countries to get rid of their nuclear weapons. Many other groups held marches and pushed for international peace.

Cruise Missile Tests



Bomarc Missile Crisis



The U.S. wanted to test out nuclear missiles over areas similar to the Northern Soviet Union. Canada agreed to allow tests over Northern Alberta in 1984, although the missiles were unarmed. Many Canadians spoke out against these missile tests.

Under NATO, Canada has the responsibility to defend our allies with the military capacity to do so. Canadian Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced

that Canada would buy 56 Bomarc missiles. However, some Canadians were angered that the missiles would have nuclear war heads. NATO criticized Canada for not arming the missiles. This became an election issue. The Liberals won the 1963 election, and the missiles were armed in Ontario and Quebec. The missiles were never used and were returned to the US by 1972.

Fall of the Berlin Wall



Canadian Constitution Protest



The concrete barrier was erected in 1961 and heavily guarded to prevent people from travelling to East Berlin (communist) from the German Democratic Republic. In 1989 the Berlin Wall fell, and people could move freely between east and west Germany. It signaled the end of communism in central and eastern Europe.

In July 1983, a Toronto art student poured red paint on one of the original copies of the Canadian Constitution. He was protesting the plan to test Cruise missiles in Canada.





Collapse of the Warsaw Pact and USSR
Collapse of the Warsaw Pact and USSR The Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact collapsed. The Cold War ended. The 1955 Warsaw Pact was a friendship treaty between the Soviet Union and seven eastern bloc soviet republics of central and eastern Europe.





Collapse of the Warsaw Pact and USSR
1991: The Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact collapsed. The Cold War ended. The 1955 Warsaw Pact was a friendship treaty between the Soviet Union and seven eastern bloc soviet republics of central and eastern Europe (Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania).



