

CHC2P Unit 3: 1939-1959: War and Peace

Activity 8: The Cold War

Overview

In this activity, you will explore the Cold War, the creation of NATO and the trials and tribulations of the Canadian-made Avro Arrow.

Lesson

The Origins of the Cold War

At the conclusion of World War II, another type of war broke out - a war of cold stares and harsh words known as the Cold War.

As studied earlier in this unit, Joseph Stalin was the leader of the Soviet Union (also known as Russia). He was a dictator and a communist. As dictator, Stalin was a one-person ruler. As a communist, he believed in economic equality in society, but he was prepared to force equality with the use of violence.

The Cold War

In 1945, Stalin's troops occupied the countries of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany and some others. Although Stalin had promised the United States and England that he would allow free elections in these countries, he did not deliver on this promise. By 1948, Stalin had forced communist governments on these countries.

Stalin's actions infuriated the United States and its allies. The world was rid of one powerful dictator (Hitler), but now he had been replaced by another (Stalin).

After the six years of terrible fighting during World War II, neither side wanted more casualties, therefore they resorted to the Cold War. The Cold War was deadly serious, especially after the Soviet Union gained possession of the atomic bomb in 1949.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)



To protect the democratic governments of the West against Soviet expansion, Canada and the United States joined with 10 European countries to form the military alliance known as NATO in 1949. The member countries pledged to protect each other from enemy attack.

Avro Arrow

The CF-105, or Avro Arrow, was a supersonic jet developed by a Canadian company. Faster than any other aircraft, the Arrow was designed to carry nuclear-tipped missiles to destroy Soviet bomb attacks over the Canadian North.

Assignment

1. Research information on the following terms and create a chart to show how each of the terms are connected to the Cold War.
 - a) Igor Gouzenko
 - b) Warsaw Pact
 - c) North American Air Defence (NORAD)
 - d) Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)