

Cold war era and threats to american families



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During the Cold War period there was a conflict between the Communist nations led by the Soviet Union and the democratic nations led by the United States. The United States and the Soviet Union represented two opposing government systems. One of the direct threats to the citizens of America was the possibility of a nuclear war because of the two bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, evidence existed to show how horrible a full-blown nuclear exchange would possibly erupt. This began because Cuba received a nuclear missile from the Soviet Union and America was forced to protect itself at any cost.

That problem was that even in the case of victory of a nuclear war, the fruits of victory would still be ashes in our mouths (Farber, 2012). No matter if we win or lose, if we enter a nuclear war, the world will be destructed. In case of a nuclear attack on America, one would need to make preparations to keep their families and themselves safe. Some of the preparations one could make is finding or building a fallout shelter. Theses shelters can provide protection from the outside elements as well as nuclear, biological and chemical warfare.

Also a bountiful stock of goods and supplies is a necessity in the case of an invasion of nuclear war. A source of clean non contaminated water is needed as well as non contaminated food to feed yourself and your family is also another necessity. Another thing you would want or need is a transistor radio to receive information relevant to the cold war. Now days more advanced technology and research have allowed us to produce more resistant materials and suits such as the MOPP gear the mission-oriented-protective-posture used by the United States Armed Forces.

Specialized clothing and equipment protect against nuclear, biological and chemical contaminations. This MOPP gear can drastically reduce the potential of chemical exposure and reduce the risks of death. Some people such as Earl Bailey, an engineer at the Lockheed aerospace plant in Georgia devised an elaborate warning code for his family in case of a nuclear attack (Faber 1994). Kennedy came into the presidency with an overriding desire to act decisively in the battle against global communism.

People around the world protested the American government's involvement in the Cuban invasion which Kennedy ailed with the Bay of Pigs invasion. Kennedy tried hiding America's role and waited for six days to inform the American public about the nuclear missiles. Had President Kennedy not been so decisive and impulsive, would America and the rest of the world not had as big of risk of nuclear warfare? I think had he spent more time thinking out the problem and analyzing the solution to the problems there would not have been such an impulsive decision made. I think there would not have been such a tug of war of control and nuclear missiles would have never been a problem, or in this case a threat.