




### Arms Race

- ❑ In an effort to beat both the Axis powers and the Soviets to the creation of a nuclear weapon, the United States spent nearly \$2 billion in research and development of the atomic bomb.
  - By 1945, they had successfully built two such bombs, which were dropped on Japan in August of the same year.
- ❑ The Soviets secured nuclear weapons technology in 1949, and thus began an unprecedented arms race between the Soviets and the Americans.
- ❑ In 1952, the U.S. built the first hydrogen-bomb, a weapon with much greater destructive power, with the Soviets following suit within a year.
  - The arsenals amassed on each side created fear and tension between the two nations.
    - It also created a balance of power based on the principle of “mutually assured destruction,” meaning that each side could completely destroy the other many times over.

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### Nuclear Bomb Development and its Limitations

- ❑ Over the course of the Cold War, Soviet and U.S. leaders made efforts to limit the use and spread of nuclear weapons.
- ❑ The United States, Soviet Union, and Britain signed the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in 1963.
  - By banning tests in the atmosphere, space, and underwater, they hoped to minimize the environmental impacts of radiation.
  - The agreement, however, still allowed for tests to take place underground.
- ❑ In 1968, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, signed by 137 countries, aimed to limit the spread of nuclear weapons technology.
  - Disarmament efforts continued through the 1970s, but were impeded by the interests of the military and arms manufacturers as part of the military-industrial complex.

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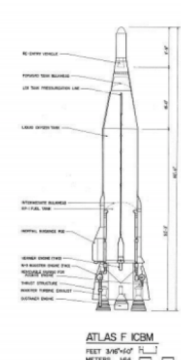
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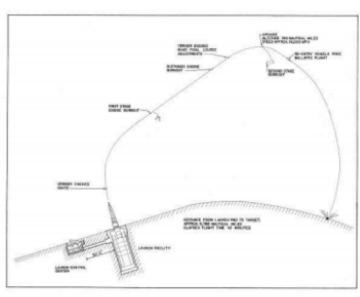
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### Development of Nuclear Bombs and Limitations



**ATLAS F ICBM**  
FEET 3000/914  
METERS 914



**FLIGHT SEQUENCE**  
NO SCALE

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