Trouble in the Suez
Background

- **Suez Canal** opened in 1869 by UK; last major colonial possession; mainly carried oil
- **Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936** – UK gets control of canal
- 1948 – EGY & ISR armistice → ISR had pushed into Sinai.
- 1949 – EGY closes canal to ISR shipping
- 1951 – EGY eases up, but declares 1936 treaty null and void
- 1952 – Col. Gamal Abdel Nasser leads successful coup against **King Farouk**
  - **Goal**: to expel UK/FRA from N. Africa & Middle East
US & UK Failings (Kissinger)

• HST & Ike condemn UK for military action in ME b/c it should be a UN issue, but really b/c British Empire is untenable

• Instead of isolating GAN & making his demands useless, UK/US were too conciliatory in beginning & he gains confidence

• 1954 – UK promises withdrawal from Suez military base after US pressure by ’56
Baghdad Pact

- Military Coalition of TUR, SYR, IRQ, PAK (527)
  - **KISS**: Flawed because of differing goals/strengths
  - Nasser wanted to wreck it

- US/UK court Nasser diplomatically
  - Peace w/ ISR & helping build *Aswan High Dam*
    - **KISS**: GAN couldn’t make peace w/ ISR b/c he’d lose respect from Arab world
    - **KISS**: Instead of taking dam funds, took advantage of importance US/UK gave him → recognized Mao (preview)
1956

- **7/26** – GAN give a speech in Alexandria which served as a signal to troops to seize canal (530)
  - UK under new PM Eden want to punish EGY, as did FRA → Compare GAN to Hitler (*sigh*)
  - Ike/Dulles didn’t want to upset long-term relations in ME, so they only cranked up rhetoric

- **KISS**: USSR gets upper hand b/c of fracture in W.

---

You wanna do something today?

Nope.
Dulles’s Solutions? (532-536)

• Dulles – International control of Suez?
• **Maritime Conference** – 24 nations (not GAN) to take de facto control of Suez
  – Dulles relies on moral values & public opinion to enforce
  – Result: Useless and rejected by GAN anyway
• **Users Assoc.** – Int’l. coalition of ships stationed outside Suez to collect duties
  – **KISS**: Might have worked, but Dulles refuses to use force to implement

I’m still kinda ok not doing anything.
UK & France Plan (539-41)

- Appeal to UN ("final hurdle") → Six Principles
- UN: Egyptian Operating Board & Supervisory Board of Users resolve disputes through arbitration
  - Result: Security Council accepts it but USSR veto
    - US could’ve pressured USSR to remove veto, didn’t want to make waves (Where was brinkmanship?)
- UK/FRA come up w/ dumb & obvious plan that accomplishes the opposite of its intent & hurts ALL
  - KISS: Admit weakness by using ISR
Crisis Averted

• US responds to UNSC by ordering ISR withdrawal, but did not condemn EGY terrorist campaigns
  – Vetoed by UK/FRA → UNGA demanded an end to hostility 64-5 & est. UN Peacekeeping force

• 11/5 – While crushing Hungarian Uprising, USSR’s Bulganin acts as enforcer; sends messages:
  – UK: Stop or we’ll A-Bomb you
  – ISR: Stop or you’ll cease to exist

• USSR proposes joint US/USSR military action; hints at WWIII
  – US doesn’t agree to this
  – UK/FRA remove forces in 48hrs. → Eden accepts cease-fire (11/6)

Don’t worry, John.
I’ll take care of it
- Bulganin
Kissinger’s Faults in US Diplomacy

- US didn’t have to force UN to act so swiftly
- US should have condemned EGY’s aggression
- US should have condemned USSR’s suppression of HUN as well as UK/FRA action (544)
Kissinger’s Long-Term Results

- GAN didn’t moderate policy toward West or Arab allies → supported overthrow of Western gov. in IRQ
- GAN → Arab hero b/c he stood up to W. and won
- Nonaligned nations realized that if pressure is applied to US, they will return w/ goodwill, while pressuring USSR is risky
- UK & FRA no longer world powers
Eisenhower Doctrine (548-49)

• 1/5/1957 – ME program of econ aid, military aid & protection vs. communist aggression (extends to whole world in SOTU)

• **KISS**: US disassociated itself w/rest of world so has to fight communism unilaterally