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## **Master Dissertation**

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**The Impact of the Cold War on Africa Case Study: Congo Crises.**

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A Dissertation Submitted to the Department of Arts and Foreign Languages in Partial  
Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Master Degree in English Language  
Option: Literature & Civilization

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## **DEDICATION**

“To all the lonely moment I had “

I dedicate this work to my lovely loving mother who had made this man of me.

To my father that always asked how it’s going on even though he does not fully understand what am doing.

To all my brothers who had or had not helped me yet thank Allah for their existence.

I also would like thank everyone helped me to be accepted as a master student,

Madame Oumane, Madame Femmam and also Chahinaze

To everyone I knew; mostly Ali El Maghrebi, without forgetting the one and only, Medjed, and from five years friendship with Khaled.

Bouthaina thank you for everything and anything, despite the fact that life is not faire enough...

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## **DECLARATION**

I Moussa Ben Messaoud declare that this thesis has been composed entirely by myself and it has been the result of my own investigation, except where explicitly stated otherwise in the text, and that the work has not been submitted for any previous application for any other degree.

### **Abstract**

This study discusses the impact of the Cold War on Africa. The Cold War was an ideological conflict between the United States of America and the Soviet Union. The impact of the cold war was felt through the impact of the two countries' interaction in other African countries or elsewhere. This study provides an overview of WWII and the Cold War. The Dissertation investigate the impact of the conflict through the means employed by the US and the USSR .The study discusses the impact of the cold war on Africa, shedding light on some of the countries. Focusing on the Congo Crisis

**Key words:** WWII, the impact of the Cold War, USA and USSR involvement in Africa, Congo Crises

## **List of Abbreviations Acronyms**

<b>CIA</b>	<b>Central Intelligence Agency</b>
<b>FLNA</b>	<b>National Front of the Liberation of Congo</b>
<b>IAA</b>	<b>International Association of Africa</b>
<b>IAC</b>	<b>International Association of Congo</b>
<b>IGC</b>	<b>International Geographic Conference</b>
<b>IOC</b>	<b>International Organization of Congo</b>
<b>MNC</b>	<b>Congolese National Movement</b>
<b>MPLA</b>	<b>Popular Movement for the Liberation of Congo</b>
<b>OAU</b>	<b>Organization of African Union</b>
<b>UK</b>	<b>United Kingdom</b>
<b>UNITA</b>	<b>National Union for Total Liberation of Congo</b>
<b>UN</b>	<b>United Nation</b>
<b>USA</b>	<b>United States of America</b>
<b>USSR</b>	<b>Union of Soviet Socialist Republican</b>

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## **General Introduction**

World War Two is still considered the bloodiest war that the world has ever seen. At the time of this war, there were alliances of different levels. Before Hitler betrayed the Soviet Union, they were dominating the world, but the alliance did not last. Then the Soviets allied with the United States of America and its allies. Despite their differences, they were able to end Germany's global dominance by working together.

However, the alliance between the Soviets and the Americans did not last. The end of the World War resulted in two main aspects. One the creations of world super powers, with various ideologies, the USA, with the idea of capitalism, and the Soviets, with the idea of Communism. The second aspect is the Cold War, which was an ideological conflict between the world's super powers. There was no use of the military; everything was political. In this conflict, they used persuasive ways in order to promote their ideologies and to make other countries join their side

The conflict was between the United States of America and the Soviet Union, but its influence had an impact on the entire world; Europe, Asia, Australia, South America, and Africa. The impact was on the third, mostly. The impact of the cold war means the world's super powers interfere to resolve a country conflict, mainly for independence

The study of the impact of the cold war on Africa in general, and the Congo in particular, is necessary to comprehend the methods used by both countries in their involvement.

### **Statement of the problem**

The study attempts to demonstrate the impact of the cold war on Africa and particularly on the Congo. This paper seeks to reach a comprehensive understanding of the reasons for the involvements of both super powers in other countries' conflicts. Furthermore, it examines how the United States and the Soviet Union used their involvement in the country to overcome the conflict.

### **Research question**

In order to uncover the aspects the research, this study, therefore will answer the following questions: how did the aftermath of the WWII lead to the lunch of the Cold War? What is the Cold War? What was the impact of the Cold War on Africa? And its impact on Congo?

### **Methodology**

The approaches that are used in this study to study impact of the Cold War are the historical, the descriptive and the analytical that seems relevant to the study. The historical approach focuses on the objective study of events and facts; this method helps to get an accurate account for the impact of the cold war in Africa. The descriptive approach tends to describe the means that USA and the Soviets used in the involvements moreover it describes the reasons for both countries' in other countries. The analytical approach is based on analysing the impact of the political strategies and practices of both countries in the conflict. In an attempt to collect data and analyse it, I used, books, articles, reports.

### **Objectives of the study**

The aim of the present study is to focus on the impact that these countries made by their involvement, not for the sake of helping others but just for their own benefits of raw materials.

### **Significance of the study**

The importance of this study is to learn about and comprehend some historical aspects of our continent that are frequently overlooked by others.

### **Structure of the study**

This dissertation is divided to three chapters, the first chapter entitled the Cold War which is a general historical overview of the origin of the cold war, starting by an overview of the beginning and the end of the WW2 and its results, moving to definition and the aim of each camp. The second chapter is about the Impact of the cold war on Africa speaking about the major conflict regions including North Africa, the Horn of Africa and southern Africa. The last chapter will be about the Congo Crisis. This chapter provides a historical account of the Congo during the colonial and the postcolonial periods leading to the Congo Crisis between 1960 and 1965 that made the country an arena of the conflict between the West and Soviets.

## **Chapter one: An overview of The Cold War**

## 1. Introduction

The first global war was the start to a new world order and division. Though the war did not last long, it set the line between who is strong and able to defend himself and who is not. Despite the fact that the war ended by signing the peace agreement, Germany was considered the strongest of them all. After years of planning, Hitler carried out his promise to burn down Paris. In 1938, the Second World War started and it was more destructive than the first. As in any war, there are always mistakes; Hitler's mistake was to rise against his strongest allies, the Soviets. The first strike he got was not a direct combat with the Soviets, but the rail ways, which were a little bit bigger than the normal ones. The second one was the deadly winter, which made bodies freeze, a lot died due to the cold, and the last one was a muddy spring. This action paved the way to the end of World War II.

However, the end of the World War II started another war. The end resulted of the rise of two powers, the USA and the USSR, each one of them had their own roles and how they ran things, but the biggest difference was the ideology that each one supported, communism for the Soviets and capitalism for the USA. This ideological difference led to the start of the Cold War, which was a non-military war where they used the media to deliver their thoughts. No one dared to make a move to start an actual war because there was a nuclear terror balance. One mistake can erase a country off the map.

## 1.1 World War Two

### 1.1.1 The start of the World War

World War Two, as the name implies, was a war in which almost every country in the world, primarily Europe, was involved in some way. It started on the first of September 1939 when Germany invaded Poland after the agreement of the German-Soviet Nonaggression<sup>1</sup>. The Soviets would protect the invasion coming from the west while also helping in the invasion of Poland. Yet the Soviet Union invaded Poland from the east after sixteen days of the German invasion from the west. Then the two countries (Germany and Russia) divided Poland between them, Germany took the western third of the country, and the remaining two thirds were for Russia (Smith, Graham and Hughes).

Though the invasion started, the declaration of war was on the third of September of the same year when France and Great Britain joined Poland and declared war on Germany. That was the start of World War Two, the bloodiest war that humans ever witnessed. Germany and the Russians were the first in the Axes. In 1936, Italy joined the Roman-Berlin Axis<sup>2</sup>, and three months later, Japan joined the Axis in the name of the Axis Power, which was created to oppose the Allied power. The Axis were not the only powers gathering at the time, the opposite power which would defeat the Axis was called the Allies. At first, it was the United Kingdom, France, and Poland. In 1941, the Soviet Union joined the Allies in Operation Barbarossa<sup>3</sup>, and China and the United States joined the Alliance the same year (Odd Aren 43-44).

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<sup>1</sup> German-Soviet Nonaggression Pact: "August 23, 1939... a pact included a few days before World War II, which was intended to divide Europe into German and Soviet spheres of influence."

<sup>2</sup> Roman-Berlin Axis :an agreement between two fascist countries (Italy and Germany) politically and militarily

<sup>3</sup> Operation Barbarossa: it is the code name for the invasion of the soviet union

Though the decision of invading the Soviet Union paid off at first and it resulted in the taking of Moscow; in the end, this decision became a mistake to the point that the battle of Stalingrad became the deadliest battle in WW II. It was the place and time where the Nazis' series of victories, which started with Poland, Denmark, Norway, and France from 1939 to 1941, stopped. In August 1942, the war started when the two powerful countries of the Axis clashed. The fighting was so savage that civilians were included. The Nazis did not have mercy on anyone, but the Soviet army did not retreat, and continued to fight to the end. While the Nazis were making no progress in the fight against Russia, just holding on as much as they could, the Japanese on the other side of the world were making significant progress in restoring the Asian countries to the Allies from 1939 to 1941. They occupied French Indochina, and then in late 1941, December 7, to be exact, they made their biggest move and bombed the port of Pearl Harbor, where the American Pacific navy docked. Though it was a huge success, historians consider it a stupid move to destroy the ships, warplanes, and airports but not the factories that made all of them. The Japanese will note their mistake when the Americans could restore more than what was destroyed. The Americans were so powerful that they went to two wars at the same time (Germans and the Japanese) (Smith, Graham and Hughes).

### **1.1.2 The End of the War and it's Results**

The declaration of the invasion of the Soviet Union was the star to the fall of the German Nazis, which meant the end of the Second World War. As Germany was the leader of the axis and the strongest too, "cut the head of the snake, the body will stop moving." And so the loss in Stalingrad was the start. The hope that was gained from winning the battle gave the Russians the courage to move forward and restore huge areas of eastern and central Europe. With a steady pace, they managed to restore

capitals and cities such as Budapest, Vienna, Prague, Warsaw, and Berlin. The other two allies were also making progress in closing in on the Axis by moving to Italy; furthermore, after winning the battle of Normandy in June–July 1944 and advancing within 50 miles of Berlin on April 25, 1945, they met with the Red Army and shook hands at Torgau on the River Elbe (P.M.H and Gilbert 17).

On the other side of the world, the United States was having another war against the Japanese. Having a battle on two different sides (Europe and Asia) was an announcement of the force that the USA had. With this force, the Americans succeeded in restoring Burma to the British and some other lands, but the American attack that determined the end of WWII was the two atomic bombs that were dropped on Hiroshima on August 6th, 1945 and Nagasaki on August 9th, of the same year, which led to the surrender of the Japanese army (20).

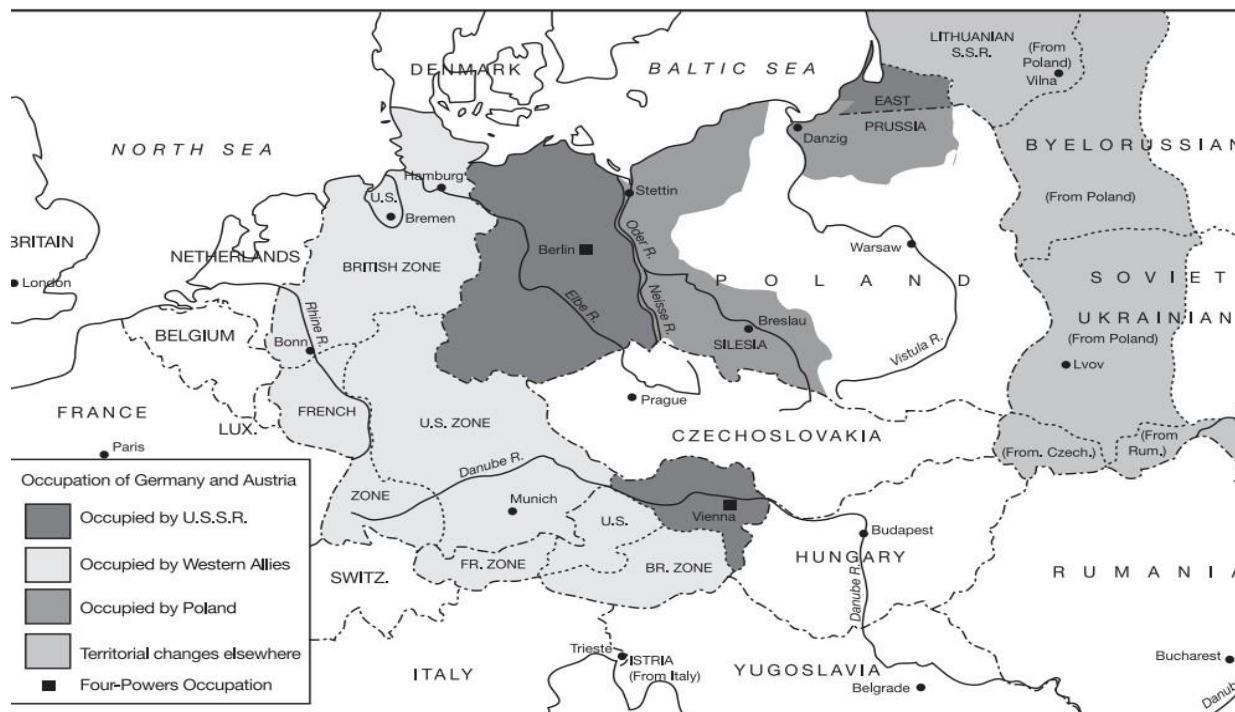


Figure 1 Central Europe after WWII (McMahon 4) a map that show changed territories and occupied countries in Central Europe



The war ended and the results were catastrophic. The massive destruction was enormous; human casualties numbered in the millions. There were more than 60 million deaths, including civilians. Cities were demolished. Berlin was a city that the Allies used for revenge and a day after the declaration of the end of the war, they dropped 4000 tons of bombs on other places like Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which were absolutely destroyed because of the atomic bombs, and Warsaw, which was destroyed street by street (17).

What was significant when the war ended was the rise of new superpowers that would change the world order. The tension between the claimed allies of WWII, the United States and the Soviet Union, was raised, and the world had two leaders at the time. Western Europe did not forget that the Soviets were once part of the Axis. Western Europe became capitalist and had US as a leader .The other part of Europe (the eastern part) was grateful to the Soviets and became communist; the Soviets were the leaders. This split of the continent creates the eastern pole and the western pole. Past conflict was not the only reason for the creation of the two poles, but also an ideological difference. Each country stood for its beliefs after 1945, when communism gradually spread. The US was afraid of it and tried to stop it with any means. The USA and Britain did not agree to the Soviet demand to have portion in Poland. Furthermore, the Truman Doctrine was a policy of showing support to other countries in exchange for not joining the USSR. These actions were, in one way or another, the reasons for starting another conflict called the Cold War (Smith, Graham and Hughes).

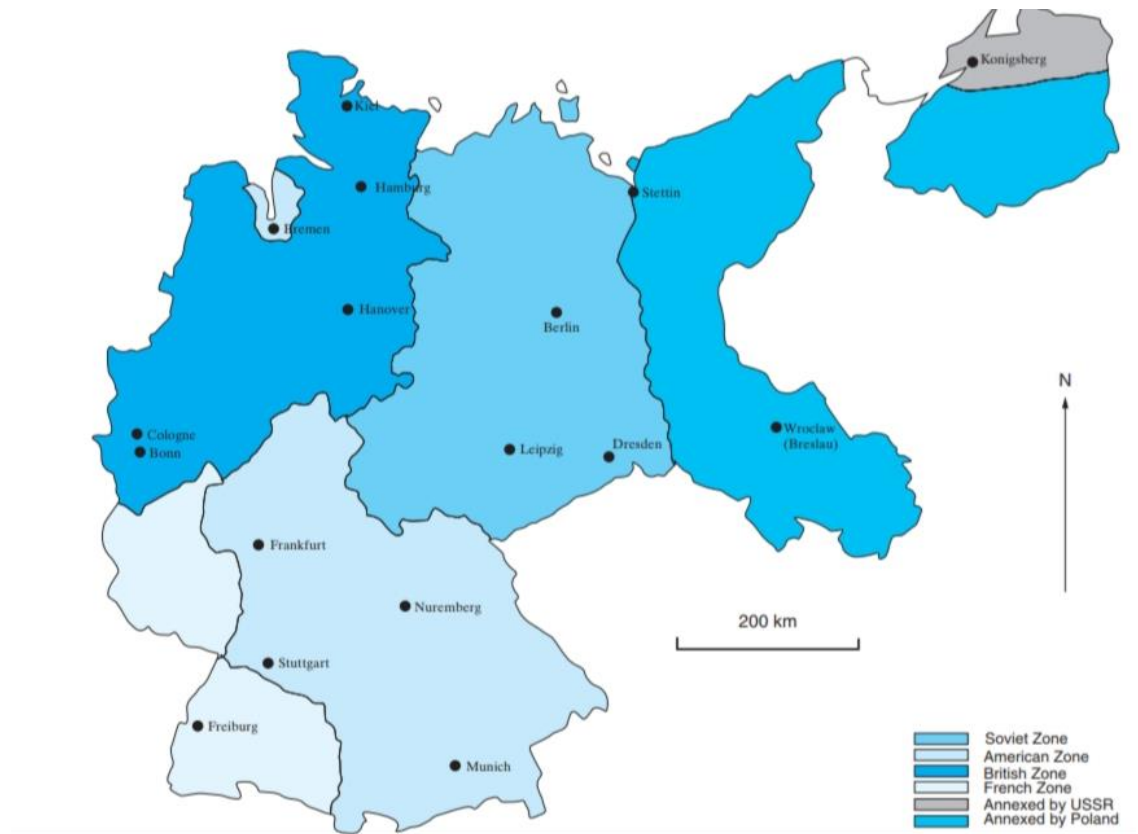


Figure 2 Germany after WW II (swift 13) the allies divided Germany between them after the fall of the Nazis

## 1.2 The Cold War

### 1.2.1 Definition

The Cold War was a political and ideological conflict that occurred after the end of World War II between the USA and its allies and the other rival, the USSR and its allies. Both countries were doing their best in order to spread what they believed in. The term "cold war" was first used in 1893 by the German socialist Eduard Bernstein to describe the arms race between Germany and its neighbours where there was no shooting. Therefore, the conflicts between the surviving countries after WW II were the belligerents of the cold war. Both countries were doing everything they could to ensure

that the ideologies they were promoting spread throughout the world, the USSR with communism<sup>4</sup> and the USA with capitalism<sup>5</sup>(Williamson 12).

After 1945, the Cold War dominated global relations. The Cold War has been described as a state of severe anxiety among the superpowers, preventing an all-out war but characterized by mutual hostility and involvement in covert conflict and conflict by proxy as a means of maintaining one's hobbies towards the other. It may not have emerged as a "hot" conflict, but it changed into a risky era. Indeed, it remained "cold" because the advancement of nuclear weapons had made resort to conflict a suicidal enterprise: any aspect could be completely destroyed in such an event. The conflict between the two sides was thus pursued in an indirect manner, frequently at great risk, and the resulting tensions ensured that each side maintained a high and continuous state of readiness for conflict. The massive costs incurred by each facet on research and development of nuclear arsenals and transportation engines result in a spiraling arms race that determines that this war is only an armless war (Dockrill and Hopkins 1).

### **1.2.2 The beginning of the Cold War**

The start of the cold war was after the end of World War II, when the Germans lost and Hitler committed suicide. That left a vacuum of power, which led to the hostility between the world's strongest countries at that time. Antagonism has been inherent within the American–Soviet relationship due to the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. The great continental states represented surely opposed ideologies: the United States embraced the values of liberal, capitalist democracy, even as the Soviet Union became the first socialist republic, a communist committed to spreading "worldwide

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<sup>4</sup> Communism is an economic system where the people control the means of production.

<sup>5</sup> Capitalism is an economic system where the private investment of private capital is what controls the production and distribution of goods.

revolution" via overthrowing the existing worldwide order. This ideological difference between the USA and the USSR was completely revealed at the end of the First World War. Furthermore, the Russians had no representatives at the 1919 Paris Peace Conference, despite the fact that Russia was one of the allies, revealing that Russian ideology was not welcomed. The war goals of the United States, as stated in Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points speech the previous year (a set of principles that were used in negotiations for peace to end WW I), were to create a world founded on the concept of national self-determination and a League of Nations to replace the insecure pre-1914 system of alliances and balance of power politics. The Soviets, led by Vladimir I. Lenin, argued that the proletariat's worldwide victory was the sole basis for a peaceful world. In the early postwar years, Western support for anti-communist elements in Russia aiming to overthrow the Bolshevik regime heightened the Soviet leadership's fears about the capitalist powers' unwavering animosity toward them and their resolve to demolish the new Soviet republic(8).

The year 1945 marked the end of World War II and the start of the Cold War, yet historians did not agree on a specific date for it. Though the cold war lasted a long time and no one knows who started it, Hitler predicted a clash between the two strongest countries when the war ended (USA and USSR). The goal of the WWII allies was to defeat the Nazi Germans. In 1945, this aim was fulfilled when the Allies won and the Axes lost. This victory created a vacuum of power in all of Europe. The Allies eventually gained complete control of Europe. The USSR dominated Eastern Europe, and the rest of them, the USA, France, and Britain, dominated Western Europe. (Williamson 5).

From the beginning, there was tension, mistrust, and suspicion between the capitalists led by the United States, and the communists led by the Soviet Union; it was

as much a classic marriage, an alliance of convenience. Apart from the main aim, which was to defeat Germany, there was almost no other reason to strengthen a partnership born of awkward necessity burdened by a tumultuous history. After all, the US had been hostile to the Soviet Union since the Bolshevik revolution, which had taken the country out of isolation; the USSR leaders saw that the US stood in front of the uprising of their regime from its start (Mahon 16).



Figure 3 Europe in the Cold War (P.Stone166) the map shows the eastern camp countries and the western camp countries

### 1.2.3 USA aims and motifs

The United States had many goals at some stage in the bloodless conflict era in order to prevent communist takeovers. So, US leaders thought about a brand new international capitalist via temptation. So they could gain the support of vulnerable nations, and the world. In 1947, President Truman warned the American Congress that it had to stop Communism, after which General Marshall came up with a plan to help Europe get over the conflict using American cash. First, with the aid of 1947, Greece became one of the few nations in Eastern Europe that had no intention of becoming communist. The Communist rebels in Greece have been defeated due to the aid of the British Army. America grew cautious toward the increase of Soviet power. As a result, while the British advised Truman that they could no longer maintain resistance in Greece, Truman stepped in to take command.(according to Belaid and Amirat 12)

In March 1947, he advised the American Congress that it had become America's duty to stop communism's development any further. This became known as the Truman Doctrine. It is regularly said that he endorsed containment (preventing the Soviets from getting any extra support), but Truman did not use this phrase, and lots of Americans spoke of "rolling back" communism. Second, in June 1947, General George Marshall went to Europe to see what was needed for help. He went to Europe to see what he could offer as help, but it was so destitute that it almost became communist. Marshall and Truman requested \$17 billion from Congress to fund the European Recovery Programme, nicknamed the Marshall Plan, to get the economic system of Europe working again. Congress at first hesitated, but later agreed in March 1948, while Czechoslovakia had already become a Communist state. The aid given was food and money in order to buy equipment and improve the transport system. Most of the money was used to buy commodities from US suppliers. \$3.5 billion was spent on raw

materials; \$3.2 billion on food, seeds and fertilizers; \$1.9 billion on machinery and vehicles; and \$1.6 billion on fuel.(13)

#### **1.2.4 Soviet aim and motifs**

The Soviet Union's goal during the Cold War was to retain control of Eastern Europe and spread communism around the world. The Soviet Union's ideological commitment to achieve communism included developmental socialism in a country and peaceful coexistence with capitalist countries, while championing anti-imperialism and defending the international proletariat, fighting capitalism, and eventually achieving the goals of communism. The Warsaw Pact was one of the famous projects of the Soviet Union through which it called for a united world with a single centralized government and a single currency, but this union was to be under Soviet and socialist control. Its aim is to develop scientific knowledge and spread equality among men, teach people the power of one nation working for the same goal, and to build bigger missiles and better weapons than the Americans.(13)

### **1.3 Conclusion**

World War II was an experience no one would like to have again. It makes the nations' leaders think twice whenever they have the idea of war. The mass destruction that they suffered, the number of lost lives, is almost immeasurable. More than 60 million died across all nations involved in the war. Moreover, the war left the European countries devastated not only in infrastructure, but also economically and politically. The end resulted in the emergence of superpowers. The USA, which proved its ability in such situations, and it was very powerful militarily, economically, and politically. The other superpower was the Soviet Union, which was the first to stop the Nazis and proved to be a powerful country. Those superpowers had evolved to the point where one of them should lead the world and a conflict or, more likely, a race to spread their

ideology throughout the world arose. This conflict was called the Cold War. The name was specific because there was not an actual shooting, but they used media and propaganda in order to have a lot of support from other countries. The reason for not using weapons was that both of them have mass destruction weapons that could eliminate the other from the world map.

The conflict was about an ideological difference between the USSR and the USA, yet they did not keep this conflict only between them, wherever this conflict was, it created another conflict in that place. At first, Europe was involved because WW II was in Europe; then it was divided into two poles; one embraced capitalism and the other went to communism. Then the conflict spread to Asia, where it caused changes in some countries, such as Korea, which eventually became two Koreas, and it also reached Africa. At first, they did not pay much attention to Africa, but that changed with the independence movement.



## **Chapter Two: Cold War in Africa and Major Conflicts Areas**

## 2 Introduction

The Cold War was a conflict between the two most powerful countries at the time. The conflict was between the USA and the Soviet Union and their actions to have supporters create some sort of conflict at any place these ideological clash-lands. The situation was somehow different in Africa. There was already a conflict. Almost all of Africa as a continent was colonized. European powers: Britain, France, Belgium, and Portugal. At the time of decolonization, African countries had had enough of imperial power and desired independence. Although both rivals had an interest in Africa, the United States landed on the continent before the Soviet Union. Since the Imperial powers were allies with the United States, they thought that even if colonies had their independence, they would still have been controlled over it colonists and then USA would benefit either way. On the other hand, the Soviet Union was not interested in Africa at first but mostly interested in just securing its perimeters, so it's possible to have an alliance with an African country during the time of the Independence movement. As a rival to the USA, the Soviets were not interested in establishing communist states but only in maximizing Soviet influence in the world.

The conflicts caused by the cold war were not only in one part of Africa, but in many parts of the continent; including Egypt, Somalia and Ethiopia, and Angola. The regions mentioned before will be discussed in this chapter.

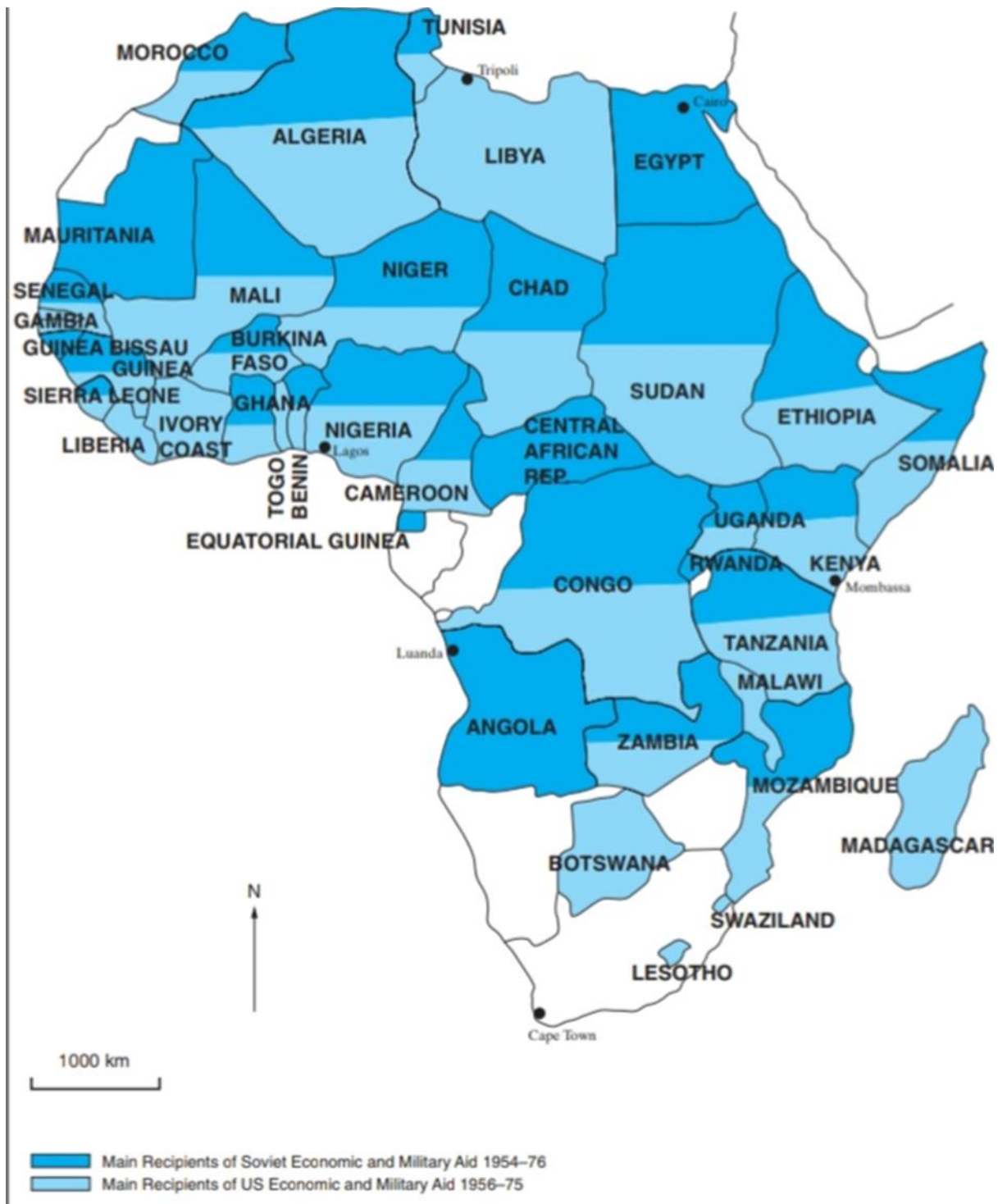


Figure 4 USSR and USA aid to Africa (swift 91). Map of the african countries that were supported and aided by the Soviet and the Americans.

## **2.1 Major Conflicts Areas**

### **2.1.1 In North Africa**

#### **2.1.2 In Egypt**

The Egyptians were influenced by the Iranians who terminating Britain's control over Iran's enormous oil. Therefore the Egyptians tried to have full control of the Suez Canal. This led an Egyptian Islamic group to ask the British to withdraw from the canal. In 1955, Israel attacked a military base in the Gaza Strip using French equipment. The military bases were Egyptian. Two months before the attack and after Gamal Abdul Nasser removed King Farouk, Abdul Nasser asked the United States for assistance. In order to remove the British from the Canal Zone, despite the fact that the USA declared that it would be an alternative to old-style colonialism, it refused Abdul Nasser's help request. The Americans chose to maintain a good relationship with the British rather than help a distrustful and unpredictable person. In February 1955, the American government wished to include Egypt in the Baghdad Pact for the reason that it was an influencer in the Middle East and also to tame it. However, London had another view and joined Iraq. Abdul Nasser convinced Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan to refuse to join the Baghdad pact. ( Schmidt 37)

Egypt's relationship with the United States of America was deteriorating. Representatives of some African colonies and leaders of liberation movements met in Bandung, Indonesia in order to create a relationship between the West and the East. The meeting was without Western guidance, and after it, countries embraced the philosophy of nonalignment. That created a panic situation for the capitalists, which made them think that the meeting was because of the influence of communism. ( 38)

Due to the unstable relationship between the US and Egypt, the Soviet Union saw it as an opportunity to establish political and economic relations in regions that

they couldn't do before. Under Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviets announced that anti-imperialism movements seeking political and economic independence would be supported.(38)

Though Moscow sought to improve relations with Egypt and other Arab countries in order to halt the spread of Western imperialism, it was concerned about Abdul Nasser's strong anticommunism, believing that communist ideology drove Egyptians to seek power and influence. To get rid of Britain's role was Nasser's primary concern, not the cold war. In fact, he did not want help from the USSR. That was only because his request was refused.(39)

In September 1955, Egypt signed an arms agreement with Czechoslovakia for artillery and eighty MiG-15 fighters. That led to the destruction of the western military in the Middle East. It was the first aid from the east. After two months of closing the arms deal, Gamal Abdul Nasser asked the USA to help financing the Aswan High Dam Project. This project aimed to provide more agricultural lands as well as the necessary power for industrialization. Abdul Nasser knew that the United States would not say no for the first time, and if it did, he would just go to the Soviets, and they surely would provide what he needed. After negotiations the British managed to convince Washington to agree, Afterwards, they stopped the foundation when Nasser supported the People's Republic of China (38)

The triple attack on Egypt began when Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal in response to the United States' refusal to fund the Aswan High Dam Project. He declared "We shall use that money for building the High Dam. . . . We don't have to seek American or British aid for building the High Dam. We will build it ourselves and with our own money"( Egypt Nationalizes Suez Canal Company; Will Use Revenues

to Build Aswan Dam,” After this announcement, the Soviets retreated since they were not concerned with this announcement. Despite the fact that both Britain and France were suspicious of him at first because of his investment in the Middle East and the second because of his support for Algeria's independence movement and influence in other francophone African regions, they decided to remove him. The UN urged that the attack should stop, yet they used the veto right and bombed military bases and invaded the country, using French equipment (planes and tanks) to be a part of this invasion and occupy Sinai. (40)

The USA was afraid that Egypt would cut the way for it to the Middle East, therefore it insisted to stop the attack. When the attack stopped and Britain, France, and Israel withdrew, Nasser saw it as a victory because he had made cold war powers and imperial ones stand against each other. Nasser fought both camps, communism and imperialism, till his death. In 1970, his successor, Anwar Sadat, was as powerful as Nasser; he promoted his philosophy through the Soviet Union. Cold War rivals urged their representative allies to settle and stop the war of 1973 between Egypt and Israel to prevent a Third World War there should be a deep and thorough discussion and analysis of the events focusing your attention on the conflict between the West and the Soviets in Egypt (Schmidt 44).

## **2.2 The Horn of Africa**

### **2.2.1 Ethiopia and USA**

Ethiopia was a strong country. It was the only African colony that was able to resist the Western Conquest. It was powerful enough to expend its territories on behalf of other small territories. When Italy took over some Somalia regions (Ogaden and

Haud) to make them part of its colony, the allies interfered, expelled Italy, and brought back the exiled Ethiopian emperor, Haile Selassie.

Despite the fact that Italy was expelled, Ethiopia kept the regions that were taken from Somalia. Following the war, Ethiopia, like many other African countries, was ruled by the British. Because of its location, the United States regarded it as a treasurer; thus, to earn the approval of the country's leaders, the US started to aid the Ethiopian government. Then they suggested giving Ogaden and Haud to Ethiopia and supported the claim of the Eritrea region. In spite of the Eritreans' independence request, the UN agreed that Eritrea should be controlled by Ethiopia. That was official in 1952. Considering the strategic location of Ethiopia made it precious, even though when Emperor Haile Selassie did not respect the UN agreement and conceded Eritrea, both the USA and UN did not take any counter action.

The reason for that was that it was viewed as a reliable ally in the cold war since it opposed communism and also for its location, which was almost near to everywhere. The American government provided over 280 million dollars to train its forces, a 47,000 man army to restrain internal struggle and oppose Eritrea's independence. In exchange, the Ethiopians would allow the USA access to two radio facilities (Kagnew communications station in Asmara and naval facilities in Massawa), both located in Eritrea. Those stations would play a high role in the American intelligence network.

The Selassie's system caused famine. He forced farmers to grow food for export only; they had nothing left for themselves. This catastrophe killed over 100,000 people across the country. Although he had a chance to solve this problem, he did not. Out of shame, he refused international help. This situation caused a protest against the

Selassie regime. A small military group called the Derg took control and overthrew the old system in 1974. The group took direct action and arrested the old government officers. They also promoted socialism, in which they nationalized the economy. The Derg helped the country in many ways. The land reform program helped peasant cooperatives. Furthermore, they aspire to spread education in the country to the farthest parts of it. However, there were those who were against the reforms and others in favor of them. At the end, whoever they were against were imprisoned, exiled, or dead.

The Americans supported the military group against the old system of Selassie. The new system was socialist. The USA gave more aid to Ethiopia. This action was distrusted by the Dergs because Ethiopia was getting stronger, and the USA stopped the support, so they looked the other way for aid and signed a secret agreement on weapons with the Soviets. Ethiopia switched sides in February 1977, shortly after Mengistu took the control (he was trained in the USA but he was a communist supporter). The Americans stopped the aid. As a response, they shot down the communication station. The USA was prepared for that, which was not a big hit for them (Schmidt 144-147).

### **2.2.2 Ethiopia and Soviet Union**

The Kremlin was concerned with the relationship between the US and Ethiopia because of its reliance on American military support, even though it's switched sides. More importantly, Moscow didn't want to ruin its relations with Somalia. The fact that Somalia was an Islamic region did not help in advancing socialist programs. On the other hand, Ethiopia was viewed as a strong representative of socialism. Because the USSR was offering assistance to both countries, which were enemies, the USSR concluded that the best way to assist both was to establish a confederation in the Horn of Africa.



The US view of Mengistu was a disappointing; the Soviets had another view; it was an opportunity. In 1976, they signed a secret arm deal. In March 1977, tanks fighter planes arrived, in addition to technicians from Cuba to teach them how to use them. The Soviets supported Mengistu in the Red Army campaign in 1977-1978 (a campaign to eliminate the opposition part). Then he had the respect of the Kremlin after he won. One year after that, Ethiopia became an ally of the Soviets.

The number of educated citizens was lower after the campaign. Moscow saw that a revolution was needed to educate people, so they forced him to reconcile with those who remained alive. Soviet aid has been used to crush the independence movement in Eritrea. The aids were huge, but when Mikhail Gorbachev was in power, he stopped the aid because there was no benefit from it. Canada and the United States exiled Mengistu (153-154).

## **2.3 Somalia**

### **2.3.1 Somalia and the Soviet Union**

Just like Ethiopia, Somalia also has a very strategic location. Because of its location, it was able to control access to the Red Sea. In 1961, the Somalia government requested \$9 million in aid from the United States to train and develop its army (2000 men), but the latter refused. Two years later, the USA, Italy, and West Germany offered 10 million aids on the condition that they would not ask other countries for help as a strategy to restrain Soviet access to the Horn of Africa. The Somalia's declined the offer and turned to the Soviets for aid. The Soviets directly gave 32 million and then raised that to 55 million, which they used to train the army and get equipment. Somalia, as well as other African countries, has suffered from internal conflict during the cold war. (Schmidt 147)

The government was corrupt, and there were so many disagreements between clans. General Mohammed Said Barre took control of the government just one week after the killing of the second president, Abdrashid Ali Shermarke, in October 1969. The new president directly stopped a military mutiny. In his first year as president, he created a literacy, economic, and health care program, and he focused on the rural regions. Unlike the Ethiopian emperor, Haile Selassie, Mohamed Siad did not refuse international help, and he saved millions of people, avoiding the same catastrophe that happened in Ethiopia. In 1970, Soviet aid increased. Because the American diplomatic group fired off from Somalia, causing the US to halt aid. There were approximately 1,000 Soviet advisors. The Soviets were the sponsors of Somalia. They were providing almost everything: food, medicine, and military equipments. The aid was 10 times more between the years 1971 and 1974 than they had signed a friendship agreement. It was the first country in Africa to establish Russian friendship agreement. (148-150)

### **2.3.2 Somalia and the USA**

When Somalia invaded Ethiopia, the Soviets fully supported Ethiopia. Therefore, Somalia turned to Americans for help. The US did not send direct aid because the security advisor was more concerned with the Soviet intervention in Ethiopia, which would necessitate his presence there; he was also concerned that if the US did act, it would appear weak in the eyes of its allies; and the US should provide massive aid that the Soviets could not match. State secretary, on the other hand, advised against providing any assistance to Somalia because it was the one seeking war. Somalia also violated the OAU by declaring war against Ogaden Giving help meant the end of the USA in Africa. In 1978, Somalia left Ogaden. (154)

Washington gained the right to control facilities in Somalia: naval port, airport in Berber, and also Mogadishu. As a result, the United States will give military and

economic aid worth 500 million. Barre Siad's governance system was already falling apart when George H.W. Bush (the father) became president. Somalia internal conflicts were the reason for the growth of its isolation. A consequence of the Ogedan war was the collapse of the 1965–1975 accomplished economic system. Every opponent of the Siad dictator system was arrested, exiled, killed or sent to the military to fight against what he stood for. (155)

The Somalia President adopted a strategy in which he would provoke clans against people who were against his role. This strategy will fail miserably. After the end of the cold war, there was no need for the Americans to assist Somalia. There were no benefits. In 1991, a clan militia led by Mhamed Farah overthrew the government .Economic aid was used for more weaponry than food. Provoking strategy did not work. In the end, Somalia was a war zone (156).

## **2.4 Southern Africa**

### **2.4.1 Angola**

Both the Soviet Union and the United States of America intervened in Angola by supporting independence movements. During the period of independence, three movements emerged: the MPLA (People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola), led by Agostinho Neto; the FLNA (National Front for the Liberation of Angola), led by Holden Roberto; and the last one was UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola). It was created when its leader broke with the FLNA (shwarzler 87).

Though MPLA stated that it was a communist movement, it went to Cuba for help and not to Moscow. Both Cuba and Russia offered assistance to the MPLA, with the difference being that Moscow had always questioned Neto's leadership abilities.

The relationship between them was not as solid as with the Cubans. The bad relationship led Soviets to cut all aid to it and almost changed sides to other movements. (97)

The MPLA leader knew that the Soviets were questioning him. That's why he had Cuba on his side as a back-up plan. There was a kind of race after the Savannah operation. The operation was an attack made by FLNA and UNITA. Those movements were supported by the USA, as opposed to the one which was supported by the Soviet Union and Cuba, and the other two armies, Zaire and South Africa. When Castro knew about the attack, he urged the Soviet Union for more support by sending transportation assistance at the same time. He had already made a plan for such assistance. Still wary of Neto's leadership and thinking that the situation is not as Castro describes it, Moscow refused to send any assistance. (98)

The Kremlin took action when they knew that South Africa was a part of the attack. As a result of Castro's plans and Moscow's support, the MPLA and its allies won the attack. Moscow dispatched advisors to Angola to establish a Marxist-Leninist state. The MPLA army was not developed enough. It also took a long time to develop, and the assistance was mismanaged. That made the USSR unhappy, which made the relationship unstable again, from this point the assistances were sent to Cuban army (99).

On the other hand, when the USSR and Cuba sought Angola's independence, the US supported FLNA and UNITA, as opposed to not only the MPLA but also the Soviets. The United States put Chester Rucker on the African Bureau in the state department. He was a very intelligent politician who came up with the policy of linkage. This policy was a peace agreement that would lead Cuban and South African

troops to withdraw. The linkage was between Luanda, and Pretoria. However, this linkage failed, because Pretoria accused MPLA and UNITA of breaking the agreement, yet it was South Africa that did not fully withdraw its army. Despite the fact that this linkage did not perform as expected, it paved the way to future agreement. The reason for Luanda's acceptance of the agreement with Lusaka is that the Cuban-Russian relationship was fragile after the Cuban missile crisis, and also the insistence of the USA, made Luanda think it would be the better way out (88).

## 2.5 Conclusion

Africa was a peaceful continent, the imperial power changed that. The continent was an area of influence and expansion. The dominant imperial powers in



Figure 5 African Countries Opposition (Schmidt) map of colonized African countries

Africa were Britain, France, Belgium, and Portugal. After the end of WWII, African countries sought independence, resulting in conflict with colonizers. The conflicts as such (colonized vs. colonizer) were easy to end, but the cold war made it difficult. The involvement of cold war rivals creates an inside conflict and also an inside division. This treatment of internal conflict, which continued even after independence, occurred throughout Africa, not just in the countries mentioned. In appearance, they (the USSR and the US) aided the country's independence, but in reality, it was for their own benefit. If not for the strategic location, it would be for the country's resources.

## **Chapter Three: Congo Crises**

### 3 Introduction

At the beginning of the cold war in 1947, countries were impacted regardless of whether they were in the eastern or western camps. At first, Africa was not a place to be interested in because it was colonized. That changed with the independence movement. The impact was huge, which only led to more chaos.

As any other African colony Congo was not excluded from the intervention of the USA and USSR. Congo was a natural resource-rich country. . The conflicts over those resources will lead to the end of this country. The impact of the cold war on this country cannot be repaired, and the country will enter a phase of endless conflicts. Congo's being a colony was not direct. The USA would have the upper hand in Congo due to it being a Belgian colony. As Belgium's allies, they would support each other even if that meant driving the country to the edge. The regime of old Congo (before 1830) led to the change of the country as all. Congo's past is much better than from the time Belgium arrived till now.

This chapter will try to trace the situation of Congo from a free state to being a colony and also the crises that happened after independence which was mixed between economic, political and social crises



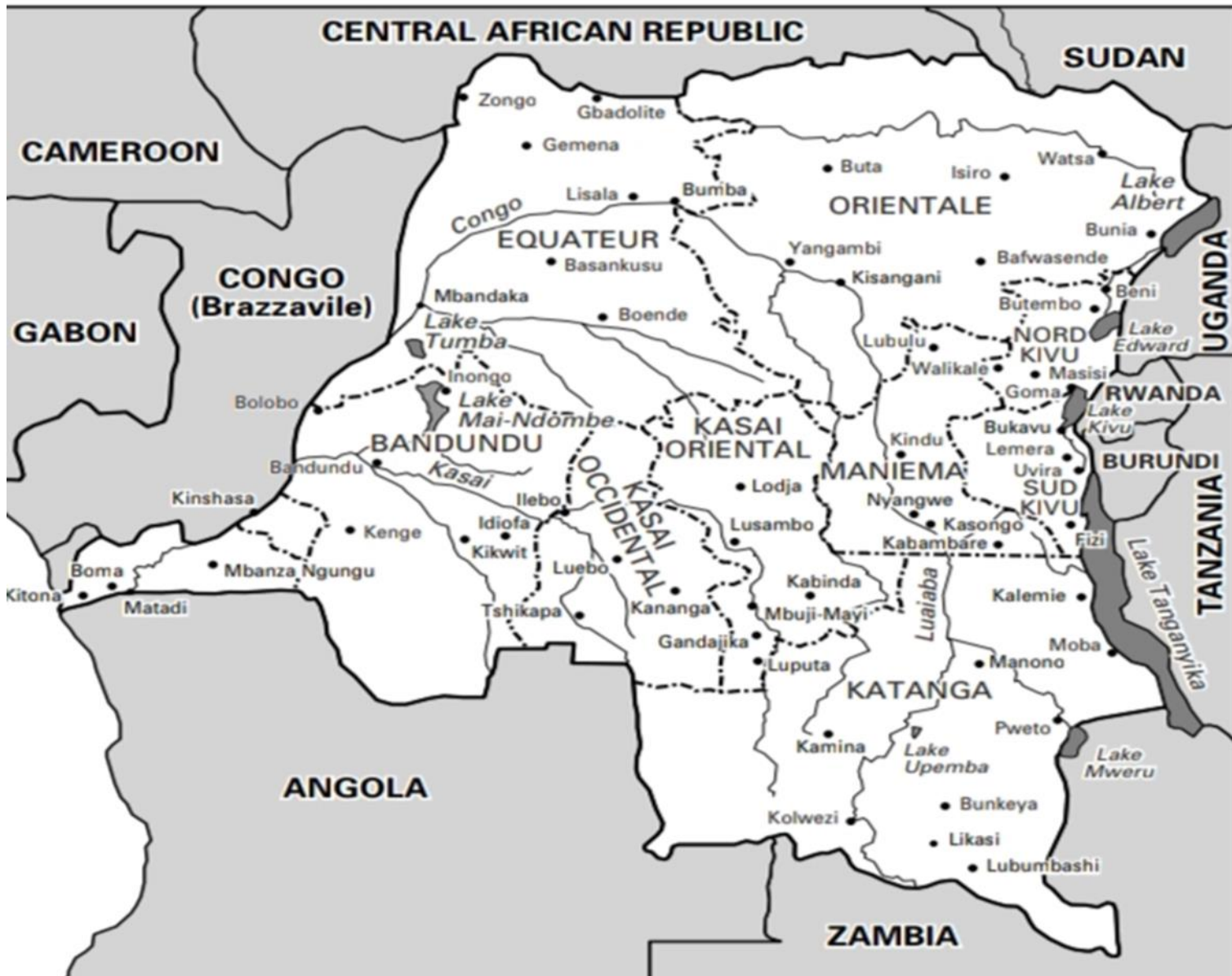


Figure 6 Democratic Republic of the Congo (*Nzongola*)

### **3.1 Congo Free State to a Colony**

#### **3.1.1 Creating Congo Free State**

#### **3.1.2 Creation of international African Association**

After reading the report of the explorers, King Leopold realized that he might have a chance to realize his dream of having prosperity and border commercial expansion for Belgium. He used his skills to convince the country to finance him at the International Geographical Conference in Berlin, for which he used his own money on September 12, 1876. In the, he stated that he would free Africa and introduce civilization. The result, after the end of the conference, was the creation of the International Association of Africa (IAA), which aimed to abolish the slave trade and open doors to international commerce. Furthermore there was a set of rules that any country ever came to Congo should and must follow, the conference was about; free trade, free taxes and also the freedom of using waterways. (F.H and Helde 91)

These countries, particularly the United Kingdom and Germany, desired the freedom to move around and navigate the major waterways in order to transport more supplies. Leopold couldn't complain now that he had the General Act's (the outcome of the International Geographical Conference) protection to bring ships and survey even more territory in the Congo. Another significant aspect of the General Act was the provision for countries to claim neutrality. These countries would not pose a physical threat to their neighbours, and vice versa. Leopold seized the opportunity and declared neutrality in the Congo. There were five expeditions in the years 1877-1885. The Association proposed to establish hospitals and scientific posts (92).

### **3.1.3 Creation of the Committee of the Study of Upper Congo**

The committee was set up when King Leopold and the explorer Stanley met in June 1878. It was created for commercial purposes, as well as to facilitate communication between the upper and lower Congo. The committee was making progress in a three year expedition that started in 1879. Led by Stanley who would be the chef of the expedition. In these three years, thirty posts were created, among them Leopoldville. At the same time, they were also creating treaties with the natives for easy communication. They acted as both politicians and commercials at the same time. However, the treaties that were made will be used later on used as a way to legalize the right to take the land (94). Because of a financial problem, the Committee for the Study of Upper Congo was replaced by the International Organization of Congo (IOC). (95)

### **3.1.4 The creation of Free State**

The Congo River was dangerous, but the new association, IAC, made its way to it, and it was the first to do so. This succession was an open door for commercial activities. In 1885, the Association launched five flotillas to establish a network of flotilla posts that would cover the entire Congo. (95). At the time of this accomplishment, other countries, such as Portugal and France, were watching the situation and were concerned about the enrichment of the association with their colonies. King Leopold said that if he were not doing this, others would. By others, he meant Russia. As a result, on April 11, 1884, the United States granted the IAC sovereignty. Later on, the Belgian parliament authorized King Leopold's new state, then the king changed IAC to Congo Free State (96-97)

### **3.2 Congo annexation (colony)**

The Congo's becoming a colony can be traced to 1889. King Leopold the Second left a will to the Belgian government, allowing Belgians to take everything he had, including the sovereignty over the Congo Free State, after his death. Furthermore, Leopold made a loan of 250 million francs, which he will pay back in 10 years in exchange; Belgium will annex Congo. This annexation also had a condition that the loan be extinguished. (105)

Ten years later, Leopold would ask for a postponement until Congo became productive. Parliament therefore gave the task of creating a bill on the management of Belgium's colonial territories to a committee made up of representatives from all parties. The ultimate phase of evolution then started. Campaigns against the Congo's established system sparked events, and on December 3, 1907, a bill asking Belgium to cede sovereignty over the regions making up the Congo Free State with all the rights and obligations that were involved was submitted to Belgium. In 20 of August 1908 parliament passed new law of annexation of Congo, November 15 of the same year Congo Free State became Belgium Congo. (106)

### **3.3 Congo independence**

In June 1960, the Congo became an independent state, which was aggressively pushed by European nations to be formed as a democratic model of governorship in order to establish a new state identity. The state had earned its independence from colonialism by breaking free from the bonds of the Belgian government. (*Trautman* 31)

The Democratic Republic of the Congo was put at a disadvantage. After the exodus of Europeans in 1960, the government that was funded and led by a European state lacked experienced leadership to fill the void. It is believed that colonialism

stifled the growth and evolution of the African nation-state. In comparison to European states, which had centuries to develop, African nation-states had only a short period of time to make this evolutionary leap.(31)

The transition from being governed by a colonial governing system to independence was relatively quick. The Congolese people were forced to fill many governing positions with a population that had little experience handling positions in government. They had not been trained or educated to run a European governing system like the colonial government that came before them. The rate of graduates in 1960 demonstrated the lack of an educated populace at the time of independence.

According to Reno, the country's first university graduate received his diploma in 1956. There were only 16 university graduates after the country gained independence. 40 The need for a strong infrastructure to replace the institutions of the colonial government, as well as a growing intellectual base, was obvious, but these and other needs for the newly established state could not be met on their own. (32)

During the years 1958-1960, the Belgian Congo colony was influenced by external events that helped shape the anti-colonial movement that was spreading throughout Africa following World War II. The Belgian government was unable to isolate the country from the independence movement. These external events that shaped the young Central African nation-entry states into independence aided in the rapid development of anti-colonial sentiment within the region. (33)

After the independence of the Belgian Congo, the country was struggling with its inexperience to govern itself. The idea of politics and the model of government infrastructure were based on the Belgian colonial system of government. Political parties existed only in name prior to 1960 and were quickly fragmented after

independence. The competition for and the need for a governing structure took a toll on the stability of the nation. Without the authority of the Belgium government the country quickly fell into chaos, due to the fact that it was keeping order in the region. The Belgium army mutinied against Belgian officers, which resulted in the exodus of Belgian officials and residents from the region. Amidst the chaos and instability within the region a young enlisted soldier named Joseph Desire Mobutu took control.(33)

### **3.3.1 Patrice Lumumba**

He studied at a Protestant school. In his early life, he contributed to the Congolese press by writing poems and essays. His first move into politics was to become a regional president. He was the president of the trade union that, unlike other unions, was not linked to any Belgian union. When he arrived from the study trip that was sponsored by the Belgian government, he was arrested for embezzlement in the post office where he had his first job when he moved to Stanleyville. Luckily, he was only sentenced to 12 months and a fine. (wallerstein)

He became more involved in politics after he was released from prison. In 1958, he and other fellows created the MNC (Congolese National Movement). It was the first movement created in the Congo. He attended his first All-African Propels' Conference in Ghana, where he was fascinated by the aim of the African attendances, and then he became a nationalist. (wallerstein)

His sense of nationalism increased. Belgium then made a move and called for an independence program, but nationalists thought it was a ruse to put their own bodies as part of the new government. Because the MNC refused to answer the call, 30 people were killed in a clash at Stanleyville, which forced them to go for the elections. The MNC won, and Belgium convened a conference in Brussels to discuss the political

shift. However, MNC members refused to convene without Lumumba, who was then imprisoned for incitement. Therefore, he was released and flew to Brussels, where they agreed on a date for independence and national elections, and he later became prime minister.(wallerstein)

### **3.4 Congo crises**

#### **3.4.1 Crises of 1960-1962**

The Congo gains independence. However, Belgium focused on getting control of the economy. In order to do so, Belgium made sure that the political party that controlled the DRC would be part of the pro-western. With this plan, Belgium left, leaving a political administration in addition to 1,000 military officers, who in turn supervised 25, 000 Congo soldiers. As a world power, the United States accepted the concept of Belgium and its objects. The Belgian objective was not just to keep control of the economy but also to keep the region of Katanga out of the reach of the Soviets. (schmidt 58)

The Congo's parliament elected Patrice Lumumba as prime minister in May 1960. The Lumumba government did not accept the Belgium political party, so their plan would fail. The Congolese National Movement (MNC) was the only movement that claimed Congolese nationality, arguing that the old system was in favour of the colonial powers. The economic transformation would be profitable to Africans, but Belgium would not. Five days after Belgium's independence, officers informed the Congolese army that there would be neither wage reform nor promotions, in order for mutiny. Afterward, the officers were dismissed, and Joseph Mobutu became the army commander-in-chief. The dismissed army was placed in Katanga to protect the white lives it was just a lie to keep the Belgian officers in Congo.(59)

The crisis started when Moise Tshombe, who was on the Belgian side, instigated the secession of Katanga, saying that it was threatened by the communist invasion. Belgium, with other powerful allies, supported the secessionists, and the Katanga army was fully supported. Britain, Belgium, and France were sending army equipment, training the army, and even paying taxes to keep the Katanga regime going in addition to the equipment and the training there was also troops that fought in Algeria and Indochina sent by the French(60)

On the other hand, the legit government had zero support. The last solution for Lumumba was to ask the UN for help to get back to Katanga. Both of the Cold War powers liked the action of Lumumba. They were sending aid and support to the UN in order to be directed to the Congolese government for strengthening its position. That was the agreement. However, the UN and USA had a different view. Saving the lives of the whites was more important. The agreement broke the moment the supplies arrived to Congo, the object of the troops was not the situation of the country, but it was saving white lives and anything they have. (61)

July 1960, Lumumba flew to the USA to directly ask for help, yet Eisenhower refused direct help from the USA to Congo, only through the UN. This was also on the side of Canada and the USSR, but Moscow requested the Afro-Asian countries' support for Congo at the UN General Assembly. August 9, South Kasai Province, allied with Katanga's, broke out from the Congo. The Soviet Union did not want to be at war or in conflict with the United States and its allies, but it was sending supplies. Even though they were just a few, the USA suspected that Lumumba was a spy and would threaten the USA's interests in Congo. (61)



Belgium and the US told Joseph Kasavubu to remove Lumumba from his post. Despite the fact that the parliament accepted his removal, he was still to be president. For not getting any external support, The American diplomatic Cordier shot down everything from radio stations to airports. Belgium and the USA supported Mobutu for extra friendship from the inside.(63)

The capitalists were all over the country. The Soviets could not fully support the government, and its protests were useless. When Lumumba was apprehended and placed under house arrest, he tried to escape in late November, but the CIA and Mobutu joined forces and found him. Soviet asked for his release. USA argued that it was legal to do so since the president who ordered that, Mobutu wanted to kill Lumumba, but the USA sent him to Katanga for Tshombe on January 17, 1961, Lumumba was brutally killed.(65)

The Americans chose Crill Abdoula to be the prime minister. He was not famous, but he was anti-communist. On the other hand, Antoine Gizeng Lumumba, the deputy, was a better candidate, and also more famous. In August 1961, Abdoula became prime minister after the USA eliminated Antione. The elimination of Antoine made Lumumba more famous, which made Abdoula joined Lumumba's politicians to his cabin.(70)

The situation in the country was not getting any better, even after Katanga and Kasia's break out ended in 1962. The USA and Belgium stated that the corrupted government and the declined economy were because of the Soviets. Abdoula resigned from being prime minister when Kennedy gave Motubu the right to control the country in 1964.(70)

Figure 7 Katanga province (Othen)



### 3.4.2 Katanga

Katanga, or as it used to be called, Shaba, is a region in the south of the DRC. In its borders, there is Lack Tanganyika to the east and Zambia to the south. From the west, there is Angola. The location is strategic, but the location is not what made Belgium want it. The natural resources of the country are so massive that every one of the Belgian allies wants a part of it. Katanga holds most of these resources. There is copper, cobalt, uranium, zinc, cadmium, silver, germanium, coal, gold, iron, manganese, and tin. Furthermore, the land is very fertile. In addition to the vegetables, there is also cotton, tobacco, and corn. Local people used to mine and extract these

lands' resources, but after 1900, the mining process developed. As a result of all of this, Belgium was doing everything possible to maintain control of Katanga.(according to Britannica)

### **3.4.3 Crises of 1964-1965**

After the assassination of Kennedy in 1963, Johnson took his place. Unlike Kennedy, Johnson was more interested in Moïse Tshombe—the man who ordered Lumumba's death—than in Africa. Tshombe made his way through to be prime minister in 1964. He was facing a hard time restoring his reputation as a strongman. After the UN left Congo, the country was in an unbalanced situation. Rebels who supported Lumumba controlled the eastern region, in addition to some territories in the west.(70)

The rebels, led by Gaston Soumaliot, Christophe Gbenye and Laurent Kabila, joined forces with Pierre Mulele, led by the support of the Chinese. Cuban support was insignificant to Kabila. Though the support came from a communist country, Kabila was not communist. However, it was a reason for the USA to call for Belgium, France, and Britain to help Congo. Those countries declared that they were going to help the country of Congo to make a better government and that it was their duty to do so.(71)

When all countries refused to support Tshombe, the Americans did it by themselves. In addition to military assistance, they trained their troops and dispatched their mercenaries just before Belgium joined. It is true that the American-Belgian trained and sent mercenaries from South Africa and Rhodesians, but it was the French and British weapons. The Lumumba's rebels were gradually moving forward. By 1964,

they controlled 1/3 of the country and established the People's Republic (PR) with Stanleyville as its capital. (72)

The Mercenaries and Congo forces marched to Stanleyville, bombing railways and bridges, raping and killing women. It was a fight from one side. Somehow, the rebels took 300 American and Belgian hostages in the hope they would negotiate to stop the attack. Sadly, when the Americans ordered the troops to attack, 20 hostages were killed. In the end, 60 hostages and up to 100 civilians were killed. For this massacre, the rebels' revenge by killing everyone linked to the government. Although many African and non-African countries supported the rebels, the Americans' support was more important for helping Motubu to create a more solid army. On November 18, 1965, every country involved in Congo left, which made Motubu to be the president on November 24, 1965. His dictatorship made him president till 1997.(73-74)

### **3.5 Conclusion**

Congo's crises were devastating to the country's situation, economically, socially, and politically. Belgium gradually began to take over the country. The colonial wasn't direct. It started with exploration, an expedition, then they legalized themselves to claim territories. After they colonized the country, they started heavily exploiting the country's resources.

Despite their claim to independence, the Belgians recognized that they lacked the necessary experience to run a government. Lumumba, on the other hand, dealt with them, and the Belgians were fired as a result. The crisis started with Katanga's secession from the Congo government. The secession was led by Tshombe. He was directly supported by the USA, Belgium, France, and Britain. The first element needed for nuclear weapons was abundant in Katanga. That was the reason for the help. On the

other hand, the Lumumba government did not have the equivalent support and, eventually, Tshombe would kill Lumumba. Even after the end of the crisis in 1965. It was late, the country had already collapsed, and there was no way to rebuild it.

## General conclusion

In his book *Orientalism*, Edward stated that the West sees the Orient as a savage and undeveloped subject, and it is their responsibility to develop it. The imperial powers always used such a statement to justify their existence in African countries. Almost all of Africa was colonized at some stage in history. Even in the time of WWII, they did not let go of their colonies, which they continued to exploit. However, World War II was only about the countries that participated, and had no outward effect on the world. It was purely between the Axis and the Allies. yet Two superpowers—the United States and the Soviet Union—emerged at the conclusion of World War II in 1945. They were competing in a variety of areas, particularly the nuclear and space races. The primary goals of both superpowers were to compete with third-world nations who had the resources and ability to support weaker nations and find solutions to their problems in order to advance their own interests and gain popularity globally, particularly to realize both openly stated goals and covert objectives. Though the end of ww2 resulted of a catastrophically, death, lost and distracted cities, the most significant result was or is the Cold War.

The Cold War was an ideological conflict between the USA and its allies (Western Europe) and the Soviet Union and its allies (Eastern Europe) known as the Axis. Each of them was trying to get countries on their side. This strategy made this conflict relevant to the entire world, not only Europe. The effect of the cold war was huge, mostly in the third world, specifically Africa. The African countries suffered from colonialism as well as the effects of the cold war. The USSR and the US intervened to prevent each other from expanding in African countries, but their intervention created another conflict in which the country was divided rather than united as it should be.

This was the same situation in Congo, but this time it was not for expansion but for natural resources. Katanga, the place where the Congo crisis started, was a rich place with uranium, which was important for making nuclear weapons. The impact of the cold war in Africa only made it worse. The Congo at the moment is not stable. No country ever got better after the involvement of the Cold War rivals in its affairs.

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### الملخص

تناقش هذه الدراسة أثر الحرب الباردة على إفريقيا, كان تأثير الحرب الباردة ناتج عن تدخل الإتحاد السوفياتي و الولايات الأمريكية في دول العالم الثالث. يناقش البحث تأثير الحرب الباردة في أفريقيا عامة و يركز على أزمة كونغو خلال هذه الفترة بالإضافة إلى لمحة عامة عن الحرب العالمية الثانية و الحرب الباردة. تبحث الأطروحة في تأثير الصراع ( الحرب الباردة) من خلال الوسائل المستخدمة من قبل الطرفين لحل النزاع في الدول الأفريقية كلمات المفتاحية: الحرب الباردة, الحرب العالمية الثانية, أزمة كونغو, الإتحاد السوفياتي الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية